

## Intensive Language Study: Hindi

Course Number: HINDI 1000

4 Credits – 60 class hours

SIT Study Abroad Program:

**India: National Identity and the Arts**

### Course Objectives:

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 take the opportunity to 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 we expect 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).

### Course Textbook:

The main textbook used for this course, “Introduction to Hindi Grammar” (Usha Jain, UC Berkeley, 1995), 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. This approach focuses on exclusive use of the target script, limits introduction of idioms and comprehensively teaches grammatical structures with limited vocabulary by means of structural drills. In contrast, many other Hindi textbooks rely on English transliteration, teach grammar through use-patterns in dialogues, and introduce advanced Sanskritic vocabulary through written homework. Although the former may prove fruitful for those focusing on reading written Hindi, Jain’s communicative and structurally-based approach is better suited to the needs of short-term students living in a Hindi-speaking environment wishing to acquire a solid university level foundation of Hindi grammar. Jain’s textbook features extensive use of drills sets to convey examples of grammatical patterns. The Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary will also be used.

### Course Overview:

In this 4-credit intensive course, students cover material equivalent to a year long, non-intensive course in Introductory Hindi (6-credits). With the support of the Homestay environment, SIT students are able to learn efficiently – Hindi classes are small, intense, and productive. There are approximately 24 days of Hindi classes, in addition to two written examination days. The morning classes should be considered as a minimum requirement. Attendance at daily office hours is mandatory if teachers request a student's presence.

Every day, classes will begin at 8:30, and will commence with a grammar overview in the lecture hall. The second session will be drills and conversation practice. Hindi Instructors will conduct these classes in

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## Course Syllabus\*

small groups. Material appearing on all written examinations will be drawn from the Jain textbook. Students are expected to regularly review dialogues and exercises the mp3 files. Students' abilities in written Hindi will be tested weekly in quizzes and nightly in brief homework assignments.

Throughout the semester, students are expected to collect vocabulary useful for their ISP Project particularly while on excursion. In conjunction with this, students should frequently meet with the Hindi Instructors to verify points of spelling and usage before transferring rough material to an ISP Hindi phrase and vocabulary notebook. Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning process. In addition to completing nightly written assignments, **students must scan the next day's material the night before** (see daily timetable below). As SIT semester curriculum includes extended travel outside of Jaipur, classroom hours provide grammatical explanation of each topic, and introduction to the relevant drills.

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Students are expected to engage consistently with their Homestay family and the larger context of living in a Hindi speaking environment. Experience material reinforce their classroom work by doing drills from all the textbook chapters alone or with classmates while on excursion, and are expected to continue this while in the field.

### **Daily Class Schedule (minimum of 2.5 contact hours daily):**

**8:30 - 9:30 Grammar Class All students meet for grammar lesson in lecture hall**

**9:30 - 9:45 Chai Break**

**9:45 - 11:00 Practice Lessons in separate classrooms**

**Evaluation:** a weighted letter grade will be assigned according to the following criteria:

<b>(1) Weekly Quizzes/Written Work</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>(2) Two Oral Examinations, averaged together:</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>(3) Two Written Examinations, averaged together</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>(4) Useful Hindi Vocabulary Notebook</b>	<b>20%</b>

1. **All written assignments** are to be completed in pencil so that mistakes may be cleanly erased. A clean copy is expected.

2. **The Hindi vocabulary notebook** may be written in pencil or pen and should consist of the specialised vocabulary and phrases students need for their ISP projects; interesting additional material, such as advertising, alphabet charts, cartoons, etc. may be added.

### **Evaluation Components:**

**Weekly Quiz:** A brief weekly quiz will be held on each Fridays. The quiz will cover the grammar, phrases and vocabulary taught in the previous four days.

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**Written Work:** Nightly homework assignments reinforce the oral material taught through classroom drills.

**Two Oral Examinations:** The first Oral Examination will be held just before the Delhi-Varanasi Excursion. The second Oral Examination will be held just before the ISP period, the day after the Hindi Final Exam.

**Two Comprehensive Written Examinations:** Each cumulative exam will be one hour. Please see the semester schedule below for details. In addition to regular office hours and meetings by appointment, optional review and drill sessions will be given before all written exams.

**Academic Policies:** While SIT prides itself on providing students with an experientially based program we hold ourselves and our students to the highest of academic standards. Students are asked to refer to the SIT Study Abroad Handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, academic warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process.

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