

SASLI 2019
SYLLABUS FOR ELEMENTARY TAMIL 2019
University of Wisconsin Madison
Monday June 17, 2019 – Friday August 09, 2019

Course: Elementary Tamil

Instructor: Ms. Srividya Ramesh

Instructor Office Hours: Monday to Friday 2PM - 3PM B576 (MSC)

Course Number: LCALANG 365/ LCALANG366

Instructor Contact Information:

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Tamil is an ancient language, spoken today by some eighty million people in South India, Sri Lanka, and a large diaspora that includes Malaysia, Singapore, Fiji, South Africa, Paris, Toronto, and many other sites throughout the world. This language is attested from at least the first century B.C., though its roots go back much farther into the past. Among the South Asian languages, Tamil is perhaps the only case of a very ancient language that still survives as a vibrant mother-tongue for tens of millions of speakers.

Course Objective/Goals:

At the end of the course, students will be able to

- Have simple conversation about common topics, exchange greetings at any time of the day and talk about their family.
- Be able to give and understand directions from a start place to destination.
- Read and understand a recipe, do shopping and bargaining.
- Understand messages in which the writer tells or asks you about topics of personal interest, hobbies or other day-to-day activities.
- Write about food, travel and places with confidence. Also be able to ask questions to obtain information about the same.
- Use the language to meet basic needs in familiar situations, ask for help at school, work, or in the community and plan for a trip or travel locally.

Credit Hours: LCALANG 365 (4.0 credits), LCALANG 366 (4.0 credits)

The credit hours for this course is met by an equivalent of academic year credits of “One hour (i.e. 50 minutes) of classroom or direct faculty/instructor and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each over approximately 15 weeks, or an equivalent amount of engagement over a different number of weeks.” Students will meet with the instructor for a total of 156 hours of class (4 hours per day, 5 days a week) over an 8-week period.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Textbooks:

1. Tamil Language in Context: A Comprehensive Approach to Learning Tamil by Vasu Renganathan (ISBN: 978-0-615-53347-6)
2. Tamil Alphabet Writing Workbook by Dinesh Verma (ISBN: 979-1461001614)

COURSE POLICIES

1. CLASS ETIQUETTE:

- Be on time (classes starts at 8:30am)
- Turn in your homework on time.
- Participate in discussions and activities.
- 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 professor. Inform them of group meetings or activities that you will have to leave early or miss.
- Do not record the class on video /audio devices.
- Do not text with your cell-phone or digital devices during the class time

2. ATTENDANCE

It is the policy of SASLI that students attend class every day during the summer, due to the intensive structure.

Tardiness and Absence Policies:

Absence:

One absence per semester is permissible.

Two absences in a semester will result in a grade deduction for that semester.

Three or more absences in a semester will result in automatic failure of the course.

Things to note:

- Absences on days of exams, projects, presentations, etc. will lead to failure of that coursework. There will be no make-up exams, projects, presentations, etc. due to absence.
- Failure of the first/third/fifth semester course prohibits students moving to the second/fourth/sixth semester course, and will result in dismissal from the program without refund.
- Contact hours for federal grants require that the SASLI program must end on the last day of class. Requests to leave or take final exams early will not be granted.
- Pre-program requests for absences will not be granted.

Emergency circumstances for absences can be addressed to the SASLI Academic Director, Lalita du Perron, at lalita.duperron@wisc.edu.

Tardiness:

Arriving to class on time is important for successful participation in the SASLI program. Being late to class is disruptive and disrespectful to one's instructor(s) and classmates, and could result in a marked absence or grade deduction. Classes start on time at 8:30AM and go until 1:00PM (with a half hour break).

3. CELL PHONES AND LAPTOPS

Students should turn off their laptops and cell phone ringers during class.

4. ACADEMY INTEGRITY

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UW Madison's community of scholars in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest academic integrity standards. Academic misconduct compromises the integrity of the university. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. This includes but is not limited to failure on the assignment/course, disciplinary probation, or suspension. Substantial or repeated cases of misconduct will be forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards for additional review.

