SYLLABUS

SASLI
Elementary Tamil – Summer 2011
Instructor: Sankaran Radhakrishnan
Contact Telephone:
Office hours: By appointment

I. Objectives
To help students acquire basic skills of language learning such as Listening, Writing, Reading and speaking at the beginning level. This is achieved through lectures, lab works, active class participation, students homework, exercises and drills and all aiming pattern perception method and that help developing an implicit system of Tamil language acquisition.

II. Activities
Students are expected to complete all assignments and home work on the very first hour of the class day. Drills in the class immensely help students to acquire structural patterns and help to develop spoken skills. Each lesson will have six components such as lesson, drills, exercises, vocabularies used in the lesson, grammatical explanations, and sandhi used in the lesson. Working with all will help to manage day to day activities in Tamil. Other than the prescribed materials for the course, variety of other audio and video materials, pictures, Tamil movie clips and movies will also be used.

III. Class Materials (S Radhakrishnan)
Texts:
Tamil Script Book (this helps to learn thoroughly like native speakers)
Basic Tamil
Spoken-Written Tamil
Handouts/pictures
Movie clips (fast reading practice)
Audio materials (for listening and reading practice)
Tamil Movies (for improved understanding of culture and content)
Song practice
IV. Lesson Plan

Weeks: 1-2
Learning thoroughly Tamil alphabets and know their sound values and
Perceive and reproduce the sounds and their meaningful sequences, that is:
- Identify the sounds in their meaningful sequence,
- Discriminate the sounds in meaningful sequence,
- Reproduce the sounds in meaningful sequence.
Form sentences orally from given patterns and lexical items
Students will get training in speaking while learning alphabets and will be able speak verb less
sentences and learn numbers, pronouns, adjectives, possessive

Weeks 3-4
Students will learn and will be able to use sentences with verbs, present tense, and their
conjugations (Finite verbs). Use of locative, dative and objective cases and their uses and
comparative forms etc., will be learnt in addition to the use of defective verbs, adverbial forms

Weeks 5-6
Numbers-fractions
Future tense and past tense
Use of infinitives, permissive markers

Weeks 7-8
Complex/compound verbs (Participles) will be learnt through class and home work

Requirements
Written Assignments:
Script Book exercises
Lesson Exercises
Exercises in:
i. Reading comprehension
ii. Writing
iii. Translation
EXAMS: Test for proficiency in listening, reading, speaking, and writing and understanding of
structures and their use.
i. Exam 1 (end of fourth week; model will be discussed)
ii. Exam 2 II (end of eighth week; model will be discussed)

Class participation
Attendance and class participation in all classes help students to acquire
Proficiency and that reflect significantly in the final exams. Therefore, students are highly
encouraged to participate in discussions.