Persian

Minor

The Persian minor introduces students to the language, peoples, cultures, histories of the Persian-speaking world. The minor develops a student’s command of reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension in the Persian language and may complement the student’s intended major study.

Students wishing to major in Persian should see the major requirements in the Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/middle-eastern-languages-cultures/) major.

Students minoring in Persian must satisfy the lower division prerequisite requirements. Students may also take a language proficiency exam to waive the elementary and intermediate language courses. Please meet with the undergraduate major advisor to discuss course options or plan for study abroad.

Declaring the Minor

Students may declare the Persian minor as soon as they begin their study at UC Berkeley. Please find the minor declaration form in the Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures department or email the undergraduate major advisor. Students must declare the minor no later than the semester before their Expected Graduation Term (EGT). Please see the L&S minor guidelines (https://ls.berkeley.edu/advising/planning/schedule-planning/minors/) page for more information.

Other Majors and Minors offered by Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (MELC) Department

Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/middle-eastern-languages-cultures/) (Major and Minor)
Arabic (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/arabic/) (Minor)
Hebrew (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/hebrew/) (Minor)
Turkish (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/turkish/) (Minor)

The Persian minor program requires five upper-division courses in Persian literature and culture.

General Guidelines

1. All minors must be declared no later than one semester before a student’s Expected Graduation Term (EGT). If the semester before EGT is fall or spring, the deadline is the last day of RRR week. If the semester before EGT is summer, the deadline is the final Friday of Summer Sessions. To declare a minor, contact the department advisor for information on requirements, and the declaration process.
2. All courses taken to satisfy the minor requirement must be taken for a letter grade and be at least 3 units.
3. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 must be maintained in order to declare and complete the minor.
4. No more than one upper-division course may be used to simultaneously satisfy requirements for a student’s major and minor program.
5. With the prior consent of the faculty major advisor, students may take courses across various disciplines to fulfill the Persian minor culture and history requirement.

Minor Requirements

Lower Division Requirements 20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 1A</td>
<td>Elementary Modern Persian [5]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 1B</td>
<td>Elementary Modern Persian [5]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upper Division Requirements 15-20

Persian Language and Literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 100A</td>
<td>Advanced Persian [3]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 101A</td>
<td>Readings in Persian Literature [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 101B</td>
<td>Readings in Persian Literature [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 102A</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Persian Prose [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 102B</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Persian Prose [3]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Persian Culture and History

Select two courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MELC 11</td>
<td>Middle Eastern Worlds: The Modern Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 126</td>
<td>Silk Road Art and Archaeology [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 129</td>
<td>Arts of Iran and Central Asia [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 140</td>
<td>Topics in Islamic Thought and Institutions [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 141</td>
<td>Modern and Contemporary Islamic Thought [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 142</td>
<td>Shi‘ite Islam [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 144</td>
<td>Sufism: The Mysticism of Islam [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 146</td>
<td>Islam [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 147</td>
<td>The Rise of Islamic Civilization [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 148</td>
<td>Emergence of the Modern Middle East [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 149</td>
<td>The Modern Middle East from WWI to the Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 151</td>
<td>Middle Eastern Women Writers [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 152</td>
<td>Cultural Encounters in Modern Arabic Literature [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 153</td>
<td>Synagogues, Cathedrals, and Mosques: The Rise and Fall of Islamic Spain [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 155</td>
<td>Wonder and the Fantastic: The Thousand and One Nights in World Literary Imagination [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 156</td>
<td>Sociolinguistics of the Middle East [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 158AC</td>
<td>Middle East: Post-Colonialism, Migration, and Diaspora [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 159</td>
<td>Middle East, Empire, and Orientalism [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 160</td>
<td>Religions of Ancient Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 161</td>
<td>Topics in Persian Art and Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 162A</td>
<td>Course Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 162B</td>
<td>Course Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 165</td>
<td>Film and Fiction of Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 170</td>
<td>Islamic History and Historiography (600-1050)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 175</td>
<td>History and Culture of Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 180</td>
<td>The Quran and Its Interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 190I</td>
<td>Special Topics in Fields of Middle Eastern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Languages and Cultures: Iranian/Persian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 192I</td>
<td>Undergrad Seminar: Problems and Research in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Middle Eastern Studies: Iranian/Persian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 198</td>
<td>Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 199</td>
<td>Supervised Independent Study and Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Units**: 35-40