In the context of this course, most assignments must be completed individually (except where specified) and without the use of online translators (which will always produce comically incorrect results anyway!).

5. ASSIGNMENTS, ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Attendance & class participation count towards 10% of your grade. You are required to participate in all pair and group work in class and outside as deemed necessary.

Homework Assignment: You will be assigned homework in each class and are expected to submit it on time on the agreed date. Your work is factored into planning for future classes; therefore, timely completion of all assigned homework will allow instructor to more accurately gauge student progress and effectively utilize class time. You can expect the instructor to correct your homework and return them before your following quiz date and review in class if deemed necessary.

Each week you will be assigned a task to prepare during weekends. You may be assigned to prepare a skit or role-play or a poster to present in class the following week. Assignments must be turned in on time; late submission or failure to submit will adversely affect your grade. The schedule for assignments will be announced in class. Each assignment will be graded on a system of points; the total score will be converted to a letter grade. Each student must save the graded written in-class and home assignments for this course, and re-submit all of them in a portfolio at the end of term. This portfolio will be an overall record of your progress during term, and I will review it, along with your final exam, before assigning your final grade for this course.

Late assignments will receive lowered points or grades. Late, incomplete, and missed assignments will adversely affect your final grade.

6. IMPORTANT DATES:

Holiday: July 4, 2019 (Thursday) No Class

Weekly Quiz:	Quiz 1- June 24, Quiz 2- July 1, Quiz 3- July 8, Quiz 4 - July 22, Quiz 5- July 29, Quiz 6- August 5
First Semester Final:	July 12, 2019 (Friday 8:30 AM)
All SASLI Program:	July 30 (Tuesday 1:00 PM)
Second Semester Final:	August 9 (Friday 8:30 AM)

[Note: All SASLI program is organized on week 7 of the program on July 30 to showcase what students can do in the target language. Participation in the all SASLI program is mandatory for all students. The program showcases performances or talents of students in the target language as an individual (if you are the only student in the class) or as a group. The performance can be a song, a skit, recitation of a poem etc.]

7. GRADING SYSTEM

Attendance and Class Participation	10%
Homework Assignments	40%
Weekly Quiz (3 quizzes each semester)	25%
Final Examination (oral and written)	25%

8. GRADING SCALE

A (Excellent)	92-100
AB (Intermediate Grade)	84-91
B (Good)	76-83
BC (Intermediate Grade)	68-75
C (Fair)	60-67
D (Poor)	55-59
F (Failure)	54 or less

9. CLASS FORMAT:

This being an intensive course, we will meet M-F for four hours/day. The first few days will be dedicated to the learning of the Tamil script, and to the familiarization with the instructional tools. The schedule will look as follows:

Monday	Lesson	Grammar	Oral Presentation	Conversation
Tuesday	Lesson	Grammar	Listening	Vocabulary drill

Wednesday	Lesson	Grammar	Tamil media (reading)	Conversation
Thursday	Lesson	Grammar	Listening	Tamil media (viewing)
Friday/ Test Friday	Test/ Exam	Lesson/ Exam	Grammar/ Lesson	Review/ Grammar

Lesson: From the textbook. Students will practice reading with comprehension. The instructor will ask questions, explain vocabulary, and point to new grammatical concepts.

Grammar: The instructor will introduce new grammar topics based on the lesson. Grammar exercises will be provided.

Oral Presentation: Students will be assigned topics for each week and deliver 5-minute oral presentations in order to develop confidence in their speaking abilities.

Conversation: Session to practice both listening and speaking skills. Topics will be assigned and students will be expected to prepare vocabulary for each topic. Particular emphasis will be given to the practice of non-written forms of Tamil, in view of the language's diglossia.

Listening: Instructor will read a paragraph and ask questions from that or will play a video and will ask students to sum up the conversation from the video.

Vocabulary drill: Many Tamil words sound very similar to non-native speakers. Exercises for this class are designed to gain confidence in distinguishing them and successfully using them.

