

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
Department of Religious Studies  
Sanskrit I: Basic Sanskrit (SRK 2100)  
& Sanskrit Exegesis I (SRK 5001)  
Fall 2015

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Instructor: Samani Shukla Pragya  
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Class Hours: MWF 12:00-12:50  
Classroom: DM 323

**Course Description:**

This course is meant to introduce the student to the basic grammar and writing system of the Classical Sanskrit language. Students will learn the phonology, pronunciation, alphabet, syntax, system of euphonic combination (*sandhi*), and essential grammar of the language, focusing on gaining reading and writing competency. Students will learn how to trace words back to their root forms and gain competency with reading aids such as dictionaries and root lists.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- (1) Know correct pronunciation and reading of Sanskrit phonemes and simple text.
- (2) Understand the correct meaning of basic Sanskrit words and simple sentences.
- (3) Learn the parts of speech of Sanskrit words and their syntactical structure in sentences.

**Textbooks:**

**Required Reading**

- Wikner, Charles. *A Practical Sanskrit Introductory*. The .pdf file is available on the course Blackboard page. It can also be found online in the following links:

[http://sanskritdocuments.org/learning\\_tutorial\\_wikner/index.html](http://sanskritdocuments.org/learning_tutorial_wikner/index.html)

<ftp://ftp.nac.ac.za/wikner/sktintro.ps600-letter-march97>

**Recommended Books**

- Lanman, Charles Rockwell. *A Sanskrit Reader: Text and Vocabulary and Notes*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1884.
- Muller, F. Max. *A Sanskrit Grammar for Beginners: In Devanagari and Roman Letters Throughout*. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. Second Edition, Revised and Accentuated, 1870.
- NOTE: Both books are in public domain and can thus be acquired free online (using Google Books, etc.).

For learning and practicing correct pronunciation, see the following and such other links:  
<http://www.selfdiscoveryportal.com/cmSanskritPron.htm>

**Course Policies:**

**I. Attendance and Class Participation**

It is a key for students to attend class in order to be successful in this course. If a student arrives late or leaves early it is BOTH disruptive to the lecturer and students alike. To alleviate this from happening I will count ONE absence for every TWO late arrivals or early departures. Class participation is also important so that students can challenge each other. Involvement and dialogue is highly encouraged in this class. Attendance and class participation is vital to a university education and will make up 10% of the course grade.

## II. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as “theft of another person’s work or ideas,” and will NOT be tolerated.

Plagiarism, in forms some students may not be aware of may include:

- (1) A written work that is entirely stolen from another source
- (2) Using quotations from sources without proper citation
- (3) Paraphrasing from a source without proper citation

Students are expected to understand the definition of plagiarism. To view the University Code of Academic Integrity please visit <http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/2codeofacainteg.htm>

When all else fails, ask the instructor for help. If you are found guilty you could receive a failing grade for the course which in some cases leads to dismissal from the course and in severe cases from the university.

## III. Pop Quizzes

There may be random pop quizzes given with the lessons. Be prepared for every class. Quiz grades will be factored into the attendance and class participation grade, which is 10% of the final grade.

## IV. Late Assignments

Late assignments will lose half a letter grade per day and will not be accepted after five days beyond the due date.

### Course Grade Distribution and Grading Scale:

Attendance and Class Participation	25%
Exams (2 in total)	20%
Quizzes	30%
Assignments	25%

