

Beginning Hindi

HIND 1503 J Term Course

(3 Credits)

India: Intensive Hindi Language

This syllabus is representative of a typical term. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from term to term.

Course Description

This course introduces Hindi language in supporting and real-world environment to learn and apply. The 3 hours of instruction for 5 days of week will introduce the basics of the language, including grammar and prepares students for conversational situations outside the class- in the structured field exposures, craft-based language learning and homestay. The course begins with introduction to recognizing and pronouncing the sounds used in spoken Hindi and learning the characters used in written and spoken Hindi. Students will learn about common sentence patterns/structures, read and write basic sentences which allows them to understand, write and speak in a range of everyday situations while living in India. As the course progresses, students will work towards writing, listening and reading complex expressions. The course will help students understand and observe how cultural issues such as respect shown in relation to age, gender and other social factors in India influence the way Hindi is spoken and used in everyday life. A chosen craft learning and homestay becomes an immediate basis for such observation.

Language Levels and Placement

Students are placed into appropriate levels based on oral proficiency test and interviews conducted during the orientation in India. Anyone who has taken one semester of the language or pass the oral proficiency exam administered by SIT will be able to join the course.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion, students will have the knowledge and skills to:

- Recognize and pronounce all 52 Hindi sounds and the consonant and vowel combinations.
- Read and write all basic Hindi characters and their combinations.
- Acquire basic grammatical structures necessary for rudimentary conversation,
- Use an active and passive vocabulary for around 20 categories (fruits, vegetables, colors etc.)
- Understand and use range of simple sentences and tenses for everyday situations in Jaipur.
- Communicate in everyday written and spoken contexts- while visiting local organizations, shopping, daily travel, and interacting with homestay members, and while learning a chosen craft work.

- Write and use list of vocabulary related to the craft chosen for a project paper and present it to the class.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relation of status, age, gender etc. on Hindi language communication.
- Deepen or introspect one's own interest/passion in learning a foreign language.

Course Requirements

Language of Instruction and student pledge

All the classes will be conducted in Hindi. Students will sign and abide by the language pledge to commit to speak, listen, read, and write the language of study as the only means of communication during the program in India. The pledge is the foundation of our intensive, experiential language learning program.

Course Schedule

Classes will take place daily from Monday-Friday each week- consisting of 15 hours of instruction (3 hours* 5 days) weekly. The 1st hour- will be spent on grammar instruction as a whole group. The class will be divided in two-three groups for the second hour- for drills and conversation. The last hour will be individualized aimed to support students on specific areas to improve on- such as reading practice, vocabulary building, oral presentation and relevant personal tutorials. The last hour on every alternate day will be engaged in hands-on-learning of chosen local craft and its related vocabulary.

Course Textbook

The main textbook used for this course is *Introduction to Hindi Grammar*, 1995 (Usha R. Jain). The book provides the students with core linguistic skills and presents all the major grammatical constructions of the language in logical sequence. Each construction is reinforced by means of simple drills, using elementary vocabulary. This format enables students to understand the basic structure of the language and gives them enough practice to master individual constructions.

In addition to the textbook, students will be given a printed practice book to be used daily for practice and other learning assignments. The practice book helps students on their own learning and aims to provide tools, and broader scope to engage in day to day activities in India.

Topic 1: The Devanagari Script; Practice of some useful phrases, numbers and vocabulary (Three teaching classes)

Topic 2: Nouns, Practice of some useful phrases, numbers and vocabulary, Game

Topic 3: Adjectives, Practice of some useful phrases, numbers and vocabulary, Game

Topic 4: Personal pronouns and the verb 'To be' (Present and Past); Conversation, role-plays and vocabulary

Topic 5: Imperative forms; Conversation, vocabulary and my family

Topic 6: Interrogative words, Conversation, role-plays and vocabulary

Topic 7: The present and past habitual tense; Role-play and conversation

Topic 8: Postpositions; Role-play and conversation

Topic 9: Possessive with Ka; Role-play and conversation

Topic 10: Singular oblique forms; Role-play and conversation

Topic 11: The continuous tense present and past; Role-play and conversation

Topic 12: The plural oblique forms; Role-play and conversation

Topic 13: *Chanana and Chahiye*; Role-play and conversation

Topic 14: Equivalent of the English verb 'To have'; Role-play and conversation

Final Written Examination

Hindi Final Oral Project Presentation

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Description of Assignments:

Daily Written Work:

Written assignments aims to reinforce the material taught in the class and the drills' sessions. Students use the practice book and complete the assignments and tasks as instructed. Students will be given timely feedback and are required to go through the checked/corrected assignments and follow the instructions given by the language instructor. Students are encouraged to write the assignments in clear writing, so the instructors can understand and provide clear feedback.

Daily Oral Conversations:

Simple phrases and its use for basic conversation in the class will support the oral proficiency of the learners. In the beginning, students are taught to speak about their immediately family or environment such as their room, house, siblings or to ask simple questions, describe quality of a person or any object. They will be able to give and receive basic instruction to their friends, sibling, parents, and teachers. In second week, students will be engaged to talk about their daily routine, their likes-dislikes, give directions, to taxi driver or someone asking, or to talk about weather. In third week, they can talk about what they did yesterday, last week or month or year, and their future. The contents of the syllabus will be supported by thematic vocabulary, stories, poems, letters, essays, or chosen craft learning activity. Students are required to memorize and practice these. Students will be asked to converse in paired groups but will be evaluated individually.

Weekly Quiz:

Each Friday, a brief quiz will be conducted to test students on grammatical topics and vocabulary covered in the respective week. The preparation towards this weekly quiz will help reinforce learning, practice and memorization of vocabularies.

Final Written Examinations: The final one-hour long written examination will be based on all the topics covered, including grammar.

Craft Learning Project paper and oral presentation: Each student are required to write and submit a short hand written paper (500 words) and orally present (5 mins) about the chosen craft learning experience and its key vocabularies in last week of the program. Students can find their own creative ways to orally present it. Students must start working on project as soon as possible

with the support from the instructors and are required to draw on their classroom learning to write and orally present the language knowledge and skills. Project presentation may include pictures and videos taken, advertisements, magazine clippings or articles of the specific craft and its relevance in the local economy.

For the final oral presentation, following criteria will be used for evaluation.

- Creativity
- Vocabulary
- Pronunciation
- Phrases
- Speaking skills

Effort and Meaningful Participation: Attendance is mandatory and is the most fundamental aspect of participation. However, in addition to merely showing up, students should demonstrate active and meaningful participation during the class, as well as timely completion of daily or weekly tasks/assignments. This also means:-

- showing engagement and attention
- asking valid questions
- making marks and notes
- coming to class prepared for the lesson
- reviewing the topic of the day
- speaking Hindi outside of class and adhering to the language pledge (10%)

Assessment:

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| Weekly Quizzes/ Daily homework and conversation (Written and Oral) | 25% |
| Final Written Examinations | 20% |
| Project paper | 20% |
| Project presentation | 15% |
| Effort and Meaningful participation | 20% |

Grading Scale

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|----------|----|
| 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 |

Student Expectations and Policies

Show up prepared. The course is based on group learning so you must participate fully. Be on time for all sessions. Please complete the assigned readings and come with points in mind for discussion or clarification.

Assignments. All written assignments should be completed in pencil. Materials written in pen will not be accepted and will have to be rewritten. All components of the course must be completed satisfactorily to receive a passing grade.

Comply with academic integrity policies. No plagiarism or cheating, nothing unethical.

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.

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at disabilityservices@sit.edu for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.