



## **The City, the River, the Sacred**

### **HIND 100: *Beginning Hindi***

#### **Course Description**

The course provides students with an introduction to Hindi that aims to develop their basic speaking, reading, and writing skills. This course introduces the Hindi writing system (syllabary) as well as basic Hindi grammar. Interactive in nature, this course focuses on imparting Hindi language skills to beginners and empowering students to engage in cross-cultural communication. Vocabulary related to daily life and practical necessities will be reinforced through dialogues, conversations, drills, and interactive classroom activities such as role playing and games. Field trips will also be organized to encourage the students to speak Hindi in a real-life context.

#### **Learning Objectives**

The aim of this course is to achieve well-rounded Hindi speaking ability, limited only by the range of vocabulary. While vocabulary acquisition is a long-term process, every effort will be made to provide students with a strong vocabulary base that will act as a catalyst in their present and future attempts at mastering Hindi.

#### **Speaking**

As the most important goal of this course is to enable students to communicate in spoken Hindi with fluency and without hesitation, oral presentations and role playing in short situational dialogues will be practiced regularly. Students are expected to actively participate in these exercises and are encouraged to share their ideas for new situational dialogues with the Instructor.

#### **Reading/Writing**

Students will be expected to read and write Hindi at a reasonable pace. Readings will be assigned from selected stories. Journal entries and short writing compositions will also be regularly assigned.

## **Vocabulary**

A strong emphasis will be placed on vocabulary relating to daily life (based on frequency and context).

## **Listening Comprehension**

In addition to the focus on listening comprehension provided by role-playing exercises, students will receive extra practice by listening to short stories, conversations and reading passages. Students will be expected to give short oral presentations on assigned topics or topics of their choice.

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## **Course Schedule**

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<b>Class</b>	<b>Topic to be Covered</b>
<b>1*</b>	Syllabary, oral and written: vowels (independent and dependent-maatra form), introduction to consonants according to order of Devanagari writing system (क ख ग घ), reading and dictation exercises.
<b>2*</b>	Consonants continued (च छ ज झ - ट ठ ड ढ ण - त थ द ध न), reading and dictation exercises.
<b>3*</b>	Completion of Consonants (प फ ब भ म - य र ल व - श ष स ह), reading and dictation exercises.
<b>4*</b>	Conjunct Consonants, reading and dictation exercises
<b>5*</b>	Nasal sounds, reading and dictation exercises, rules for pronunciation
<b>6</b>	Simple sentence word order, use of pronouns and the verb “to be” in combination with invariable adjectives, the adverb not - नहीं and other adverbs like यहाँ and वहाँ
<b>7</b>	Introduction to nouns: gender, how to make singular into plural. Use of यह, वह and their plural forms in combination with nouns.
<b>8</b>	“Yes/no answer” questions. Introduction to the questions words: क्या, कहाँ and कौन.
<b>9</b>	In-class translation of dialogue based on contents of classes 1-8. In-class exercise: re-enactment of same dialogue by students in pairs.
<b>10</b>	Outing to practice Hindi with native speakers

11	Inflecting adjectives, introduction to possessive and inflecting question words (कैसा, कौनसा,किस्का and कितना)
12	Review through text translation (dialogue based on contents of classes 1-11)
13	<b>Test (classes 1-11)</b>
14	Introduction to postpositions and the oblique case
15	Pronouns in oblique case and some verbal constructions : को constructions (including question word किसको) and के पास construction
16	Text reading based on oblique case (also including nouns in oblique)
17	Imperative and constructions with चाहिये (in combination with nouns and infinitive form of verbs)
18	In-class translation of dialogue about conversation with shopkeepers
19	Outing in local shops to practice Hindi with native speakers
20	Past tense of the verb to be (था थे थी)
21	Progressive form of verbs
22	Introduction to present habitual.
23	Text reading based on progressive and present habitual tenses.
24	In-class practice of the different verbal forms studied through role plays
25	Review classes 14-23
26	<b>Test (classes 14-23)</b>
27	Future tense
28	Reading and Translation of dialogue on “planning for the week-end”
29	Perfective tense using intransitive verb construction
30	Perfective tense using transitive verb construction
31	Reading and translation of text based on perfective tense
32	Verb लगना and some constructions