### Persian

Expand all course descriptions [+]
Collapse all course descriptions [-]

**PERSIAN 1A Elementary Modern Persian 5 Units**

**Terms offered**: Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020  
**Introduction to Persian language, covering basics of the language skills in all aspects of reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking with emphasis on culture and communicative methods.**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites**: Prerequisite for Persian 1B, or consent of instructor

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring**: 15 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level**: Persian/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status**: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Elementary Modern Persian: Read Less [-]**

---

**PERSIAN 1B Elementary Modern Persian 5 Units**

**Terms offered**: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020  
**Introduction to Persian language, covering basics of the language skills in all aspects of reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking with emphasis on culture and communicative methods.**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites**: 1A, or consent of instructor

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring**: 15 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level**: Persian/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status**: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Elementary Modern Persian: Read More [+]**

---

**PERSIAN 10 Intensive Elementary Persian 10 Units**

**Terms offered**: Summer 2017, Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 8 Week Session  
**This course is equivalent to a full year of elementary Persian. It will train students in the four language skills: speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing. Emphasis will be placed on the functional usage of the language.**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Credit Restrictions**: Students will receive no credit for 10 after taking 1A-1B.

**Hours & Format**

**Summer**: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level**: Persian/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status**: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Intensive Elementary Persian: Read Less [-]**
PERSIAN 11A Reading and Composition for Persian Speaking Students 5 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2019, Fall 2018
Designed for heritage students who possess oral skills (speaking/ comprehension, though limited) but need to improve their writing and reading abilities, and expand their knowledge of Persian grammar and syntax. Completion of 11A-11B will prepare the student to take Persian 20A, Intermediate Persian.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Rudimentary knowledge of spoken Persian and consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 11B Reading and Composition for Persian-Speaking Students 5 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
Designed for heritage students who possess oral skills (speaking/ comprehension, though limited) but need to improve their writing and reading abilities, and expand their knowledge of Persian grammar and syntax. Completion of 11A-11B will prepare the student to take Persian 20A, Intermediate Persian.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 11A or the consent of the instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 20 Intensive Intermediate Persian 10 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2017 8 Week Session, Summer 2007 10 Week Session, Summer 2007 8 Week Session
A year or more of advanced level Persian with emphasis on advanced grammar and vocabulary build up. Newspaper clippings, film reviews and cultural awareness through introduction of literature will be covered.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 1A-1B or Persian 10 or equivalent

Hours & Format
Summer: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 20A Intermediate Modern Persian 5 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020
The sequence begins in the fall. This course emphasizes reading of simple literary texts, expository writing and composition, formal conversation, grammar, and syntax. It involves intensive vocabulary building in preparation for advanced reading and comprehension of standard literary texts.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 1A-1B or Persian 11A-11B or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
PERSIAN 20B Intermediate Modern Persian 5 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
The course begins in the fall. This course emphasizes reading of simple literary texts, expository writing and composition, formal conversation, grammar, and syntax. It involves intensive vocabulary building in preparation for advanced reading and comprehension of standard literary texts.
Intermediate Modern Persian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 20A or the consent of the instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 50 Persian Reading and Composition 10 Units
Terms offered: Summer 1997 10 Week Session, Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course is designed to promote advanced literacy skills in students with different levels of spoken Persian but little or no reading and writing skills in the language. This course will prepare students to take advanced literature courses in the Persian language.
Persian Reading and Composition: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Knowledge of spoken Persian and consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 50 after taking 106A-106B.

