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GH 191.01: ST: Elementary Hindi I

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GH 191, Elementary Hindi I

Fall 2018

MTWR 11.00-11.50

Room GBB 202

4 credits

This class fulfills the General Education Language requirement.

It also counts towards the 18-credit South & South-East Asian Studies minor.

Instructor information

Instructor: Ekta Gupta

Office: LA439

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Office hours: Tuesday 8.30-9.30; Thursday 2.00-3.00, and by appointment.

Supervisor: Prof. Vanita

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Office hours: Tuesday 8.30-9.30; Thursday 2.00-3.00, and by appointment.

Course description

Introduction and Course Objectives

Elementary Hindi is designed for people with no prior knowledge of the language. Hindi is one of the two official languages of India, spoken by more than 40% of India's population and approximately 422 million people worldwide. It derives from Sanskrit, which is a member of the Proto Indo-Iranian group of languages and is a distant relative of Old Persian. Today, it has most words from Sanskrit and local languages and also has many words from Persian and Arabic.

Spoken Hindi is the same as spoken Urdu, which is one of India's 24 main languages and is also the national language of Pakistan. Taken together, Hindi and Urdu are the second-most widely spoken language in the world.

We will learn Modern Standard Hindi (Khari Boli), written in the Devanagari script. This is a four-credit course, with four fifty-minute classes and a one-hour conversation session every week. You are also required to spend time listening to and working with the CDs which are part of the text book.

Learning Outcomes

1. To develop beginning-level proficiency in speaking and understanding Hindi, as well as to develop familiarity with the alphabet and script, and to make progress with learning how to read and write the language.
2. To acquire a basic knowledge of Hindi and to be able to speak and comprehend Hindi at an elementary level.
3. To be able, by the end of the semester to converse on a few simple topics related to daily life and to read and write simple words and sentences; to introduce oneself by speaking in simple sentences and to understand simple sentences when spoken to by others.

4. To begin to introduce you to elements of traditional and contemporary Indian society through the language. This will be done informally and will not be part of the evaluation process.

Required textbook

Rupert Snell and Simon Weightman, *Complete Hindi with two Audio CDs* (McGraw-Hill, 2011).

ISBN-13:978-0071766081 ISBN-10:0071766081

Available at UM Bookstore and on amazon.com

Requirements

Students are required to

- (a) attend classes regularly. More than eight absences not explained to my satisfaction and backed up with documentation will result in a zero for attendance; leaving early or coming late without explanation will be treated as an absence. Explanations (preferably in advance of the absence) must be backed up with documentation, communicated to me in writing and accepted by me.
- (b) keep up with the assigned reading, bring the text to class, and participate in discussion;
- (c) complete all homework on time
- (d) take the mid-term and final exams, all tests, and complete all assignments.
- (e) **Check Moodle and UM email regularly**, especially the day before class. I send out notifications and changes by email. The best way to communicate with me is by email. This syllabus and schedule will be updated from time to time on Moodle.

Disability modifications

If you have any condition, such as a physical or learning disability, that will make it difficult for you to complete the work as I have outlined it, please discuss it with me in the first week of class.

Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind, in any assignment, will result in your failing the class and may also result in other penalties such as expulsion from the University (for further details, refer to the section on Academic Misconduct in the Student Conduct Code).

Grades

Class attendance and participation 30%

Homework 20%

Mid-term 15%

Tests 20%

Final 15%

Extra Credit

You can earn up to 3 points extra credit by attendance at the conversation sessions.

Schedule

This schedule is tentative and will change from time to time. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with changes and to obtain homework given during his/her absence.

Dates	Topic
27 August	Introduction to Hindi and the course. Learning how to greet, how to ask someone's name and how to tell your name. Beginning to read, pronounce and write Hindi vowels (which are different from and more in number than English ones).
28 August	Learning another simple question and answer. Continuing to read, write and pronounce the vowels.
29 August	Reading the Introduction to the text book. Understanding how the Hindi alphabet is organized and how certain sounds unique to Indian languages are pronounced. Understanding the concepts of vowel signs (not found in European languages), and aspirated sounds.
30 August	Reading, pronouncing, recognizing and writing vowels and the first five consonants.
3 September	No class. Labor Day
4 September	Practicing recognizing, reading and writing vowels, the first vowel sign and the next five consonants. Writing a simple sentence.
5 September	More consonants and the other vowel signs
6 September	Continuing to recognize, read and write the consonants; learning how to pronounce those that are unique to Indian languages.
10 September	Test. How to pronounce and write conjunct characters.
11 September	Learning another simple question and answer. Continuing and practicing conjunct letters
12 September	Revising and practicing consonants, vowels, vowel signs, and conjunct characters
13 September	Starting chapter 1. Reading the first dialogue. Understanding word order, the honorific ji, question word kya, and other vocabulary
17 September	Variations in greetings. Drills: recognizing consonants with and without vowel signs, and some words. Read about personal pronouns with their "to be" verbs. Vocabulary drill.
18 September	Understanding the politeness and familiarity system for personal pronouns and attached verbs. Drill on vocabulary. Asking and answering simple questions about identity and place of origin
19 September	Drill on personal pronouns and attached verbs. Pronouns for objects. Continue identity Q&A. Exercises.
20 September	Test. Read dialogue 1b. Understand vocabulary; word order; adjectives and their gender and number relation to nouns.. Start learning numbers zero to 10.
24 September	Practice describing objects with "to be" verbs. Read 1.3. Practice numbers. Vocabulary drill

