

Uzbek is a Turkic language spoken in Central Asia and is closely related to other Turkic languages in the region. Uzbekistan is a post-Soviet Muslim nation located along the Silk Road and the language has borrowed extensively from Persian, Russian and Arabic. Uzbek is easier to learn than other Turkic languages because it has no vowel harmony. It also has no irregular verbs.

Uzbek is considered a Critical Language by many U.S. government agencies, so knowledge of Uzbek can assist in pursuing a career in the government. Various programs including Fulbright, Boren and FLAS provide funding to travel to Uzbekistan for continued language learning and/or research.

The Uzbek class here at UIUC is a small and interactive class that will meet three times a week for three credit hours. This class satisfies non-Western language requirements. Contact medill2@illinois.edu for information about current class offerings.