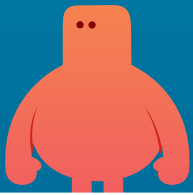




Pouneh Ahari studied Law at Leicester University. As part of her course, she was able to spend a year studying abroad in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.



What did you study?

I studied Law at Leicester University with Year Abroad in Frankfurt.

Best thing about learning another language?

The ability to communicate with people from all over the world and from different backgrounds.

What languages do you speak?

Persian - technically my first language as my parents speak it at home and it was my main language until starting school.

German - at school from year 8 - AS Level, then a language course at the University of Leicester.

Have you taken any qualifications in Persian?

I sat GCSE Persian in Year 10 at school. However, it has always been very difficult to read and write in Persian because of having little exposure to the alphabet on a day-to-day basis, and the fact that vowel sounds are not always included in written text.

What encouraged you to learn the languages you know?

Persian is essential to talk to my family back in Iran, especially my grandparents. And the desire to connect with my heritage. Learning about German culture and philosophy at school inspired me to continue learning the language.

How did you practice and expose yourself to the Persian language?

My mother sent my brother and I to family friends to study Persian once a week for about 5 or 6 years. She found it too difficult to teach us.

Are there any other languages you would like to learn?

I would love to learn French (because it's useful) and Italian (because it sounds lovely!)



One piece of advice...

Try to learn basic grammar solidly. It can be frustrating but is a good foundation for advancing your knowledge of a language.