

INTERMEDIATE SANSKRIT, LICALANG 475 & 476, SASLI-2017, UW-MADISON
Classroom: 399 Van Hise Hall, 8:30 am-1:00 pm
Office: B432 Medical Sciences

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Aleksandar Uskokov

CONTACT: uskokov@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS: MTWTh—1:30-2:30 pm, B432 Medical Sciences (schedule them in person or via email)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Sanskrit is one of the classical languages of South Asia. Most of the Hindu holy books are written in Sanskrit, and it was the language of learned discourse in philosophy, poetry, aesthetics, and the other knowledge systems, across the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. It has a three millennia long history. The discovery of Sanskrit and its long tradition of language analysis played the crucial role in the development of modern linguistics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES:

This intensive course in intermediate Sanskrit will introduce students to several different genres of Sanskrit writing. Its goal is to give students a firm footing in the language and to facilitate their transition from learning grammar in the first year to reading texts with confidence from the third year on. Students will learn how to analyze Sanskrit verses and prose by finding out the core of the sentence, understanding how syntax works, and learning important idioms. The course will focus on three genres—narrative verse from the epics, foundational Hindu texts, and scholastic Sanskrit—which will expose students to a wide range of Sanskrit vocabulary. The last hour of our daily classes will be dedicated to grammar and prosody, which will help students retain, solidify, and expand the knowledge gained in the first year of study, become acquainted with the most common meter of Sanskrit poetry, and get more comfortable with the phonetic aspects of the language.

TEXTBOOK AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

1. Course Packet, available for purchase from SASLI on the first day of classes.
2. Apte, Vaman Shivaram. *Practical Sanskrit-English Dictionary: Compact Edition*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2007. OR
3. Monier Williams, Monier. *A Sanskrit English Dictionary*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass 2011.

The dictionaries have been reprinted many times, and any edition may be used. Electronic versions of these dictionaries available online may be used instead of the hard copies, provided the student is already comfortable in using them.

1. Macdonell, Arthur A. *A Sanskrit Grammar for Students*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2007.
2. Tubb, Gary and Emery Boose. *Scholastic Sanskrit: A Manual for Students*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2013.
3. Bucknell, Roderick S. *Sanskrit Manual: A Quick Reference Guide to Phonology and Grammar of Classical Sanskrit*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2004.

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4. Fallon, Oliver. *Bhatti's Poem: The Death of Ravana*. New York: New York University Press, 2009.
5. Whitney, William Dwight. *The Roots, Verb-Forms and Primary Derivatives of the Sanskrit Language*. Motilal Banarsidass, 2004.
6. Hock, Hans Henrich. *An Early Upanishadic Reader*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2007.

Items 1, 3, and 5 have been printed many times, and any edition may be used. Items 1 and 5 are also in the public domain and a pdf of them will be provided on the course site. No. 2 will be quite indispensable for the last leg of our course, and any serious student of Sanskrit should eventually have a copy of the book. No. 3 is useful because it has thorough paradigm tables and many other useful tools. No. 4 will be useful for our review sessions. I will provide scans whenever we use it, but students may still wish to acquire a copy. No. 6 is useful with background information on the Upaniṣads and some select vocabulary, but I will not use it or refer to it otherwise.

CLASS ETIQUETTE:

- Be on time (classes start at 8:30am) and come prepared!
- Be respectful of other students and avoid distracting them and hindering their opportunity to learn.
- Show your group members the same courtesy that you would give to the instructor. Inform them of group meetings or activities that you will have to leave early or miss.
- Mute your cellphone during the class time.
- While use of computers and tablets is not discouraged, be conscientious: use them to take notes and check online dictionaries. Do not check your e-mail, Facebook, or the like.

ATTENDANCE:

It is the policy of SASLI that students attend class every day during the summer, due to the intensive structure. Students with extenuating circumstances must discuss the situation with the instructor and SASLI administration. Absences, other than illness, will be worked out on a case-by-case basis. Vacation is not a valid excuse for a student to have an absence. If a student misses class, it is their responsibility to make up the work and to keep up with the other students in the class. SASLI has a written absence, tardiness, and religious observance policy as below. These policies must be in your syllabus.

TARDINESS AND ABSENCE:

Classes start on time at 8:30AM and go until 1:00PM (with a half hour break). It is the policy of SASLI that tardiness is not tolerated. A student that comes late to class will get two warnings, and the third occasion will constitute ground for grade deduction. For a fourth case of being late for class, s/he will be sent to the SASLI administration office. An unexcused absence will result in warning and a grade deduction. On the second absence, the student will be sent to the SASLI administration office, and receive an additional grade deduction. Note that excused and unexcused absences cannot equal more than 2 per semester. Once a student has a 3rd absence, s/he must see the SASLI administration office. Note further that an unexcused absence is any absence with no prior approval from the instructor. Unanticipated medical/other emergencies may require additional

documentation and approval from the SASLI administration office in order to be considered "excused."

CONSISTENT INDEPENDENT WORK

Students should expect to spend at least 4 hours studying and preparing outside of class for each class session. The success in this course is predicated on the time students spend preparing for the daily sessions. That said, students should make learning and not exam performance their goal and think of this summer as a step in a longer process of improving their knowledge of Sanskrit.

