

Sociolinguistics

Language is built of linguistic components. Social theorists especially sociologists seek to know the structure of society and for this reason they use terms like: power, cast, status, cohesiveness, gender and etc.

Sociolinguistics deals not only with history of languages, indexing and classifying language conflicts and their developments and evolutions, but part of it describes the social organization of language use which is accepted in a lingual community. The aim of this course is to study the language from a sociologic point of view. Therefore in the course we cover the following issues:

- 1- The relations between language, thinking, culture and history
- 2- Fields relating to language like regional and social dialects, styles, registers and factors effecting languages and dialects
- 3- Ethnographies
- 4- Language evolutions in a tradition approach and current inner and outer evolutions of language.

Persian Literature

Persian literature has an old history and it is known worldwide with famous characters such as Hafez, Rumi, Ferdowsi, Sa'adi, Persian literature is a much expanded area including topics like epics, mythologies, religion and mysticism, romance, philosophy, ethics, etc. In this course we try to teach the main concepts and key-words of Persian literature and then its main branches like epics, lyric, mysticism in a succinct way. Each part will be studied based on its style, structure and content and exemplary poems and proses. One of the most important goals of this course is to familiarize the learners with Persian literature generally and its main branches, so that they can discover their special field of interest amongst them and continue it specifically.



Persian Language and Iranology

Iran with climate diversity, several thousand years of civilization, ethnic diversity each with its special traditions, language, dialect and culture has a lot of ancient, historical, cultural, and ecotourism attractions which are necessary for tourists to visit, leave alone those who study Persian language or other fields related to Persian language or Iran. Hence getting to know these different aspects of Iran will be very beneficial for such people, if they learn Persian along with getting to know Iran.

In this course by presenting content-oriented lessons and with emphasis on the four main skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking), we try to teach the content to the learner in the form of oral conversations, reading texts and written exercises (different from what already have been presented) content based and situational, so that the learner learns the content without engaging the language and masters the language so that he can use it in real context and becomes an independent reader of these texts in future.

For registration or asking for more information you can contact us via:

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Iranology courses

International Center
for Persian Studies
at Shiraz University



History

In this course you will learn about Iranian intellectual, cultural and political history especially evolutions of contemporary history of Iran. First we review the history of Iran in ancient and medieval eras briefly.

Our main focus will be on governing styles, architecture, geography, religion, wars and the most important ceremonies, events and characters in ancient, medieval and new ages.

Ancient era: Hakhamaneshi, Soluki, Ashkani and Sasani

Medieval era: Rulings of Arabs, Iranians and Mongols

Contemporary era (1): Safavie, Afshari, Zandieh, Ghajarieh

Contemporary era (2): Pahlavi, Islamic Republic

Then historical issues of Iran in 17th and 18th centuries is surveyed. We will know the revolution of constitution, its backgrounds and results and move further to Pahlavi, Islamic Revolution until now. In our last sessions we discuss issue such as religions and believes, ethnic groups and women.

Art

Handcrafts

Handcrafts denotes the arts and creativity of ancestors and demonstrates the taste and virtue of the people of each country and supports all of the human's talents and creativity. Iranian handcraft has a special and distinguished position worldwide and from pre-historic earthenware and pewter to silver and golden containers and superior fabrics in different eras and hand-woven crafts, tiling and mirroring till today testify to this. Therefore we present the training of Iranian handcrafts as one of the three important pivots of handcrafts in Asia and the globe. Among them are: weaving carpets, fretworks, marquetry, engraving, mirroring and painting.



Music

In this section we present the history of Iranian music, Iranian musicians and musical instruments, then we introduce Iranian music types (i.e. Sonnati and Dastgah music). Then we deal with different types of Iranian Dastgahs: Shur, Segah, Mahoor, Homayun, Chahargah and Nava. After that we turn to Iranian songs, regional musics and the differences between them: Balouch, Kourdish, Lori, Ghashghayee, ... music.

At the end we study the relations between music, literature and sociology and their effects on each other.

Cinema

After the Islamic revolution and its following cultural evolutions, Iranian cinema like any other fields of art went through a dramatic changes both in content and structure. These evolutions caused the emergence of many valuable movies in all genres. According to its high potentials in documentaries, short films, social dramas, spirituality, comedy and other fields, it is now very necessary to familiarize the learners with such cinematic treasures. The necessity to use these creations from one hand as cultural media which mirror the very believes, way of thinking, ideology, habits and Iranian lifestyles and from the other hand as a complete collection of natural Persian linguistic data can play an important role in teaching Persian to the speakers of other languages.



Traditions and Ceremonies

Celebrations, traditions and special religious ceremonies are a good opportunity to review the history and identity of any country which can provide a basis to introduce cultural and historical heritage to other nations by presenting a set of rituals and traditions. Iran is an immense country in which different people with various cultures live together and their traditions and cultures are represented via celebrations, rituals and ceremonies.

Iranian traditions and ceremonies can be divided into 5 major categories. First: ancient, mythological and seasonal rituals like: Norouz, Yalda, Tirgan, Mehrgan, Sade, ...; Second: religious ceremonies like Fetr, Qorban, Moharram decade, Tazieh, Third: Iranian special dramas like Naghali, Siahbazi, Forth: Regional traditions belonging to a special area or group of people like: Zar, Sharve khan, Fifth family traditions relating to birth, marriage, death, ... which are held differently in different families or tribes.

Therefor in this course we aim to provide a good opportunity for Persian learners to become familiar with Iranian culture.