

## LIHL 117 Fall 2013

Instructor: Elham Sadegholvad  
Office: AP&M 3250  
Office hour: TTH 2:30-3:20 p.m.  
E-mail: esadegholvad@ucsd.edu

### Course Description and Objectives

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** 117 is designed for heritage speakers of Persian who wish to strengthen their speaking, reading and writing skills in Persian. The term *heritage speaker* is used within the foreign-language teaching field to refer to a person who was exposed to a language and perhaps speaks it to some degree, but is now mostly dominant in English. Knowledge of reading and writing is not required. This course can be repeated three times for credit. This is a content based course. The topics change each quarter, therefore you will learn new materials each time up to three times.

LIHL 117 is taught at the *entry* level and is designed to teach reading and writing to heritage students of Persian who have never been taught the alphabet as well as improving students' command of the Persian language. Material is presented in the context of cultural, social and literary topics. The course will be taught in the standard Persian dialect spoken in Iran.

**LEVEL OF THE CLASS:** In order to offer a curriculum optimal for the students enrolled, the language level of the course could vary from quarter to quarter based on the language skills of the people in the class. For instance, the more advanced heritage speakers of Persian, the focus will be placed on learning formal and written forms rather than spoken or colloquial forms of the language. The entry level heritage students, the emphasis will be placed more on reading and speaking skills.

Students who are considered native speakers of Persian are not accepted in this class; these classes are designed for heritage speakers and are not intended to serve as easy A courses for native speakers under any circumstances. **If students are caught misrepresenting their knowledge of Persian or the level of class attended in Iran, they will be asked to leave the class and will either be dropped from the class roster or receive a lowered grade in the course.**

## Course Materials

**Required:** Two Course readers available at the UCSD bookstore:  
“*Introduction to Persian Alphabet*”  
“*Persian for Persian Speakers*” by Elham Sadegholvad

**Optional:** *An Introduction to Persian* by Wheeler M. Thackston, **OR**  
*Persian Grammar* by John Mace (available at the UCSD bookstore)

## Availability Outside the Classroom

I will hold regular office hours to answer any questions you might have. If you cannot make it to the regularly scheduled office hours, please contact me to set up an appointment (emails are best). If you encounter difficulty with course material, please ask questions and see me for help.

## Course grade breakdown for Culture and Communication section:

Active participation in small groups and in class discussion: 10%  
Execution of the written work and reading assignments (10%)  
Quizzes: 15%  
Project: 5%  
Midterm: 30%  
Final: 30%

**Daily homework** will be assigned, and **late homework** may be accepted under certain circumstances. If you know in advance that you will have to miss a class, please make appropriate arrangements with the instructor in advance as well; if you must miss class unexpectedly because of illness or other emergency, and then please notify the instructor as soon as possible via email. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS!**

**Class Participation** is an essential foundation for learning a language. Students are expected to come to class prepared and willing to participate in all classroom activities. Attendance will be taken regularly and students who are not present at the beginning of the class hour will be considered absent. **A maximum of 3 absences are allowed without affecting your grade.** Each further absence will lower your final grade by one level. For example, one additional absence will lower a B+ to a B, or a C to a C-. If you miss a total of two weeks of class, you are encouraged to drop the class or you will fail the course.

### **Grading:**

Your commitment and level of progress in the class determine your grade, not the level of your previous knowledge of Persian. Most students receive A's and B's in this class. Do not expect an easy A just because you speak Persian. If you do very good to excellent work, you will get an A. If you do good work, you will get a B. If you do average work you will get a C. Also, if you do not complete all the course requirements, do not be surprised if you get a D or an F, depending on how much you do not complete (I generally will allow you to make up for past omissions within a reasonable time frame if you ask me, but I will not chase after you to do so). If you forget to drop the course, you will get an F.

### **Grade justification requests will not be accepted after the quarter is over.**

This section has been added to the syllabus to provide general answers to any questions you might have about how I grade. Please do not email me after the quarter is over to challenge your grade, or to request an explanation for why you got the grade you did or to do extra-credit work to raise your grade. If you have questions about your grade, please ask me DURING the quarter, at which time I will be more than happy to discuss it with you.

### **Statement of Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity published in the UCSD General Catalog. However, group projects and collaboration on homework are allowed and encouraged.

All the writing in your reports and essays must be your own work. You may not copy sentences or paragraphs from books, web pages, other students or any other source. If you quote anything written by anyone else, you must indicate very clearly that it is a quotation, and provide a full citation.

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Those who are caught cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment or the exam and/or in the entire course.

**Tentative schedule:**

- Week 0        Introduction, placement
- Week 1-2      Tourism in Iran (Tehran, Isfahan, Azerbaijan)
- Weeks 3-4     Ancient Iran (Persepolis)
- Week 5        Family Celebrations/ gatherings: engagements, weddings, funerals;
- Week 6-7      Midterm, Persian cuisine and Restaurant culture in Iran
- Week 8        Projects: yalda, Mehregan, Tirgan, Norouz, Fetr, Chaharshanbehsoori
- Week 9        Movie: "The Separation" + discussion
- Week 10      Review

**Tentative testing schedule:**

Midterm: November 5th

Quizzes: to be announced

**Written Final: Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

**NO MAKE-UP FINAL**