



## Intermediate Hindi

HIND 2003-2503 (3 Credits / 45 class hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:

India: Public Health, Gender, and Community Action

**PLEASE NOTE:** This syllabus represents a recent semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.

### Course Description

Students will acquire a solid foundation in standard *khari boli* Hindi to enable interaction with speakers of Hindi in North India and all over the world. It is expected that students will make rapid progress in both speaking and listening comprehension by using Hindi outside of class as much as possible, particularly with Homestay family members. Although dedicated students will acquire a strong, functional ability to communicate in Hindi, students wishing to interact substantively with Hindi speakers should nevertheless expect extensive collaboration with a translator for their Independent Study Project (ISP).

This course is designed to develop student proficiency and communication in Hindi. While emphasis is placed primarily upon oral comprehension and conversational skills (i.e., listening and speaking), reading and writing are highlighted as crucial to the reinforcement of those skills. Thus, the course is designed not only to help students acquire Hindi, but also to grasp cultural practices in India. Cultural context is built into the course and introduced through experiential activities accompanying the textbook. Intermediate Hindi provides students a more in-depth background in daily life issues, enabling them to master critical language skills necessary for performing everyday activities.

Intermediate Hindi covers grammar and syntactic structures to teach students how to create correct sentences, enabling them to both discuss and write about various topics of study. The main focus, however, is on vocabulary related to themes of culture, public health, and authentic everyday situations. Students participate in field exercises and other activities to gain confidence in interacting with Indians and immersing in society. Students are responsible for finding new vocabulary words and expressions matching the assigned field exercises — by using dictionaries, additional texts including newspapers and magazines, and by conducting interviews.

### Language Levels and Placement

Non-beginning participants are placed into appropriate language course levels based on oral proficiency interviews and written exams (placement tests) conducted during orientation in India.

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## Learning Outcomes

The *Intermediate Hindi* course comprises of 45 hours of instruction (3 credits). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- To acquire intermediate grammatical structures necessary for conversation
- To read basic “newspaper in Hindi”
- To discuss research, politics, weather on an intermediate level
- To negotiate social/commercial transactions (doctor, shopping, ordering a meal)
- To read short stories and poetry with simple grammar
- To become proficient with a Hindi dictionary
- To gain cultural insight based on language usage

## Course Requirements

**Every day, class begins promptly at 9:00 am, and commences with a brief 15-minute quiz.**

Hindi Faculty conduct classes in small groups of 8-9 students, taught in rotation. Material appearing on written examinations is solely drawn from the Rupert Snell text. Students’ abilities in written Hindi are tested daily and nightly via quizzes and brief homework assignments. Generally, one grammatical topic will be taught each day in first period and the topic will be reviewed in the second period by using drill exercises. Further practice is then provided via the daily homework assignment.

Throughout the semester, but particularly while on excursion, students are expected to collect rough material for their Hindi Final Project (see below). Students should also frequently meet with the Hindi Instructors to verify points of spelling and usage before transferring rough material to their Hindi Final Project. In addition to this, students should prepare for written examinations, which will follow each major excursion, by doing self-drills and attending optional review and drill classes.

Students are expected to take responsibility for learning the material. In addition to completing written assignments, **students must scan the next day’s material the night before.** Since SIT semester curriculum includes extended travel outside of Delhi, classroom hours are important because they provide grammatical explanation of each topic and introduction to relevant drills.

Students are expected to interact frequently with their homestay families and to immerse themselves in the surrounding Hindi speaking environment. Likewise, students should reinforce classroom lessons with drills from all the textbook chapters conducted alone or with classmates while on excursion. Students are expected to continue drill sessions while in the field. Yes it should be.

## Readings

Students are responsible for all the required readings, and should be prepared to bring them to bear on discussions in class. The readings will help place the classes in their context, to challenge and engage lecturers, to generate questions for class discussions and to deepen one’s knowledge of particular aspects discussed in class.

