



**Wisconsin Intensive  
Summer Language Institutes**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **Elementary Urdu (ASIALANG 317 & ASIALANG 327 )**

**Institution Name:** University of Wisconsin–Madison

**Credits:** By the end of the program, you will complete two, four-credit language courses.

**Course Designations and Attributes:** First and Second-semester language courses

**Course Description:** Proficiency at the elementary level in listening, speaking, reading and writing, using communicative approaches.

**Requisites:** First-semester language courses require no prior knowledge of the language. Enrollment in subsequent semesters requires successful completion of the preceding semester, equivalent coursework, or demonstrated proficiency as determined by the instructor.

**Meeting Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (CDT)

**Instructional Modality:** Online via Zoom

**Instructor Contact Info:** Umar Anjum [REDACTED]

**Virtual Office Hours:** 1:30pm – 2:30 pm Monday & Wednesday or by appointment

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Students can read and write in the target language script
2. Students can develop basic listening and speaking abilities in the target language
3. Students can converse in the target language on themes and topics related to the daily life of a native speaker
4. Students can follow simple songs in the target language
5. Students can discuss culturally, historically, and geographically salient cities and places, and locate key sites on a map of the country
6. Students can understand the basic aspects of culture such as festivals, food, clothes and folk tales
7. Students can understand and control the basic constructions of grammar in the target language
8. Students can master the vocabulary related to various social-cultural contexts in the target language
9. Students can prepare and deliver a short presentation in the target language
10. Students can comprehend news headlines in the target language.

## How Credit Hours are Met by the Course

The credit standard for each of the 4-credit courses is met by requiring at least **180 total hours of student engagement** with course learning activities, consistent with the UW–Madison standard of **at least 45 hours of learning activities per credit**. These learning activities include scheduled instructor-student meeting times as well as asynchronous reading, writing, listening, speaking, preparation, homework, projects, studying, and other course-related activities. **Required co-curricular programming** will take place on Fridays, which includes lectures, language practice, cultural sessions, and other structured activities designed to support and extend course learning.

## Regular and Substantive Student-Instructor Interaction

This course meets the regular and substantive student-instructor interaction requirement. By engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment through direct instruction, providing feedback on student work, providing information about course content, and facilitating discussion of course content on a weekly basis. Regular and substantive student-instructor interaction, as defined by the US Department of Education (Within 34 C.F.R. §600.2), is always a requirement of UW-Madison for-credit learning activities.

## Course Overview

Welcome to Elementary Urdu! These courses, first and second semester Urdu, are intended for students who want to learn the Urdu language from the very beginning. Urdu is the national language of Pakistan and one of the official languages of India. Many linguists define Hindi and Urdu as twin sisters who decide to dress differently. Urdu and Hindi are mutually intelligible and if combined they make the fourth most widely spoken language in the world. Besides being spoken and understood in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh Urdu has spread to North America, Europe, Middle East, and parts of Africa as well. The beauty of Urdu poetry is unmatched and that is one of the reasons Urdu poetry and songs are an essential part of Bollywood. The goal of this course is to introduce the basics of Urdu language and help students move from **novice high to intermediate low level** in all four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

## Course Website and Digital Instructional Tools

- <https://wisli.wisc.edu/sasli/>

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

## Required Textbook, Software, and Other Course Materials

- Script book: Let's Study Urdu Script book by Ali Asani and Syed Akbar Hyder
- Textbook: Beginning Urdu: A Complete Course by Joshua H. Pien and Fauzia Farooqui
- Students are not required to purchase either of the books
- Materials: Handouts, audio and video materials will be accessible on the Canvas course site

## Homework and Other Assignments

There are regular homework assignments throughout the semester. Different homework assignments will address different skills, individually or in various combinations: some reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation is to be expected. Some assignments will be handwritten while others require a different form of input. All the assignments will be submitted online via Canvas. Late assignments or assignments submitted via emails will not be accepted. If you face any issue in submission, please let the instructor know via email or Canvas message.

## Exams, Quizzes, Projects, and Other Major Graded Work

There will be three quizzes in each semester that will take place in class and primarily be written exams and can include grammatical constructions, oral dictation, vocabulary, completion exercises, or translation. The quizzes will be on every Friday except the fourth and eighth week. Dictation-type quizzes will be a regular feature of the class. These are short tests in which the instructor will speak a series of words or phrases in Urdu, and you will write them down in Urdu along with their meanings in English. Students will work on two different projects during two semesters. These can be assigned individually or in pairs. The deadline for the first project is the fourth week while the deadline for the second project is the last week of the program. Further details will be provided in class.

## Course Schedule/Calendar

Required co-curricular Friday programming is as follows:

|                  |          |                                     |
|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday, June 19  | 11:00 am | Global Professionals Panel Sessions |
| Friday, June 26  | 11:00 am | Language Games                      |
| Friday, July 3   | TBD      | WISLI Research Symposium            |
| Friday, July 10  | 8:30 am  | Project 1 Presentations             |
| Friday, July 17  | –        | Asynchronous Review/Study Day       |
| Friday, July 24  | 11:00 am | Language Practice Tables            |
| Friday, July 31  | 11:00 am | Intercultural Learning Session      |
| Friday, August 7 | 8:30 am  | Project 2 Presentations             |

## Grading

|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Attendance                        | 10 % |
| Class Preparation & Participation | 10 % |
| Written Homework Assignments      | 20 % |
| Listening & Speaking Tasks        | 20 % |
| Quizzes                           | 20 % |
| Projects                          | 20 % |

## Grading Scale

|    |         |
|----|---------|
| A  | 92-100% |
| AB | 89-91%  |
| B  | 83-88%  |
| BC | 80-82%  |
| C  | 71-79%  |
| D  | 65-70%  |
| F  | 0-64%   |

- This class follows a fixed grading scale, and the final grades are not curved.

