

Self-Study Languages@ YLC

LT 199 : ARABIC ♦ FARSI/PERSIAN ♦ HINDI-KOREAN ♦
♦ PORTUGUESE ♦ SWAHILI ♦ THAI ♦ TURKISH ♦ (AND OTHER LANGUAGES ON DEMAND)

2008-2009

COURSE WEBSITE: BLACKBOARD COURSE WEBSITE



Program Coordinators:

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Keys to Success:

- Come to class with a question; use your portfolios to reflect on what you've learned
- Do something in the language everyday
- Get familiar with the resources at Yamada, online, and in the community
- Get lots of input; language learning is recursive; you need to hear not linear
- Pay attention to meaning more than form (fluency over grammar)

Communication

VoiceBoard & Amiga
on Blackboard

Tutors/Conversants

YLC Foreign Language
Exchange
<http://babel.uoregon.edu/ylc/exchange>

BACKGROUND

The Linguistics Department has offered credit for languages not currently taught at UO for some time now. Using the expertise of its faculty, the resources of the Yamada Language Center, and talented native speaker assistants, the Self-Study language program (SSLP) aims to provide motivated students with a unique language learning opportunity. Small classes, an emphasis on communication, and specially chosen materials combine for an engaging learning experience. Students are assessed on an individual basis, language progress is basically dependent on how much effort students expend (and, of course, prior knowledge)

REQUIREMENTS

SSLP classes can be taken for one, two, or three credits (depending on how much work you do outside of class) on a Pass/No Pass basis only. *Please be aware that none of these classes satisfies the Bachelor of Arts language requirement.* To obtain a Pass in the class your requirements are:

- 1. Regular Attendance at Weekly Classes.** You are required to attend class. More than 2 unexcused absences will result in an automatic "no pass".
- 2. Regular Completion of an online Portfolio.** It's essential for us to know how you spend your self-study time. Besides being a tool for practicing the spoken language, the multimedia portfolio (aka YLC Message Board) allows you to track your progress and give your tutor input on what's working and what's not. If you're taking the class for more than one credit, it's essential to demonstrate that you're putting in the required amount of time. **1 cr = 2 hours/week of outside work; 2 cr = 4 hours/week; 3 cr = 6 hours/week.** This work can include almost anything related to the language and culture you're studying. The weekly portfolio is graded on how well you reflect on and document your learning. You need to account for what you did, how it relates to your goals for the quarter,

what new vocabulary and functions you learned, and what questions you still have. Portfolios are reviewed during Weeks 3, 6, and 9. See the course website for more information.

3. Final Project. We use performance-based assessments, that is, language progress (as opposed to attendance) has to be demonstrated in order to get a "P." We determine this with a regular progress checks and an end-of-term project (which must be related to your goals for the term.)

CLASS STRUCTURE

SSLP classes are led by tutors who are highly proficient speakers of each language. Lessons are smaller and less formal than traditional language classes. We take a communicative approach to language teaching, typically covering 3-4 broad student-determined topics a term. Class work, then, is focused on acquiring the language necessary to accomplish specific tasks in those areas. The tutor's role is to interact and respond in the target language rather than to teach and test.

FEE

There is a **\$75.00** instructional fee for UO students taking LT 199 for credit; for all others (including faculty and non-credit UO students) the fee is **\$125.00**. This program is self-supporting; your fees help pay your tutor. If you are taking the class for credit, the instructional fee will be charged to your UO student account. For everyone else, please pay YLC by cash or check by the first class meeting.

MATERIALS

YLC provides a wide variety of resource materials for your use. These include films, audio and video recordings, special writing software, and other web-based activities. We strongly encourage working with a fellow class member outside of class. The course website provides links to all resources as well as timely information, including cultural and language exchange opportunities. A good selfstudy text and dictionary are recommended. Don't hesitate to ask the coordinator or YLC staff for help in finding these materials.

Mandatory Orientation/Scheduling Meeting the First Thursday of the Term in Pacific 121 from 5-7 p.m.