

TUR 101: Turkish Language - Beginner

Description

This Introduction to Turkish (Türkçe) is designed for students who have no or very little experience in the language. In this course, Turkish is taught with an emphasis on two the four important aspects of language: listening and speaking. Reading and Writing will play a secondary role. A multi-skill approach will be adopted in teaching.

The course will place equal emphasis on the training of standard pronunciation, listening comprehension, grammar, and vocabulary development. For speaking purposes, functional and communicative features are adopted in teaching. Grammar will gradually move from simple to more complex elements. Students in this class will learn the Turkish language through understanding the cultural aspects of its use in daily life.

Syllabus

This course will be 1/3 theoretical and 2/3 practical. A third of the course will focus on the post positions and other necessary structures to be able to manipulate the language as well as direct instruction in intonation and accent and the other 2/3 will be dialogues, controlled immersion, and real-life immersion.

At the beginning, each student will be interviewed to gain insight into their personalities, hobbies, likes and dislikes, allergies, etc. Individual learning styles and learning strategies will also be ascertained. With this information, customized dialogues will be created, reflecting conversations that they are likely to have out in the Turkish-speaking world. Coursework is designed to reflect their personal learning styles and strategies.

A trained, native-speaking Turkish will aid in the controlled immersion part of the course and to help improve the students' listening abilities.

As the students gain fluency in the course, semi-controlled immersion and scavenger hunts will be used to measure progression.

Assessment

- a. Weekly quizzes to make sure that students are keeping up on the theoretical (grammatical) aspect of the course. (20%)
- b. Attendance will be factored into the final grade. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in dropping one letter grade.
- c. Classroom Participation (20%)
- d. Homework- the students will have weekly assignments (10%)
- e. Vocabulary notebook - students will keep a vocabulary notebook in which they will note new words and their uses in phrases and expressions. (5%)
- f. Midterm exam (15%)
- g. Final exam (25%)
- h. Final presentation. Students will choose to read a selection of Turkish literature or poetry to the class and provide an oral translation. You will be evaluated on pronunciation and ability to convey the subject matter to the rest of the class. (5%)

1. The students will be required to write 1 essay detailing their experience with the language as apart of their final examination. This essay will not be graded, but used to assess the success of this course and the appropriateness of lessons in the daily life of the students. Students will be asked to evaluate the course throughout the semester to ensure that their learning needs are being met.

Learning Goals

- Basic Conversations with Native Speakers
- Basic Grammar Rules and sentence structure
- Proper Accents
- Basic Vocabulary