## WISLI Program Policies

### Attendance Policy

Students may miss one class per semester without penalty; a second absence can result in a full grade deduction; three or more absences may lead to an additional grade reduction or automatic failure.

### Tardiness Policy

Tardiness is defined as arriving more than 5 minutes late to the start of class as well as the time immediately following scheduled breaks. **Excessive tardiness** is arriving more than 10 minutes late to class. Tardiness in excess of 30 minutes will be considered a half- or full-day absence. In instances of repeated tardiness:

- **Three instances of tardiness** will result in a warning. A fourth instance of tardiness will require a meeting with an Academic Director.
- **Three instances of excessive tardiness** (arriving more than 10 minutes late but less than 30) will be counted as a half-day absence.
- **Repeated tardiness in excess of 30 minutes** will be subject to the WISLI absence policy.
- **Continued tardiness or excessive tardiness** may result in further penalty or dismissal.

WISLI understands that unforeseen circumstances can occur. Please notify the course instructor of any tardiness or absences as soon as possible.

### WISLI Technology Policy

There are many helpful online tools available to language learners, and these tools should be used responsibly and in alignment with UW-Madison expectations of [academic integrity](#) and guidelines on [generative artificial intelligence](#). Do not use translation software or AI tools unless instructed to use these tools for assignments or projects. In these instances, these tools are to be used only in the manner permitted by the instructor. Ask for clarification if you have any questions about what is allowed.

## UW-Madison Academic Policies and Statements

- [Academic Calendar and Religious Observances](#)
- [Academic Integrity](#)
- [Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Course Evaluations](#)
- [Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Student Health, Well-Being & Basic Needs](#)
- [Privacy of Student Records and the Use of Audio Recorded Lectures](#)
- [Remote Proctoring with Honorlock \(if applicable\)](#)
- [Students' Rules, Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Teaching & Learning Data Transparency](#)

## First Two Weeks Plan

### Week 1 (June 15-19)

| Date & Time               | Lesson Topic, Skills and Activities                                                                                            | Assignment & Deadline                                                                                     | Learning Outcome                                                     |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day 1<br>June 15,<br>2026 | Welcome<br>Syllabus review<br>Urdu Alphabet<br>Greetings & Introductions                                                       | Review Urdu Alphabets<br>Upload speaking assignment 1 on Canvas<br>Review Greetings,<br>Before next class | Fun facts about Urdu                                                 |
| Day 2<br>June 16,<br>2026 | Urdu Alphabet – writing, sounds,<br>Identifying sounds<br>Word Order in sentence<br>Nationalities & Countries<br>Urdu Alphabet | Review Urdu Alphabets<br>Upload speaking assignment 2 on Canvas<br>Before next class                      | Identifying Urdu letters & sounds                                    |
| Day 3<br>June 17,<br>2026 | The Urdu Script<br>“alif” and “be” series<br>Pointing and naming                                                               | Review “alif” and “be” series<br>Written assignment 1<br>Before next class                                | Learning to write basics of script<br>Talk about things near and far |
| Day 4<br>June 18,<br>2026 | Conjugation of verb & Pronouns<br>Combining letters<br>Script the “jiim” series                                                | Written assignment 2<br>Review “jiim” series<br>Before next class                                         | Learning to write basics of script                                   |
| Day 5<br>June 19,<br>2026 | Quiz 1<br>Language Game                                                                                                        | Review alphabets & script sheet<br>Practice dialogues<br>Make a vocabulary list<br>Before next class      | Introducing oneself in Urdu, Talk about thing around                 |

Week 2 (June 22-26)

| Date & Time            | Lesson Topic, Skills and Activities                                 | Assignment & Deadline                                                                                 | Learning Outcome                                                                                            |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day 1<br>June 22, 2026 | Greetings Continued<br>Script “Barii ye”<br>“ChoTii ye”             | Upload speaking assignment 3 on Canvas<br><br>Before next class                                       | Learning to write basics of script and writing simple words                                                 |
| Day 2<br>June 23, 2026 | Asking Questions<br>Script “kaaf, gaaf, laam”                       | Upload speaking assignment 4 on Canvas<br><br>Before next class                                       | Learning to write basics of script and writing simple words<br><br>Asking simple questions                  |
| Day 3<br>June 24, 2026 | Urdu postpositions<br>At the Market<br>Script “dall” series         | Written assignment 3<br>Review “dall” series<br><br>Before next class                                 | Learning to write basics of script and writing simple words                                                 |
| Day 4<br>June 25, 2026 | Possessive Adjectives<br>Counting the numbers<br>Script “re” series | Written assignment 4<br>Review “re” series<br><br>Before next class                                   | Learning to write basics of script and writing simple words                                                 |
| Day 5<br>June 26, 2026 | Quiz 2<br>Language Game                                             | Review Dialogues<br><br>Practice Urdu script sheet<br>Add to vocabulary list<br><br>Before next class | Greeting somebody<br><br>Asking simple questions<br>Writing Urdu alphabet and simple words till “re” series |