

Beginning Hindi

HIND 1003 - 1503 Online Course

(3 Credits)

India: 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 provides a solid introduction to Hindi language. It introduces the basics of the language, including grammar and prepares students for basic conversational situations. 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 and read and write basic sentences which allows them to understand, write and speak in a range of everyday situations. As the course progresses, students will work towards writing, listening and reading complex expressions. The course will help students understand how cultural issues such as respect shown in relation to age, gender influence the way Hindi is spoken and used in everyday life.

Language Levels and Placement

Students are placed into appropriate levels based on oral proficiency test and interviews conducted online during the orientation.

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;
- Communicate in everyday written and spoken contexts such as shopping, travel, and interacting with people inside home or outside;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relation of status, age, gender etc. on Hindi language communication;
- Deepen or introspect one's own interest in learning a foreign language;
- Prepare students for future visit to India for academic or non- academic reason.

Course Requirements

Language of Instruction

All the classes will be conducted in Hindi and English. The usage of English will be minimal.

Course Schedule

Online classes will take place daily from Monday-Friday each week. Classes will focus on grammar instruction as a whole group, then be divided in two-three groups for drills and conversation. Classes will also be individualized, aimed to support students on specific areas to improve on- such as reading practice, vocabulary building, oral presentation and relevant personal tutorials.

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 practice book in the PDF format which can be printed and used daily for practice and other learning assignments. The practice book helps students on their own learning and aims to provide framework to engage in day to day activities while using Hindi language. This could be effectively used as a learning tool even in non- Hindi lingual environment.

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 Readings:

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 through online class hour 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:

Classes will be based on simple phrases and its use for basic conversation which 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, small paragraphs. Students are required to memorize and practice these. Students will be asked to converse in paired groups but will be evaluated individually.

Daily Oral Examination:

One oral examination will be held during the last week for 10 minutes. Students will be asked general questions to test grammatical structures covered in the class. It will cover all taught topics in the term.

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 topics in hand.

Final Written Examinations:

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

Oral Presentation Project:

This is an individual activity and the student is required to present in last week of the program. Students choose their own topics for the presentation. Students must start working on project as soon as possible to decide on the topic, with the support from the instructors. Students should draw on their virtual classroom learning to design a specific activity using the language knowledge and skills. Project may also be supplemented by items of your choosing, including pictures and videos you have taken, advertisements, magazine clippings or articles. Students are encouraged to take support and assistance from language instructor while working on the project.

For the final presentation, each student will be given five minutes to present his/her project and will include the following criteria 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

Assessment:

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

Grading Scale

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 online instruction. 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.

Attendance: Extensions for daily quizzes and other assignments may be negotiated with the Language Instructors only upon emergencies and medical conditions. If make-ups granted due to illness are not completed within the agreed upon time, a grade of zero will be recorded for that assignment. Unexcused late assignments will not be accepted.

Troubleshooting. While studying online, please be sure to allow extra time for setbacks and technical issues.

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>.