Undergraduate Courses offered by Centre of Buddhist Studies in 2024-2025
ELECTIVE COURSE
(OPEN TO ALL FACULTIES)

BSTC2020
Sanskrit language II

<table>
<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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<tr>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>Every Wednesday, 10:30 —12:20</td>
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<td>Class Venue</td>
<td>CPD-LG.20</td>
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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, Saddharmapundarikā-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.
Assessment:
• **50% Coursework**
  ➢ 10% class participation
  ➢ 25% mid-quiz (open-book in class quiz)
  ➢ 15% weekly Homework
• **50% Final examination at the end of the semester. (Open-book exam).**

Faculty Grade Expectations. [http://arts.hku.hk/grade_expectations.pdf](http://arts.hku.hk/grade_expectations.pdf)

**Lecture Schedule**

**Lesson 1 (22/01/2025)**
- Introduction to the course
- Introduction to Possessive Suffix —*in*
- Future Passive Participle (FPP)

*(No class on Jan 29, 2025)*

**Lesson 2 (05/02/2025)**
- Introduction to Relatives and Correlatives in Sanskrit
- Introduction to Sanskrit Numerals
- Vocabularies and Reading selected Sanskrit Passages

**Lesson 3 (12/02/2025)**
- Introduction to Possessive Suffixes —*mant* and —*vant*
- The Future Tense
- Infinitive

**Lesson 4 (19/02/2025)**
- Introduction to Sanskrit Compounds:
  ➢ *dvandva* compound
  ➢ *tatpuruṣa compound*
- Declension of Sanskrit Demonstrative (that)
- Vocabularies and reading selected Sanskrit passages

**Lesson 5 (26/02/2025)**
- Introduction to Sanskrit Consonant ending nouns
- The Passive Voice
- The Class II verbs.
- Reading selected Sanskrit passages

**Lesson 6 (05/03/2025)**
- Present participles.
- Continuation of Sanskrit Compounds — *Karmadhāraya-samāsa.*

*(No class on Mar 12, 2025)*

**Lesson 7 (19/03/2025)**
- Vocabularies and reading selected Sanskrit passages
- **Mid-term quiz**
Lesson 8 (26/03/2025)
- Compounds — Avayībhāva-samāsa.
- Declension of Consonant ending Nouns.
- Vocabulary and reading selected Sanskrit passages.

Lesson 9 (02/04/2025)
- Class IX verbs.
- The Imperative Mood.
- Declension of Agent Nouns.
- Vocabulary and reading selected Sanskrit passages.

Lesson 10 (09/04/2025)
- Periphrastic Future.
- Conjugation of Class V verbs.
- Conjugation of Class VIII verbs.
- The Optative Mood.

Lesson 11 (16/04/2025)
- Compounds — Bahuvrīhi.
- The Past Participle Active.
- Conjugation of Class III verbs.

Lesson 12 (23/04/2025)
- The Imperfect Tense.
- The Aorist Tense

Lesson 13 (30/04/2025)
- Perfect Tense
- 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](http://www.learnsanskrit.org/grammar) 
Online Sanskrit-English Dictionary [http://www.sanskrit-lexicon.uni-koeln.de/monier/](http://www.sanskrit-lexicon.uni-koeln.de/monier/) 

**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: