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# UZBEK

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## *Uzbek.....*

- is the Central Asian language with the largest number of speakers.
- is the official language of Uzbekistan, an important country in Central Asia
- has tens of thousands of speakers in the New York area, many of whom are Jews from Bukhara
- is spoken by significant populations in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, and other countries
- is very closely related to Uygur, spoken in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region in the People's Republic of China
- has switched officially from the Cyrillic alphabet to the Latin alphabet!

## *Why Study Uzbek?*

- Uzbek is the most important indigenous language for studying the modern cultures of Central Asia
- Uzbek has a very rich tradition of prose literature in the 20th century
- There is also a long history of prose historical works and poetry by famous poets such as Ali Sher Navoi in the earlier literary language known as Chagatay, which is a predecessor of Uzbek
- Uzbek is an excellent gateway to the study of Islamic societies and literatures of pre-Soviet Central Asia
- Uzbek is a critical language for national security
- Pssst..... We hate to say it, but students who have studied Uzbek have an advantage in looking for government jobs!

## *Why Study Uzbek at the UW-Madison?*

- The UW-Madison has one of the only programs in the US on the Turkic languages of Central Asia, including Uzbek!
- There is a weekly Central Asia Language Table attended by faculty and staff interested in Uzbek
- There is a regular Central Asia Lecture Series and other activities which supplement the class
- There is a group of undergraduate and graduate students interested in the region
- The teacher is the author of major textbooks, phrasebooks, and dictionaries for Uzbek!
- The teacher is very knowledgeable about current events and politics in the region

## ***FALL COURSES***

343 First Semester Uzbek  
443 Third Semester Uzbek  
543 Fifth Semester Uzbek

## ***SPRING COURSES***

344 Second Semester Uzbek  
444 Fourth Semester Uzbek  
544 Sixth Semester Uzbek

## ***Contact***

Enrollment and advising questions:

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