

Attention!

This is a representative syllabus. The syllabus for the course you are enrolled in will likely be different.

Please refer to your instructor's syllabus for more information on specific requirements for a given semester.

Seminar in Iranian Studies: Zoroastrian Middle Persian

رئس زوروا

PERSIAN 8891

4 units

Instructor:

Contact:

Office Hours:

The Seminar in Iranian Studies consists of intensive investigation of a selected topic or problem in Iranian linguistics, philology, literature, religion, or culture. This iteration of the Seminar covers **Zoroastrian Middle Persian** (also known as “Pahlavi”) and surveys the extant texts in the language. It introduces the history of the Persian language with a focus on the constitution of Middle Persian. It also introduces the major reference tools for studying this language to seminar participants.

Course Materials (provided by instructor):

- P. Oktor Skjærvø, *An Introduction to Pahlavi*, version January 4, 2016. Provided by instructor.
- Maria Macuch, "Pahlavi Literature." in *The Literature of Pre-Islamic Iran. Companion Volume I to A History of Persian Literature*. Ed. by R.E. Emmerick/M. Macuch. London 2009 (History of Persian Literature XVII), 116–190.

Online Resources:

- Encyclopaedia Iranica: <http://www.iranicaonline.org/>
- www.avesta.org [archive of Old and Middle Iranian texts relevant to Zoroastrianism]

Course Materials. The main text is written by Prof. Emeritus P. Oktor Skjærvø (Harvard). He has generously agreed to let us use this unpublished text on the condition that it not be copied or posted online by the students. Other readings and reference materials will be made available through *Carmen*. Reading assignments will be announced in class.

Attendance Policy. Your progress in this course depends upon your active engagement in class exercises. Attendance, therefore, is mandatory. Please discuss excused absences with me as early as possible. More than two absences may be grounds for reduction of your final

grade by one-third of a letter (for example, B to B-). More than three absences will result in a grade of "EN" for the course.

Grading and Assignments

A = 93-100, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72, D+ = 67-69, D = 63-66, D- = 60-62, E = 0-59

Active participation in the exercises and discussions is a basic requirement and is assumed. Non-participation will be treated as an absence (see above).

- 12 quizzes (vocabulary, identifications, 2 pts. per quiz) (total 24%)
- Midterm translation exam (16%)
- Final translation exam (April 25th to 28th) (30%)
- Weekly in-class readings of Middle Persian inscriptions and in-class exercises (30%).

Note: Regardless of your point total, you must pass the final to pass the class!

Learning Objectives

Students finishing this course will be able to read Middle Persian texts with the assistance of reference works. They will have surveyed the contents of Zoroastrian Middle Persian literature. They will understand the history of Persian in its outline and the historical phonology and morphology of Middle Persian. The main goal is to acquire the ability to use Zoroastrian Middle Persian sources as research tools.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (<http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>).

Disability policy

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, the OSU Student Safety/Escort Service is available after 7 p.m. by dialing 292-3322.

SCHEDULE (subject to changes!):

*** = long session (until 12:30 instead of 11:20)**

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| Jan 11 Mon*. | Mar 4 Fri |
| Jan 13 Wed. | Mar 7 Mon*. Quiz. |
| Jan 15 Fri. | Mar 9 Wed |
| Jan 18 Mon: NO SESSION | Mar 11 Fri |
| Jan 20 Wed. Quiz. | SPRING BREAK |
| Jan 22 Fri | Mar 21 Mon: NO SESSION (AOS) |
| Jan 25 Mon*. Quiz. | Mar 23 Wed. Quiz. |
| Jan 27 Wed | Mar 25 Fri |
| Jan 29 Fri | Mar 28 Mon*. Quiz. |
| Feb 1 Mon*. Quiz. | Mar 30 Wed |
| Feb 3 Wed | Apr 1 Fri |
| Feb 5 Fri | Apr 4 Mon*. Quiz. |
| Feb 8 Mon*. Quiz. | Apr 6 Wed |
| Feb 10 Wed | Apr 8 Fri |
| Feb 12 Fri | Apr 11 Mon*. Quiz. |
| Feb 15 Mon*. Quiz. | Apr 13 Wed |
| Feb 17 Wed | Apr 15 Fri |
| Feb 19 Fri | Apr 18 Mon: NO SESSION |
| Feb 22 Mon*. Quiz | Apr 20 Wed. Quiz. |
| Feb 24 Wed | Apr 22 Fri |
| Feb 26 Fri | Apr 25 Mon* Take-home final given. |
| Feb 29 Mon*. Take-home midterm due. | End of course sessions |
| Mar 2 Wed | |

Final exam due Apr 28 Thu, 11:45 am