Tamil media (reading): Familiarizing students with the style of Tamil newspapers and magazines. Passages will be carefully selected to mirror the topics covered in class and students' skills. We will commence with the titles and very short passages and move on to slightly larger units.

Tamil media (viewing): Students will be exposed to carefully selected excerpts of spoken Tamil from Tamil TV, films and songs. Vocabulary will be provided.

Test/Exam: Tests will be an overview of the materials covered in a particular week. There will be two exams, First semester final (July 12) and Second semester final (August 9). Reading, writing, listening and speaking skills will be tested on both tests and exams.

10. 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;
- Assists other students in any of these acts.

Please see the website listed above for further information.

11. CLASSROOM ATMOSPHERE

- Every class is comprised of students from a variety of backgrounds, some with previous exposure to TAMIL, and some with none. Additionally, each student learns best in a different style and at a different pace. Just like any other subject from art to zoology, some students have an aptitude for language learning (or certain aspects of it) and some find it more challenging. Some have more difficulty reading than speaking, and vice-versa. These differences do not necessarily reflect on a student's commitment, effort, intelligence, or worthiness. Although it can be difficult during the prolonged contact of an intensive language program, **all students are expected to respect each other's learning needs and abilities at all times.** Disrespect will not be tolerated.
- UW 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/on the online forum.

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
- 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, through faculty and staff, 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

Contact information for the McBurney Disability Resource Center:

<https://mcburney.wisc.edu/mcburneyconnect/>

Student Health/ Resource Centers:

University Health Services: You are all considered UW-Madison students for the summer, and so you have access to all student services, including those relating to physical and mental well-being. Issues tend to arise in small, intensive classes, and some students find that the pace and intensity of the summer classes can be mentally or even emotionally difficult. You are encouraged to take good care of yourself, and take advantages of the resources available should any issues arise.

University Health Services: <https://www.uhs.wisc.edu/> or 608-265-5600
 University Mental Health Services: <https://www.uhs.wisc.edu/mental-health/>
 24-Hour Mental Health Crisis Services: 608-265-5600 (option 9)

LGBTQ Support:

The Gender & Sexuality Campus Center is a fantastic resource for LGBTQ students on campus. Visit them in person at the Red Gym or online at <https://lgbt.wisc.edu/>.

Dean of Students:

The Dean of Students' office can provide you with support and resources for a variety of problems; their main reason for existing is to promote student well-being. They are located in Bascom Hall and can be contacted at 608-263-5700. Their website is <https://students.wisc.edu/doso/>.

Weekly Schedule (Plan)

Day (Date)	Topic (Students can prepare it before class or expect in the class)	HW (Page Number, Online Resources)	Due
Monday (6/17/2019)	Introduction to Tamil language Vocabulary - Scripts and their pronunciations. Grammar - Nouns and Verbs Poems – Aathichudi Basic Conversation	HW will be to practice the script and pronunciation and the nouns learnt.	Tuesday (6/18/2019)
Tuesday (6/18/2019)	Vocabulary – Colors and Numbers (1-25) Grammar - Adjective and Gender Poems - Thirukkural (2) English to Tamil word translation	To translate English words to Tamil and work on the grammar taught.	Wednesday (6/19/2019)
Wednesday (6/19/2019)	Vocabulary – Flowers and fruits Grammar – Question words Poem – Thirukkural (2) Practice Self introduction sentences.	Frame questions using the question word.	Thursday (6/20/2019)
Thursday (6/20/2019)	Vocabulary – Parts of the body Grammar – Adverbs and Propositions Poem – Thirukkural (2) Learn Direction words and sentences	Create a direction map from school to room/Apartment.	Friday (6/21/2019)

Friday (6/21/2019)	Vocabulary – Numbers (25-100) Grammar – Singular and plural Poem – Thirukkural (2) Conversation – Common phrases used in Tamil. English to Tamil sentence translation.	Write a one paragraph describing the topic given in class	Monday (6/24/2019)
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