

In my Intermediate Hindi class, we talked about Hindi movies. As a child, I grew up watching and listening to Hindi movies as well as Hindi songs, which made me a fan of Hindi at a very young age. Now that I was learning Hindi, it was interesting to see the type of language used in movies and songs. It is sometimes different when they use a mixture of Hindi and Urdu to make it sound fancy enough for the movies and songs. That day was definitely one of my favorite days of class!



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## Memorable Moments

**Funniest:** There was new vocab that we would sometimes pronounce with an American accent, which makes the word sound *and mean* something completely different. There were a few words that I said incorrectly and accidentally meant something really bad and inappropriate!

**Most challenging:** I moved to Intermediate Hindi after only one semester, which was a big jump. I was still getting used to writing and reading Hindi script while the Intermediate students already mastered it.

**Favorite:** We had a picnic at Capital Square and ordered a 20" pizza from Ian's while listening to the orchestra play. It was great to just hang out!

## The Madison Experience

**New favorite dish:** I started getting falafel towards the end of the program. Naf Naf falafel sandwiches really got me, because it was a different taste that we don't have on the East Coast. It came with a base of baba ganoush with falafel pieces, veggies, and tahini sauce.

**Must see/do:** Get on the lake and kayak!

## New Perspective

**Cultural point of view:** Hindi culture is very humble, and people have so many ways of saying the same things we say in English. I noticed how when speaking in Hindi, the tone of voice really gives away what you're trying to say.

**Advice to students considering this program:** Try something new! I took a step out of my comfort zone and went somewhere I have never been to learn more about my culture and language.

**How this experience will help me in my future career:** After this program, I am interested in seeking career opportunities where language and Air Force overlap. I am considering taking the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) and applying to the Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP)!