Dates	Topic
	Conversation sessions begin in October
25 September	Vocabulary drill. Read 1.4 and 1.5.
26 September	Practice numbers. Do exercises and Test Yourself in Chapter 1. Revision of grammatical rules. Adjective drill. Practice vowel sounds. Decide on time for conversation session.
27 September	Start Chapter 2. Read dialogue 2a and attached vocabulary list
1 October	Read 2.1. Understanding question words with gender and number. Practice asking and answering different types of questions
2 October	Read 2.2., 2b, and attached vocabulary. Vocabulary drill
3 October	Read 2.3 and 2.4. Forms of address. Start exercises from Chapter 2.
4 October	Pronoun drill. Q&A activity. Chapter 2 exercises and Test Yourself.
8 October	Revision of Chapters 1 and 2.
9 October	Mid-term exam. Vocabulary drill.
10 October	Start Chapter 3. Read dialogue 3a. and attached vocabulary list.
11 October	Vocabulary drill. Re-read dialogue 3 a. Asking and answering questions about families and homes
15 October	Read 3.1. Understanding how postpositions work.
16 October	Activity using postpositions. Vocabulary drill. Read 3.2. Start discussing oblique case.
17 October	Continue working with 3.2. Practice counting.
18 October	Test (up to and including 3.1). Re-read, discuss and practice list of cases in 3.2.
22 October	Read dialogue 3b and attached vocabulary list. Drill on oblique case. Vocatives.
23 October	Read and discuss 3.3. Possessive pronouns. Activity on pronouns and adjectives in the oblique case.
24 October	Start doing exercises in Chapter 3. Vocabulary drill. Read 3.4 and practice pronouns in the oblique case.
25 October	Exercises 3.a.1, 3.b.1 and Test Yourself
29 October	Test on pronouns in the oblique case. Vocabulary drill. Continue Chapter 3 exercises.
30 October	Start Chapter 4. Read dialogue 4.a and attached vocabulary. Past tense “to be” verbs.
31 October	Practice past tense paradigms 4.1. Read and discuss 4.2. Practice counting
1 November	Vocabulary drill. Read and discuss 4.3, comparative adjectives. Practice postpositions and obliques.
2 November	Drill on the past tense. Read dialogue 4.b and attached vocabulary
5 November	Drill on past tense. Start 4.4, uses of ‘ko’ and ‘ki’. Vocabulary and pronunciation drill.
7 November	Diwali. Test (up to and including 4.1). Chapter 4 exercises and Test Yourself.
8 November	Drill on ‘ko’. Start Chapter 5. Read dialogue 5.a and attached vocabulary.
12 November	Election Day. No class

Dates	Topic
13 November	Activity: following instructions. Read and discuss 5.1. and 5.2, use of the infinitive.
14 November	Activity: giving each other instructions, and following them. Read dialogue 5.b and attached vocabulary. Use of 'ki' and 'kee'
15 November	Read 5.3. the possessive. Drill on 'ki' and 'kee' and oblique case.
19 November	Drill on the possessive. Read 5.4. Indirect objects. Vocabulary drill.
20 November	Read 5.5. Exercises and Test Yourself from Chapter 5
21 and 22 November	No class. Thanksgiving break
26 November	Drill on uses of the oblique pronoun. Continue with exercises on Chapter 5.
27, 28, 29, 30 November and 3, 4 December	Chapter 6 (details will be updated later). One more Test
5 and 6 December	Revision of and drills on everything covered in this class.
14 December 8-10 a.m	Final Exam

South & South-East Asian Studies Minor

South Asia comprises the Indian subcontinent and South-East Asia is the Thailand-Vietnam-Indonesia region. You can combine this 18-credit minor with any major. No language is required, but seven of your Hindi language credits will count towards this minor, so you are well on your way! We offer interesting classes on subjects such as gender and sexuality in Indian cinema; Gandhi; Tibetan Civilization; Indonesia and the Philippines; the Bhagavad Gita; myth and ritual in South-East Asia. For more information or to sign up, contact Prof. Vanita: ruth.vanita@umontana.edu