#### Grading scale:

93-100 A	90-92 A-	
87-89 B+	83-86 B	80-82 B-
77-79 C+	73-76 C	70-72 C-
67-69 D+	63-66 D	60-62 D- 0 - 59 F

<b>Day</b>	<b>SUBJECT AND STUDY MATERIAL</b>
<b>Mon Aug 24</b>	<b>Explanation of Syllabus and Introduction – What is Sanskrit?</b>
<b>Wed Aug 26</b>	<b>Sanskrit Phonetics – vowels (<i>svara</i>)</b> (Lesson 1.A; pp. 1-5)
<b>Fri Aug 28</b>	<b>Sanskrit Phonetics – consonants (<i>vyañjana</i>), <i>anusvara</i> [(a)ṃ], and <i>visarga</i> [(a)ḥ] <b>Reading Exercise: Hearing and Pronouncing Sanskrit</b> Lessons 1.A, 2.A, 3.A; pp. 6, 13-15, 21-23</b>
<b>Mon Aug 31</b>	<b>Devanāgarī Script – simple vowels (a, ā, i, ī, u, ū)</b> Lessons 1.A.8; pp. 6-7 Exercises 1.B.3 (a) and (b) only – make flash cards (pp. 11-12)
<b>Wed Sept 02</b>	<b>Devanāgarī Script – vowels cont'd., <i>anusvara</i> (a)ṃ, <i>visarga</i> (a)ḥ</b> Lesson 2.A.4; p. 16 Exercises 2.B.2 (a) and (b) only – make flash cards (pp. 19-20)
<b>Fri Sept 04</b>	<b>Devanāgarī Script – consonants (guttural [ka-ṅa] and palatal [ca-ña])</b> Lesson 3.A.6; p. 24 – make flash cards (pp. 29-30) Exercises 3.B.3 (a) and (b) only; p. 27 – make flash cards (pp. 29-30) <b>Quiz:</b> Sanskrit Alphabet in Roman transliteration (Review: 3.A.5)
<b>Mon Sept 07</b>	<b>No class – Labor Day</b>
<b>Wed Sept 09</b>	<b>Devanāgarī Script – consonants (cerebral [ṭa-ṇa] and dental [ta-na])</b> Lesson 4.A.1; p. 31 Exercises 4.B.3 (a) and (c) only – make flash cards (pp. 35-36)
<b>Fri Sept 11</b>	<b>Devanāgarī Script – consonants (labial [pa-ma], semi-vowels, sibilants)</b> Lesson 5.A; p. 37 Exercises 5.B.2 (a) and (c) only – make flash cards (pp. 41-44)
<b>Mon Sept 14</b>	<b>Vowels after Consonant &amp; History of Vowel Embellishment</b> Lesson 6.A; pp. 45-46 Exercises 6.B.4 (a) only
<b>Wed Sept 16</b>	<b><i>Halanta/Virāma</i> and Consonant Conjuncts</b> Lesson 7.A; pp. 53-59 Exercises 7.B.2 (a)-(c), (e) <b>Quiz:</b> Devanagari Alphabet (full characters only)
<b>Fri Sept 18</b>	<b>No class</b>
<b>Mon Sept 21</b>	<b>Consonant Conjuncts continued</b> Lesson 7.A; pp. 53-59 Exercises 7.B.2 (a)-(c), (e)
<b>Wed Sept 23</b>	<b>Special Symbols, Savarna, Anusvara &amp; Numbers</b> Lesson 8.A; pp. 63-64 (See 9.A.2; pp. 71-72 for alternate forms) Exercises 8.B.5 (a)-(c) – make flashcards (pp. 69-70)
<b>Fri Sept 25</b>	<b>Concept of Dhātu and Introduction to Present-System Verbs</b> Lesson 1.B; pp. 8-9

