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 (https://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://lsadvising.berkeley.edu/majors-minors/minors/) page for more information.

Other Majors and Minors offered by Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (MELC) Department
Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/middle-eastern-languages-cultures/) (Major and Minor)
Arabic (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/arabic/) (Minor)
Hebrew (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/hebrew/) (Minor)
Turkish (https://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 before the first day of classes in your Expected Graduation Term (EGT). For summer graduates, minors must be declared prior to the first day of Summer Session A.
2. All upper-division courses must be taken for a letter grade.
3. A minimum of three of the upper-division courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements must be completed at UC Berkeley.
4. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required in the upper-division courses to fulfill the minor requirements.
5. Courses used to fulfill the minor requirements may be applied toward the Seven-Course Breadth requirement, for Letters & Science students.
6. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs.
7. All minor requirements must be completed prior to the last day of finals during the semester in which the student plans to graduate. If students cannot finish all courses required for the minor by that time, they should see a College of Letters & Science adviser.
8. All minor requirements must be completed within the unit ceiling. (For further information regarding the unit ceiling, please see the College Requirements tab.)

Requirements

Lower Division Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</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>
<tr>
<td>or Persian 11A &amp; 11B for heritage speakers</td>
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Upper Division Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 100A</td>
<td>Advanced Persian [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two courses:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 100B</td>
<td>Advanced Persian [3]</td>
</tr>
<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>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 103A</td>
<td>Classical Persian Poetry [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 103B</td>
<td>Classical Persian Poetry [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 104A</td>
<td>Contemporary Persian Literature [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 104B</td>
<td>Contemporary Persian Literature [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSIAN 105</td>
<td>Modern Analytical Prose in Persian [3]</td>
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Persian Culture and History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select two courses:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 109</td>
<td>Mesopotamian History: Stories of Ancient People and Places [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 111</td>
<td>Disease, Health and Pandemics in Ancient Egypt, the Ancient Middle East, and the Classical World 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 113</td>
<td>Gilgamesh: King, Hero, and God [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 117</td>
<td>The Origins of Racism in the West [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 118</td>
<td>Writing Systems of the World [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC 119</td>
<td>Explorers, Archaeologists, and Tourists in the Middle East [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC C120B</td>
<td>The Art of Ancient Mesopotamia: 1000-330 BCE [4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELC C121</td>
<td>Topics in Islamic Art [4]</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>
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</table>
### MELC 141 Modern and Contemporary Islamic Thought [3]
### MELC 142 Shi'ite Islam [3]
### MELC 143 Islam in Iran [3]
### MELC 144 Sufism: The Mysticism of Islam [3]
### MELC 145 Women in Islam [4]
### MELC 146 Islam [4]
### MELC 147 The Rise of Islamic Civilization [4]
### MELC 148 Emergence of the Modern Middle East [4]
### MELC 149 The Modern Middle East from WWI to the Present [4]
### MELC 151 Middle Eastern Women Writers [4]
### MELC 152 Cultural Encounters in Modern Arabic Literature [3]
### MELC 153 Synagogues, Cathedrals, and Mosques: The Rise and Fall of Islamic Spain [4]
### MELC 155 The Thousand and One Nights in World Literary Imagination [3]
### MELC 156 Sociolinguistics of the Middle East [4]
### MELC 157 Reel Arabs: Film and Fiction in the Middle East [4]
### MELC 158AC Middle East: Post-Colonialism, Migration, and Diaspora [4]
### MELC 159 Middle East, Empire, and Orientalism [4]
### MELC 160 Religions of Ancient Iran [3]
### MELC 161 Topics in Persian Art and Culture [4]
### MELC 162 History of Persian Literature [4]
### MELC 163 Persian Literature in Translation [4]
### MELC 165 Film and Fiction of Iran [4]
### MELC 170 Islamic History and Historiography (600-1050) [3]
### MELC 175 History and Culture of Afghanistan [3]
### MELC 180 The Quran and Its Interpretation [4]
### MELC 190I Special Topics in Fields of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures: Iranian/Persian [4]
### MELC 192I Undergrad Seminar: Problems and Research in Middle Eastern Studies: Iranian/Persian [2,4]
### MELC 198 Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students [1-4]
### MELC 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research [1-4]

**Total Units** 39-44

### Persian

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

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

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

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.

Elementary Modern Persian: Read More [+]

**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.

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

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

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.

Elementary Modern Persian: Read More [+]

**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.
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.

Intensive Elementary Persian: Read More [+]

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 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.

Reading and Composition for Persian Speaking Students: Read More [+]

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.

Reading and Composition for Persian Speaking Students: Read Less [-]

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.

Reading and Composition for Persian-Speaking Students: Read More [+]

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.

Reading and Composition for Persian-Speaking Students: Read Less [-]

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.

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.

Intensive Intermediate Persian: Read Less [-]
PERSIAN 20A Intermediate Modern Persian 5 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.
Intermediate Modern Persian: Read More [+]

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.

Intermediate Modern Persian: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 20B Intermediate Modern Persian 5 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.
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.

Intermediate Modern Persian: Read Less [-]

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Persian/Undergraduate

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

Persian Reading and Composition: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 100A Advanced Persian 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.

Advanced Persian: Read Less [-]
**PERSIAN 100B Advanced Persian 3 Units**
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.

Advanced Persian: Read Less [-]

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**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 [-]

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**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 [-]

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**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
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2008, Spring 2006
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 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.
Classical Persian Poetry: Read Less [-]

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.
Classical Persian Poetry: Read Less [-]

PERSIAN 104A Contemporary Persian Literature 3 Units
Terms offered: 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.
Contemporary Persian Literature: Read Less [-]
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 up to a total of 4 units.

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 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.

Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students: Read Less [-]

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 [-]