

University of Wisconsin - Madison
South Asian Summer Language (SASLI)
Institute 2014

Elementary Sinhala

Instructor: Bandara Herath
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Class Schedule:

Monday to Friday for 4hrs a day (with an expectation of 3-4 hours of homework/study at home).

Class Etiquette:

1. If for some reason you are late to class, please do not be disruptive to the other students. You may write down any questions you may have about the missed material and ask the instructor later.
2. Greeting one another and the instructor upon arrival in the morning contributes to a positive learning environment and is highly encouraged.

Course Overview:

Elementary Sinhala has two-semester program sequence. The course emphasizes the individual learning styles and preferences. All the aspects of language: speaking, reading, writing and listening would be given equal consideration. Using essentially a communicative-interactive teaching methodology, supplemented with appropriate grammatical details, the students are, systematically and incrementally introduced to materials that enable them to acquire cultural and linguistic literacy about Sri Lanka. At the end of the program, students are expected to have complete mastery over the Sinhala script, so they can read and write Sinhala efficiently. They are expected to be able to carry on basic conversation in Sinhala with native speakers, displaying a fair command of the contextually appropriate linguistic articulations of different speech acts in Sinhala

Class Materials:

Required Text Book:

1. Beginning Colloquial Sinhala: An Introductory Sinhala Curriculum by Theresa McGarry and Liyanage Amarakeerthi.
<http://www.einaudi.cornell.edu/southasia/publications/sinhala>

2. Sinhala Script Workbook: Reading and Writing with the Sinhala Alphabet by Bandara Herath
<http://www.einaudi.cornell.edu/SouthAsia/publications/sinhala>
3. English Sinhala Dictionary by Bandara Herath
4. Beginning Colloquial Sinhala reader: Bandara Herath
<http://www.einaudi.cornell.edu/southasia/publications/sinhala>
5. Additional reading materials will be provided, Handouts, Audio and video/ Sinhala movies/ Tele dramas will be available online / provide by the instructor.

Quizzes / Examinations:

There will be two types of quizzes:

1. Weekly: Weekly quizzes are part of the final grading. (First day of the week)
2. Short quizzes: The purpose of these short quizzes is to get a regular feedback on your daily achievement of language skills. The duration would be 5-10 minutes. The objective of this is to evaluate the acquisition of language in different skill areas.

Exam Format:

Oral: Conversation / oral presentation / achievement of oral skills during the semester.

Written: Covers all the grammar points and includes short paragraph writing. Final examination will be held in the finals week of the program. Final examination will be cumulative that is it will cover the syllabus from day one till the instruction ends. It will have an oral and written part.

One on One Interview:

Students have to sign for one on one interview with the instructor once in a week. Interviews focus on the special needs of the students and for the revision of the previous lessons. Students can use this opportunity to work more on writing skills and speaking skills.

Home work assignments:

Homework will be assigned regularly and the due date will vary

Evaluation:

Depending on the length of the home-assignment. These assignments will help you to become thorough with the material taught in the class and experiment with the language by yourself.

Quizzes (Written, oral)	20%
Class participation	10%
Home work	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100

Grade scale:

A (Excellent)	90-100
AB (Intermediate Grade)	83-89
B (Good)	74-82
BC (Intermediate Grade)	67-73
C (Fair)	61-66
D (Poor)	55-60
F (Failure)	54 or less

Course Calendar:

The calendar is tentative, but follows the main textbook and it may be changed according to the needs of the class and students.

1 st week June 16 - 20	Unit 1 Lesson 1 - 5	Quiz 1
2 nd week June 23 - 27	Unit 2 Lesson 6 - 10	Quiz 2
3 rd week June 30 - July 3	Unit 3 Lesson 11 - 15	Quiz 3
4 th week July 7 - 11	Unit 4 Lesson 16 - 20	Quiz 4
5 th week July 14 - 18	Unit 5 Lesson 21 - 25	Mid term test
6 th week July 21 - 25	Unit 6 Lesson 26 - 30	Quiz 5
7 th week July 28 - Aug 01	Unit 7 Lesson 31 - 35	Practice test
8 th week Aug 4 - 8	Unit 8 Lesson 36 - 40	Final test and Presentation

Attendance:

Because this is an intensive course, attendance is crucial. Missing one day of class is equivalent to missing an entire week during the academic year. If any student misses two or more classes during the course without a genuine or unavoidable reason, then he/she will lose 2 points for each of the missed classes. Five bonus points will be added to the points obtained in the final exam for the perfect attendance. Please schedule your departures so as not to conflict with the final exam dates. If you have a legitimate reason which requires an earlier departure before the scheduled exam dates, you must first make your request with the SASLI Director. Early departure petitions require the Director's approval before they can be granted.

Student Code of Conduct:

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

<http://www.wisc.edu/students/saja/misconduct/misconduct.html>

Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

1. Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
2. Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
3. Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
4. Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
5. Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance;
6. Assists other students in any of these acts.

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 are in need of any of the services provided by the Center, please feel free to contact the McBurney Center staff directly. For a list of the services provided, please visit the website:

<http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/services/>

Contact information for the McBurney Disability Resource Center:

905 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53715
608-263-2741 (phone)
263-6393 (tty)
265-2998 (fax)
mcburney@uwmadmail.services.wisc.edu

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