	Exercises 1.B.3 (d) and (e) only <b>Quiz:</b> Devanāgarī Alphabet – conjunct and special characters, numbers
Mon Sept 28	<b>Present-System Verbs continued</b> Lesson 1.B.2, 2.B; pp. 8-9, 17
Wed Sep 30	<b>Parasmaipada and Ātmanepada Verb Conjugations</b> Lesson 2.B & 3.B.1; pp. 17, 25 Exercises 2.B.2 (c) and (d) – see verb conjugation paradigm on pp. 25, 32
Fri Oct 02	<b>Verbal Prefixes and Syntax (Word Order)</b> Lesson 7.B, ; pp. 60-61 Homework: Make flashcards of the verbal prefixes (listed on p. 61)
Mon Oct 05	<b>Noun Cases: Nominative and Accusative (<i>a</i>-stem masculine)</b> Lesson 3.B.2; p. 26
Wed Oct 07	<b>Noun Cases: Nominative and Accusative (<i>a</i>-stem masculine), cont'd</b> Exercises 3.B.3 (c) and (d) <b>Assignment Due</b>
Fri Oct 09	<b>Noun Cases: Instrumental, Dative, Ablative (<i>a</i>-stem masc.)</b> Lesson 4.B.2; p. 33 Exercises 4.B.3 (b), (d), and (e) <b>Quiz:</b> Present Tense P and Ā Conjugations of √nī (Review pp. 25, 32)
Mon Oct 12	<b>Noun Cases: Genitive, Locative, and Vocative (<i>a</i>-stem masc.)</b> Lesson 5.B; p. 38-39
Wed Oct 14	<b>Noun Cases: Genitive, Locative, and Vocative (<i>a</i>-stem masc.), cont'd</b> Exercises 5.B.2 (b), (d), and (e) – see table, p. 51 (6.B.3)
Fri Oct 16	<b>Noun Gender: Neuter <i>a</i>-stem Declensions</b> Lesson 6.B.2-3; pp. 50-51 <b>Quiz:</b> Noun Declension of <i>bāla</i> ( <i>a</i> -stem masculine)
Mon Oct 19	<b>Noun Gender: Feminine <i>ā</i>-stem Declensions</b> Lesson 6.B.2-3; pp. 50-51
Wed Oct 21	<b>Noun Gender Exercises</b> Exercises 6.B.4 (b)-(d)
Fri Oct 23	<b>More Noun Declensions: Masculine <i>i</i>- and <i>u</i>-stems; Feminine <i>ī</i>-stem</b> Lesson 8.B.1 and table; pp. 65-66 Homework: Memorize noun declension table p. 66 and vocabulary list p. 67 <b>Quiz:</b> Neuter ( <i>phala</i> ) and Feminine ( <i>bālā</i> ) Noun Declensions (See p. 50)
Mon Oct 26	<b>Adjectives &amp; Adverbs</b> Lesson 8.B.2-3
Wed Oct 28	<b>Noun, Adverb, and Adjective Exercises</b> Exercises 8.B.5 (d)-(f)
Fri Oct 30	<b>Pronunciation and Parts of Speech, Use of <i>iti</i></b> Lesson 9.A.1, 9.B; pp. 71, 75 <b>Quiz:</b> Masculine <i>i</i> - and <i>u</i> -stem Noun Declensions (See p. 66)

Mon Nov. 02	<b>Exercises for Pronunciation and Parts of Speech, Use of <i>iti</i></b> Exercises 9.B.3 (c)-(f)
Wed Nov. 04	<b>Exercises for Pronunciation and Parts of Speech, Use of <i>iti</i>, cont'd.</b> Exercises 9.B.3 (c)-(f)
Fri Nov. 06	<b>Introduction to Sandhi: <i>Guṇa</i> and <i>Vṛddhi</i></b> Lesson 10.A.1-2; pp. 77-8 <b>Quiz:</b> Feminine ī-stem Noun Declension (See p. 66)
Mon Nov.09	<b>Sandhi Continued: Vowel Sandhi</b> Lesson 10.A.3-5; pp. 78-81
Wed Nov. 11	<b>Vowel Sandhi, continued</b> Lesson 10.A.3-5; pp. 78-81
Fri Nov. 13	<b>Exercises for Vowel Sandhi</b> Exercises 10.B.3 (c) <b>Quiz:</b> Translate and Compose Sentences (Review Chapter 9)
Mon Nov.16	<b>Exercises for Vowel Sandhi, continued</b> Exercises 10.B.3 (c)
Wed Nov. 18	<b>Final -s (<i>visarga</i>) Sandhi</b> Lesson 11.A.1; p. 85-86
Fri Nov. 20	<b>Consonant Sandhi, Internal Sandhi</b> Lesson 11.A.2-3; pp. 86-7 <b>Quiz:</b> Vowel Sandhi (Review Chapter 10.A)
Mon Nov. 23	<b>Sandhi Exercises</b> Exercises 11.B.5 (c)
Wed Nov. 25	<b>Sandhi Exercises, continued</b> Exercises 11.B.5 (c)
Fri Nov. 27	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
Mon Nov 30	<b>Sandhi Review</b>
Wed Dec. 02	<b>Introduction to Compound Words (<i>samāsas</i>)</b> Lesson 10.B, 11.B.1-3; pp. 82-3, 88-9
Fri Dec. 04	<b>Compounds Continued: Bahuvrīhi Compounds</b> Lesson 11.B.4
Mon Dec. 07	<b>Final Exam</b> (Exam time scheduled 9:45-11:45)