

***SAMPLE LEARNING OUTCOMES COMMON TO PERSIAN
AND
MODERN STANDARD ARABIC LANGUAGE COURSES***

***1A and 1B: ELEMENTARY PERSIAN AND ELEMENTARY ARABIC
(first year of language study)***

Course Goals

- (1) to develop communication skills in Persian and Modern Standard Arabic through learning basic vocabulary and phrase/sentence structures
- (2) to learn about the cultural traditions, belief systems, and social worlds of Iranian peoples/peoples of Arabic-speaking countries
- (3) to develop reading and writing skills and an aesthetic appreciation of the Persian/Arabic writing system. The *Persian and Arabic alphabets* will be introduced
- (4) to read and discuss Persian/Arabic proverbs as a literary and philosophical device leading to greater awareness and understanding of the world and the student's place in it
- (5) to become familiar with Persian/Arabic arts

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the first year of study, students will have achieved language competency in the following skills:

Reading Proficiency:

- (1) Recognize all of the characters of the Persian/Modern Standard Arabic alphabet
- (2) Demonstrate ability to read very simple connected written material in a form equivalent to usual printing or typescript
- (3) Demonstrate ability to read either representations of familiar formulaic verbal exchanges or simple language containing only the highest frequency structural patterns and vocabulary
- (4) Demonstrate ability to read and understand known language elements that have been recombined in new ways to achieve different meanings at a similar level of simplicity

Speaking Proficiency:

- (1) Articulate minimum courtesy requirements and maintain very simple face-to-face conversations on familiar topics such as personal and accommodation needs, introduction and identification of self, others, objects; exchange greetings, elicit and provide predictable and skeletal biographical information
- (2) Formulate and respond to simple questions

Writing Proficiency:

- (1) Demonstrate sufficient control of the writing system to meet limited survival needs and limited social demands
- (2) Create sentences and short paragraphs related to most survival needs such as food, lodging, transportation, immediate surroundings, and some situations including limited social demands
- (3) Express fairly accurate present and future time
- (4) Identify and use some past verb forms
- (5) Relate personal history, discuss topics such as daily life, preferences, and very familiar material
- (6) Demonstrate good control of elementary vocabulary and some control of basic syntactic patterns
- (7) Use a dictionary to advantage to express simple ideas
- (8) Write simple letters, summaries of biographical data, and work experiences with fair accuracy

Listening Proficiency:

- (1) Demonstrate sufficient comprehension to understand utterances about basic survival needs and minimum courtesy and travel requirements in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.
- (2) Understand simple questions and answers, simple statements and very simple face-to-face conversations in a standard dialect.
- (3) Comprehend conversation about basic needs such as: meals, lodging, transportation, time and simple directions.
- (4) Demonstrate comprehension of main ideas.

2A and 2B: ELEMENTARY PERSIAN AND ELEMENTARY ARABIC (second year of language study)

Course Goals

- (1) to further develop communication skills in Persian/Modern Standard Arabic through learning vocabulary and phrase/sentence structures that are more advanced than those learned in 1A and 1B
- (2) to continue learning about the cultural traditions, belief systems, and social worlds of Iranian peoples/peoples of Arabic-speaking countries
- (3) to continue development of reading and writing skills and an aesthetic appreciation of the Persian/Arabic writing system
- (4) to continue exposure to and familiarity with Persian/Arabic arts and literature
- (5) to become familiar with Persian/Arabic popular culture, especially films

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the second year of study, students will have achieved language competency in the following skills:

Reading Proficiency:

- (1) Demonstrate sufficient comprehension to understand most factual material in non-technical prose as well as some discussions on concrete topics related to personal interests
- (2) Demonstrate ability to separate main ideas and details from lesser ones and use that distinction to advance understanding
- (3) Demonstrate use of linguistic context and real-world knowledge to make sensible guesses about unfamiliar material
- (4) Possess an active reading vocabulary demonstrating the ability to identify main ideas and to distinguish these from subsidiary ideas

Speaking Proficiency:

- (1) Initiate and maintain predictable face-to-face conversations and satisfy limited social demands such as travel and accommodation needs
- (2) Use fairly accurate basic grammatical relations
- (3) Exhibit more common forms of verb tenses
- (4) Demonstrate understandable pronunciation

Writing Proficiency:

- (1) Demonstrate ability to write routine social correspondence, daily situations, and/or current events with some error
- (2) Demonstrate control of the most common formats and punctuation conventions
- (3) Demonstrate good control of morphology of language and of the most frequently used syntactic structures
- (4) Writing is legible to native readers

Listening Proficiency:

- (1) Comprehend short conversations about most survival needs and limited social demands
- (2) Demonstrate flexibility in understanding of a range of circumstances beyond immediate survival needs
- (3) Understand more common time forms and most question forms, some word order patterns