ELECTIVE COURSE

BSTC2020
Sanskrit Language II

Course Description:
Sanskrit is one of the most ancient languages known to humankind. It is a key to understanding the rich cultural, philosophical, and religious heritage of India whose influence on our world continues to be felt. Students of history, history of science, comparative literature, general and historical linguistics, philosophy, and religions will discover that a basic knowledge of the language greatly enriches their studies. It is one of the four languages in which many Buddhist teachings are preserved. Indian Buddhist schools such as Sarvāstivāda, Yogācāra, Mādhyamikā composed most of their texts in Sanskrit. Many Mahāyāna texts such as the Prajñāpāramitā literature, Saddharmapuṇḍarikā-sūtra and many more treatises were composed in Sanskrit. Therefore, for students who intend to specialize in different aspects of Indian Buddhism, a reading knowledge of Sanskrit is essential. This course will cover the structure and grammar of the language, including topics such as, possessive nouns, numerals, relatives, future passive participle, present participle, passive voice, imperative and optative mood, different forms of the past tense, declensions, and conjugations.

Prerequisite: “BSTC2008. Sanskrit Language I” or possess equivalent knowledge.

Objectives
(1) To enable students to read and comprehend Sanskrit texts.
(2) To enable understand the structure, and grammar of the Sanskrit language.
(3) To help students to understand Sanskrit Buddhist Literature.

Course Content: The course begins with Sanskrit grammar along with exercises selected from Buddhist texts. As the students learn and attempt the graded passages, all the grammars involved will be analyzed and doctrines explained to them in a gradual build-up manner. This includes the following: possessive nouns, numerals, relatives, and future passive participle, present participle, passive voice, imperative mood, and optative mood, different forms of past tense, declensions and conjugations.

Teaching and Learning Method: Lectures, class discussions and tutorials.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offering Semester</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Dr. Amrita Nanda</td>
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<td>Office</td>
<td>Rm 4.09, 4/F Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>Every Wednesday, 10:30-12:20</td>
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<td>Class Venue</td>
<td>CPD-2.17</td>
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Assessment:

- **50%** - Coursework
  - 15% - Attendance
  - 20% - Quiz (open-book in class quiz)
  - 15% - Homework
- **50%** - Final examination at the end of the semester. (Open-book exam).

**Lecture Schedule**

**Lesson 1 (17/01/2024)**
- Introduction to the course
- Introduction to Possessive Suffix *-in*
- Future Passive Participle (FPP)

**Lesson 2 (24/01/2024)**
- Introduction to Relatives and Correlatives in Sanskrit
- Introduction to Sanskrit Numerals
- Vocabularies and Exercises.

**Lesson 3 (31/01/2024)**
- Introduction to Possessive Suffixes *mant* and *vant*
- The Future Tense
- Infinitive

**Lesson 4 (07/02/2024)**
- Introduction to Sanskrit Compounds:
  - *dvandva* compound
  - *tatpuruṣa* compound
- Declension of Sanskrit Demonstrative (that)
- Vocabularies and Exercises.

**Lesson 5 (21/02/2024)**
- Introduction to Sanskrit Consonant ending nouns
- The Passive Voice
- The Class II verbs.
- Exercises.

**Lesson 6 (28/02/2024)**
- Present participles.
- Continuation of Sanskrit Compounds — *Karmadhāraya-samāsa*.
- Vocabularies

**Lesson 7 (13/03/2024)**
- Exercises
- Mid-term quiz (one hour)

**Lesson 8 (20/03/2024)**
- Compounds — *Avyayībhāva-samāsa*.
- Declension of Consonant ending Nouns.
- Vocabulary Exercises.
Lesson 9 (27/03/2024)
- Class IX verbs.
- The Imperative Mood.
- Declension of Agent Nouns.
- Vocabulary Exercises.

Lesson 10 (03/04/2024)
- Periphrastic Future.
- Conjugation of Class V verbs.
- Conjugation of Class VIII verbs.
- The Optative Mood.

Lesson 11 (10/04/2024)
- Compounds — Bahuvrīhi.
- The Past Participle Active.
- Conjugation of Class III verbs.

Lesson 12 (17/04/2024)
- The Imperfect Tense.
- The Aorist Tense

Lesson 13 (24/04/2024)
- Review for the exam

Note: This schedule is both approximate and flexible. We may deviate from it depending on the pace of students’ comprehension and feedbacks.

Textbook:

Note: we will not follow the textbook exactly. Handouts will be given to students in every class.

Reference books:

Online basic Sanskrit Grammar: http://www.learnsanskrit.org/grammar
Online Sanskrit-English Dictionary http://www.sanskrit-lexicon.uni-koeln.de/monier/
Writing Devanāgarī Script  http://enjoylearningsanskrit.com/sanskrit-alphabet-tuto

Note:

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. The University upholds the principle that plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and any student found plagiarizing is liable to disciplinary action in addition to failing the assessment concerned. Please read the following webpage on "plagiarism" for details:

http://arts.hku.hk/current-students/undergraduate/assessment/plagiarism

**Faculty Grade Expectations:** http://arts.hku.hk/grade_expectations.pdf