## Course Textbook

The main textbook used for this course, *Teach Yourself Complete Hindi*, 2010 by Rupert Snell and Simon Weightman, published by Hodder Education, adopts an approach shared by many institutes teaching East- and South-East Asian languages, which, like Hindi, use a unique script and are largely non-cognate to English. Along with this, the textbooks used for this course are *Intermediate Hindi Reader* (Usha Jain, UC Berkeley, 1999) and *Advanced Hindi Grammar* (Usha Jain, UC Berkeley, 2007). These books focus on exclusive use of Hindi script, limited introduction of idioms and comprehensively teach grammatical structures with limited vocabulary by means of structural drills. Jain’s communicative and structurally-

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based approach is well suited to the needs of intermediate students living in a Hindi-speaking environment wishing to acquire a solid university level foundation of Hindi grammar. In addition, a practical “survival” Hindi text will be given to support understanding newspapers and films. Intermediate students will learn how to use a Hindi-English dictionary.

**Daily Class Schedule** (minimum of 2 contact hours Monday-Friday, except during excursions):

- Classes are scheduled from 9:00-11:00.
- Every class will begin with a short quiz of vocabulary words and translation of sentences.
- There will be one written and one oral mid-term exam. There will be one written and one oral final exam.

**Classes start promptly at 9:00 AM**

09:00 - 09:45 Quiz and grammar class.

09:45 - 10:00 Chai/Coffee Break

10:00 - 11:00 Drills

**Course Topics**

- Introduction to Hindi – Script and Sound
- Personal Pronouns and To be form (Present and Past)
- Nouns and Adjectives
- Question framing –Yes/No, “Wh” words = “K” words. Where is....?
- Verb: Instruction, Commands and Request (polite commands)
- Case – Post Position, Oblique (Nouns), Oblique (Adjectives) Singular and Plural
- Possession: to have something / to have someone
- Tenses: Present and Past: Habitual, Progressive, Future, Subjunctive and Simple Past
- Special Verbs: Can, Like, Want, Need, To Know, To Find, To Get
- Comparative and Superlatives, **Hi and Bhi**.
- **Apna**- one’s own
- Verb- **Padana**- able to, **Chukana** - already done, **Hona** – have to
- Suffix – **wala** with nouns, pronouns and adjectives, **Kar** form of verb –having done e.g. **Jakar, Khakar**
- Co-relative actions – **Jab – Tab, Jahan – Wahan, Jaisa – Waisa**
- Connectives – Either – Or, Neither – Nor, Whether – Or, If – Then.
- Causative - **Koi** – someone, **Kuch** – something, **Kahin** – somewhere.
- Intensifier – **Karana, Hona, Jana, Lena, Dena**
- **Aur, Lekin, Kyonki, Par**
- Letter writing – to family and friends
- Story writing – writing stories with the help of pictures given
- Essay writing – festival, sports

**Conversational Practice**

- Introduction and Greetings
- Asking for directions and taking Auto Rickshaw/Taxi
- Bargaining and shopping
- Ordering food at restaurant
- Time, date and numbers
- Taking appointments through phone – Doctors, NGO head
- Changing money, adding minutes in cell phones
- Public health related vocabulary
- Buying train tickets / Bus tickets through Railway counter / Bus Counter

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- Talking about the weather, clothes, food, entertainment – films, books, women’s issue, and health issues in the community
- Describing - an incident happened, festival, marriage attended (if any)

### Evaluation and Grading Criteria

In this 3 credit course, students cover material equivalent to a semester long, non-intensive course in Intermediate Hindi. There are approximately 27 days of Hindi classes, in addition to two oral and two written examination days. Attendance at classes is a minimum requirement. Attendance at daily office hours is mandatory if teachers request a student's presence.

Throughout the semester, students are expected to collect vocabulary and useful phrases for their Hindi Final Project. Students should frequently meet with the Hindi Instructors to verify spelling and usage before transferring rough material to a Hindi Final Project notebook. In addition to completing written assignments, students must scan the next day’s material the night before.