Hours & Format
Summer: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week

PERSIAN 100A Advanced Persian 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020
Emphasis on intensive vocabulary building, comprehensive grammar review, reading and analysis of short literary texts of various genres from classical and modern periods, and reading newspaper clips and other original sources in Persian media.
Advanced Persian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 20A-20B or equivalent, or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 100B Advanced Persian 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2019
Emphasis on intensive vocabulary building, comprehensive grammar review, reading and analysis of short literary texts of various genres from classical and modern periods, and reading newspaper clips and other original sources in Persian media.
Advanced Persian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 100A or the consent of the instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
PERSIAN 101A Readings in Persian Literature 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2021, Fall 2013, Fall 2012
Readings in both prose and poetry, drawn chiefly from classical and modern Persian literature, designed to increase reading skills and vocabulary and to provide a transition to the study of more challenging literary texts.
Readings in Persian Literature: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 100A-100B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Readings in Persian Literature: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 101B Readings in Persian Literature 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2014, Spring 2013, Spring 2012
Readings in both prose and poetry, drawn chiefly from classical and modern Persian literature, designed to increase reading skills and vocabulary and to provide a transition to the study of more challenging literary texts.
Readings in Persian Literature: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 101A or the consent of the instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Readings in Persian Literature: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 102A Readings in Classical Persian Prose 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2019, Fall 2016
Systematic study of representative selections from all periods of classical Persian literature, with attention to the historical and intellectual context.
Readings in Classical Persian Prose: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Readings in Classical Persian Prose: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 102B Readings in Classical Persian Prose 3 Units
Systematic study of representative selections from all periods of classical Persian literature, with attention to the historical and intellectual context.
Readings in Classical Persian Prose: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Readings in Classical Persian Prose: Read Less [-]
PERSIAN 103A Classical Persian Poetry 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2017
Systematic study of poems belonging to all genres of classical Persian poetry, with consideration of questions of prosody, rhetoric, and style.
Classical Persian Poetry: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 103B Classical Persian Poetry 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2018, Spring 2016
Systematic study of poems belonging to all genres of classical Persian poetry, with consideration of questions of prosody, rhetoric, and style.
Classical Persian Poetry: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 104A Contemporary Persian Literature 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2013, Summer 1996 10 Week Session
This course will deal with significant works of Persian prose and poetry from the beginning of the 19th century down to the present. Complete works or extracts from them will be read in the original as a preliminary to their analysis in terms of literary and stylistic development, as well as the changing role of literature in society. The works of the 19th century and the period of the Constitutional Revolution (1905-1911).
Contemporary Persian Literature: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 104B Contemporary Persian Literature 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2017, Spring 2013
This course will deal with significant works of Persian prose and poetry from the beginning of the 19th century down to the present. Complete works or extracts from them will be read in the original as a preliminary to their analysis in terms of literary and stylistic development, as well as the changing role of literature in society. The literature of the rest of the 20th century.
Contemporary Persian Literature: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A or 101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
PERSIAN 105 Modern Analytical Prose in Persian 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2015, Spring 2010
This course deals with modern/contemporary critical theory, literary history, aesthetics and philosophy, and various theories of literary and cultural criticism in Persian. It concentrates on selected modern analytical, discursive, and expository texts in Persian. The course explores, from an inter- and multi-disciplinary perspective, how different movements, genres, and rhetorical aspects of modern/contemporary literature and culture have been perceived, historically contextualized, and critically positioned within the larger intellectual and scholarly domain in Persian. All texts will be read in the original Persian.
Modern Analytical Prose in Persian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 101A-101B or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

PERSIAN 120 Intensive Intermediate Persian 10 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
A year or more of advanced level Persian with emphasis on advanced grammar and vocabulary build up. Newspaper clippings, film reviews and cultural awareness through introduction of literature will be covered. Intensive Intermediate Persian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Persian 1A-1B or Persian 10 or equivalent
Hours & Format
Summer: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 20

PERSIAN H195 Senior Honors 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Directed study centered upon preparation of an honors thesis. Senior Honors: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Limited to senior honors candidates
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

PERSIAN 198 Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Instruction in areas not covered by regularly scheduled courses. Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
PERSIAN 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2003, Fall 2002
Enrollment is restricted by regulations shown in the .
Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read Less [-]