33	Reading of dialogue based on all verb forms studied
34	Outing to practice Hindi with native speakers
35	Verb चाहना and its constructions
36	The verb to be able to (आना and सकना construction)
37	In-class reading and translation of text using the verbs चाहना, आना and सकना in different tenses
38*	Review
39*	Review (translating from English to Hindi)
40*	Final exam

#### Notes on the Schedule:

- Classes will be one hour in length and unless noted by \*. These (\*) classes will be 1 ½ hours
- The topics scheduled above may change due to the learning needs of the students
- Home work will be assigned during class
- Students will be encouraged to talk Hindi inside and outside of the classroom.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned according to the learning needs of the students. Students are expected to follow the instructions provided and submit assignments on time.

Due on the First Day of Class: Students must submit a Hindi writing system assignment for which students are required to handwrite each letter of the Hindi writing system 30 times.

#### Evaluation

Hindi writing system assignment	5%
Test 1	15%
Test 2	20%
Vocabulary Quizzes	15%
Final exam	30%
In-class Participation*	15%

\*(attendance, in-class correction of home works, role plays etc.)

## Learning Outcomes

### Speaking

After completion of the course students will be able to handle successfully some simple communicative tasks necessary for survival in Hindi language culture. Topics of conversation will relate to basic personal information such as self and family, some daily activities and personal preferences and some immediate needs for instance ordering food and making simple purchases. Students will be able to ask and respond to simple direct questions or requests for information using the main verbal tenses (present habitual, progressive, future and perfective).

### Writing

By the end of the course students will be able to meet basic practical writing needs using lists, short messages and simple notes. They will also be able to create statements and formulate questions using short and simple conversational-style sentences with basic word order. Topics are tied to the content areas learned and practiced during the course. Students will gain a certain accuracy in transcribing familiar words or phrases and reproducing basic characters, still some spelling errors may occur especially as regards matraas and conjunct consonants.

### Listening

This course will enable the students to understand some information from sentence-length speech, one utterance at time, in basic personal and social contexts. They will be able to understand speech dealing with areas and vocabulary learned during the course.

### Reading

By the end of the course students will be able to recognize, fully and with relative ease, all the syllables of Hindi writing system. They will also be able to understand short, non- complex texts that convey basic information using the vocabulary learned during the course.

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## Grading

Alliance programs utilize the follow standard grading policy well accepted by most US institutions.

Excellent	A	93-100%	Good	B+	87-89%	Acceptable	C+	77-79%
	A-	90-92%		B	83-86%		C	73-76%
				B-	80-82%		C-	70-72%
						Unsatisfactory	D+	67-69%
							D	63-66%
							D-	60-62%
						Failing	F	<60%

## **Course Policies**

### **Exams and Assignments**

Students are required to take all regularly scheduled exams in courses for which they are registered, and to submit all assignments on time. Any compelling academic, personal, or medical reason that might justify a rescheduled exam or assignment must be brought up to both the Resident Director and program faculty. Failure to take scheduled exams or submit the requisite assignments for a course will adversely affect your grade as per the stated grading criteria for each course.

### **Classroom Conduct**

Student punctuality is extremely important in China and India. Please do not be late for classes or other activities, as it is considered impolite to do so. It is improper to eat in class, to engage in other activities such as texting, or to slump or nap. Students are expected to be alert and engaged as a sign of respect for their professors.

### **Attendance**

Class attendance is mandatory. It is essential that the students participate fully in the coursework and all required academic activities. Authorized absences may only be approved by the Resident Director, and students are expected to make up any missed work. Unauthorized absences will adversely affect a student's grades.

### **Classroom expectations**

The student is expected to be proactive in his/her engagement in class and towards homework. Questions and suggestions from them will be welcome and appreciated. Students can also ask questions outside the classroom, both in person as well as via email. Feedback from using the Hindi learned in class outside should be given promptly and freely.