QUIZZES, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EXAMS

Assignments for this course will include quizzes, weekly, and final exams:

- (a) The last fifteen minutes of every daily session, Tuesday to Friday, will be reserved for quizzes on verbal and nominal paradigms. The quizzed paradigms, along with handouts, will be given on Friday the previous week.
- (b) Since during the eight weeks we will read three genres of texts, we will have three final and five weekly (midterm) exams, corresponding to three quarters in an academic year. The examination schedule is as follows:

1. Week 2, Monday, 8:30am-9:15am, weekly exam 1;
2. Week 3, Monday, 8:30am-10:30am, weekly exam 2;
3. Week 4, Tuesday, 8:30am-9:15am, final exam 1;
4. Week 5, Monday, 8:30am-9:15am, weekly exam 3;
5. Week 6, Monday, 8:30am-10:30am, final exam 2;
6. Week 7, Monday, 8:30am-9:15am, weekly exam 4;
7. Week 8, Monday, 8:30am-9:15am, weekly exam 5;
8. Week 8, Friday, 8:30am-10:30am, final exam 3.

Since the summer intensive program covers a full academic year of language study, you will get two grades – rather the same grade twice – corresponding to the two semesters of study at UW.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

1. Attendance and class preparation: 25%
2. Grammar quizzes: 10%
3. Weekly exams: 25%
4. Final exams: 40%

Grade Scale:

INTERMEDIATE SANSKRIT, LICALANG 475 & 476, SASLI-2017, UW-MADISON
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1. A (Excellent) 90-100
2. AB (Intermediate Grade) 83-89
3. B (Good) 74-82
4. BC (Intermediate Grade) 67-73
5. C (Fair) 61-66
6. D (Poor) 55-60
7. F (Failure) 54 or less.

CLASS FORMAT:

In order to achieve the goal of learning how to read the three genres, our course will be divided in three sections:

1. In the initial three weeks, we will read from the critical edition of the Sanskrit epic *Rāmāyaṇa*, the story of King Daśaratha's performance of a sacrifice for progeny, which should prepare us for fluent reading of narrative verse.
2. In the second section, weeks four through five, we will read from the *Bhagavad-gītā*, which should provide us with many of the conceptual categories of Hinduism.
3. During the last three weeks, our course will focus on reading Śaṅkara's commentary on the eighth chapter of the *Chāndogya Upaniṣad*, and we will learn how to read scholastic Sanskrit.

The three final exams will correspond to these three texts. The last hour of our daily meetings, Monday through Thursday, will consist of grammar review, exercises, learning how to recite Sanskrit meters (a handout for which is included in your course packet), and possibly sight-reading. The last two hours of Friday will consist of review of the material that we have covered during the week. The very last 15 minutes, Tuesday to Friday, will be left for a quiz on nominal and verbal paradigms.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT: The student Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures for the University of Wisconsin is available on the website listed below:

<<https://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/>>

This document outlines the rules and regulations regarding your student rights and responsibilities while a student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It states that "Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance;

INTERMEDIATE SANSKRIT, LICALANG 475 & 476, SASLI-2017, UW-MADISON
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- assists other students in any of these acts.

Please see the website listed above for further information.

CLASSROOM ATMOSPHERE

- SASLI is committed to creating a diverse and welcoming learning environment for all students, and has a non-discrimination policy that reflects this philosophy. Disrespectful behaviors or comments addressed towards any group or individual, regardless of race/ethnicity, sexuality, gender, religion, ability, or any other identity or community are deemed unacceptable in class, and will be addressed by the instructor or referred to the Academic Director.
- Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. We will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

McBurney Disability Resource Center:

The McBurney Center is available for all students at the University of Wisconsin. The Center offers a wide array of services for students with disabilities. If you need any disability accommodations you need to register with the McBurney Center. The McBurney Center is available for all students at the University of Wisconsin. The Center offers a wide array of services for students with disabilities. For a list of the services provided, please visit the website: <http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/services/>

Rights and Responsibilities

- Students with disabilities have the right to:
- Full and equal participation in the services and activities of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services
- Privacy and to not have confidential information freely disseminated throughout the campus
- Limit access to confidential records. In doing so, however, students recognize that implementing accommodations may become more difficult
- Information readily available in accessible formats

Students with disabilities have the responsibility to:

- Meet qualifications and maintain essential institutional standards for courses, programs, services, jobs and activities

INTERMEDIATE SANSKRIT, LICALANG 475 & 476, SASLI-2017, UW-MADISON
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- Identify as an individual with a disability when an accommodation is needed and to seek information, counsel and assistance as necessary
- Demonstrate and/or document (from an appropriate professional) how the disability limits their participation in courses, programs, services, jobs and activities
- Follow published procedures for obtaining reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services, or requesting barrier removal

The University, through faculty and staff, has the right to:

- Establish essential functions, abilities, skills, knowledge and standards for courses, programs, services, jobs and activities or facilities and to evaluate students on this basis;
- Determine the appropriate standards in developing, constructing, remodeling and maintaining facilities;
- Confirm disability status and request and receive current, relevant documentation that supports requests for accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services;
- Have appropriate staff discuss students and their disabilities in order to implement requested accommodations (particularly instructional accommodations);
- Deny a request for accommodations, academic adjustments or auxiliary aids and services, and/or barrier removal in facilities if the documentation does not demonstrate that the request is warranted, or if the individual fails to provide appropriate documentation;
- Select among equally effective accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services;
- Refuse unreasonable accommodations, academic adjustments or auxiliary aids and services, and/or facility-related barrier removal requests that impose a fundamental alteration on a program or activity of the university.

The University has the responsibility to:

- Provide information to faculty, staff, students and guests with disabilities in accessible formats upon request
- Ensure that courses, programs, services, jobs, activities and facilities, when viewed in their entirety, are available and usable in the most integrated and appropriate settings
- Evaluate students on the basis of their abilities and not their disabilities
- Respond to requests on a timely basis
- Provide or arrange reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services for students with disabilities in courses, programs, services, jobs, activities and facilities
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality of records and communication except where permitted or required by law

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Contact information for the McBurney Disability Resource Center:

702 W Johnson Street, Suite 2104
Madison, WI, 53715
phone: 608-263-2741
text: 608-225-7956
fax: 608-265-2998