A weighted letter grade will be assigned according to the following criteria:

<b>(1) Daily Quizzes/Written Work, Attitude &amp; Participation (overall)</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>(2) Two Oral Examinations (averaged together)</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>(3) Hindi Final Project</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>(4) Two Written Examinations (averaged together)</b>	<b>30%</b>

- 1. All written assignments are to be completed in pencil.** Materials written in pen (after the pre-program assignment) will not be accepted and will have to be rewritten. The Hindi Final Project is expected to be written in pencil in this case students need to consult with Hindi teachers on the spelling of material to be added.
- 2. All components of the course listed below must be completed satisfactorily** to receive a passing grade.
- 3. Language instructors may grant extensions for daily quizzes and other assignments pending documentation of a medical emergency.** If make-up assignments are not completed within the mutually negotiated time frame, a grade of zero will be recorded for that assignment. Unexcused late assignments will not be accepted.
- 4. While studying in India, students should be sure to allow extra time for unpredictable obstacles, such as extended power cuts or illness – they should not leave things for the last minute.**

### Methods of Evaluation

#### Daily Quizzes/Written Work/Attitude & Participation

A brief simple quiz (approximately 15 minutes) will be held daily. The quiz will cover recent grammar. Daily homework assignments reinforce the oral material taught through classroom drills. All written assignments are to be completed in pencil, so that mistakes may be cleanly erased. A clean copy in a neat hand is expected. Illegible handwriting will be graded down. Evidence of daily study and engagement in class will be taken into account.

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**Two Oral Examinations**, averaged together.

Teachers will quiz students for oral competency on a one-to-one basis.

### **Hindi Final Project**

Each student should put together a notebook with interesting and useful phrases and vocabulary. This can be creative and fun, but should be a consistent daily effort to encourage creative independent language learning. Grades will take into account initiative, determination, vocabulary and grammar. It should relate to daily life in India.

**Two Written Examinations**, averaged together

Each cumulative exam will be two hours. Please see the semester schedule for details.

**Grading Scale:** The grading scale for all classes is as follows:

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
below 64	F

### **Grading Criteria**

An “A” grade for an assignment entails superior (not just “very good”) performance in terms of structure and organization of assignments, analysis, logical argumentation and consistency, and the provision of factual, numerical and/or historical evidence. In terms of class participation, an “A” grade refers to full attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior. The level, frequency, and quality of student participation will be monitored and taken into account.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Homestays**

As a complement to the language classes, homestays provide students with the opportunity to learn from different people and to use their language skills continually in a multilingual learning environment. Our goal is to help students develop the necessary communication tools which they can use with their host families, neighbors and Indians on the street.

#### **Field Exercises**

Once a week, through field assignments, students enrich their classroom learning experience and their ability to function in real life language situations, assimilate everyday life issues and immerse in the host culture. Field assignments are done both individually and in groups.

#### **Office Hours**

Office hours are from 2 -4 pm each day. The teacher may also have additional office hours for students who need further support.

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## **Expectations and Policies**

Class attendance is mandatory and absences are penalized by reducing the language grade, except for illness cases, when the student is expected to provide a medical certificate. In addition, two repeated and unjustified delays are also counted as an absence and may impact the student's participation grade.

Show up prepared. Be on time, have your assignments completed and points in mind for clarification. Complying with these elements raises the level of class discussion for everyone.

Have assignments completed on schedule, and done according to the specified requirements. This will help ensure that your assignments are returned in a timely manner.

Ask questions in class. Engage the language teacher. Teachers are highly regarded in India; your polite behavior is expected.

Comply with academic integrity policies (no plagiarism or cheating, nothing unethical).

Respect differences of opinion (classmates', lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits). You are not expected to agree with everything you hear, but you are expected to listen across difference and consider other perspectives with respect.

**Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad handbook** for policies on academic integrity, ethics, warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process. Also, refer to the specific information available in the Student Handbook and the program handbook given to you at Orientation.

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