



MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

"It was truly and honestly one of the brightest, funnest, warmest academic environments I've ever been in. What a collegial, brilliant group of people! I am beyond honored to have been invited to be part of its speaker series"

—Invited speaker (2023)

Persian and Iranian Studies Program (PISP):

PISP is dedicated to promoting teaching, scholarship, and thoughtful public discourse about all aspects of the history and culture of the Persianate world. Students have the opportunity to study up to four years of Persian language and literature taught in the target language, as well as courses on Persian literature, history, culture in English translation.

PISP offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees in MELC with a focus on Persian and Iranian studies and works closely with a wide range of other programs and departments on campus, including the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Near and Middle Eastern Studies.

Key initiatives:

- [Roshan Institute Fellowship for Excellence in Persian Studies](#)
- Annual [Afrassiabi Lecture in Persian Literature](#)
- [Mo Habib Translation Prize in Persian Literature](#)

Recent programming:

- [Shahnameh theatrical reading](#) (June 2022)
- [Afghanistan Lecture Series](#), in collaboration with UCLA and Stanford (Jan-June 2022)
- [Middle Persian Workshop for Students and Community](#) (December 2022)

Resources:

- [Access to the Persian collections](#) at Suzzallo Library
- Opportunity to workshop your projects with PISP affiliated [faculty](#) and [students](#)
- UW NetID for Wi-fi access
- Transit Pass for getting around stunning [Seattle](#)

Courses offered in Spring 2024

For the list of courses offered at the UW, see [here](#), in case you wish to audit any of them or connect with their instructor. For MELC courses, see [here](#) as well.

Partnerships:

This residency program aims to serve our students and community first, but our broader goal is to promote Persian poetry and literature to the Puget Sound region. In addition to MELC, we have other partners with whom the resident can connect and collaborate:

- [Translation Studies Hub](#): A dynamic community of translators and translation studies scholars
- UW [Creative Writing program](#)
- Active Washington State Iranian-American organization such as [Peyvand](#) and [Persian Poetry & Music Workshop of Seattle](#)
- Seattle Arts and Lectures
- Elliott Bay Book Company
- Seattle Art Museum
- Seattle Opera House

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Seattle in the Spring



The UW Quad in April. The signature Yoshino cherry trees at the University of Washington are nearly 90 years old and were originally set in a grove at the Washington Park Arboretum. In late 1964, the University transplanted the trees to their current spot, bringing thousands of visitors to campus each spring to witness their rosy bloom.

Spring (late March–June) is a particularly beautiful time to visit Seattle and the University of Washington. Cherry blossoms are in bloom. There are many sunny days. And our temperature fluctuates between 50 and 60 degrees, with very late sunsets. There are many things to do in Seattle in the spring, check out these lists [here](#) and [here](#). You will cherish every day of your stay in the Pacific Northwest.

