

Dept. of Asian Studies  
The University of Texas at Austin

TAM 312L: Syllabus  
**INTERMEDIATE TAMIL-II**

**Meeting time and place:** MWF 11-12 MEZ 1.102  
**Instructor:** Sankaran Radhakrishnan  
**Office hours:** M 12-1 at WCH 5.136

**Course description:** TAM 312L provides the second year of training in modern literary Tamil (“Intermediate Tamil” authored by S Radhakrishnan). This course is advance level to TAM 312K. The course meets three hours per week and carries three hours of credit. Usually, one hour per week will be devoted to the lesson introduction (text lessons), one to detailed explanation of the materials in the lesson, and one to reading passages, and developing conversation around the topic. Variety of composition, reading comprehension, and translation passages will be used in the class besides the text lessons. Spoken-Written differences will also be focused through exercise. Tamil films, drama and videos on cultural aspects of the languages will form part of the classes. Students are required to comprehend and bring a short write up about the films and videos. Depending upon the learners’ level and proficiency in Tamil, Literary pieces and poems from modern to old and short stories, novels, journal Tamil will also be introduced. Discussion in Tamil and Conversation in Tamil form part of the course.

**Materials** (prepared by S.Radhakrishnan):  
Selected lessons from “Intermediate Tamil”  
(They include: short stories, essays on festival, modern poems, old poems, etc.  
Letter-writing, festivals, etc.-print and audio)  
Comprehension passages, guided and free composition passages.  
Listening comprehension  
News paper materials (only if time permits)  
Tamil movies/clips

**Attendance:** Attendance is compulsory for this class. Students are expected to attend every class. Absences will be reflected on final grade.

**Homework:** In total, 5 home works will be there for the course (Lesson exercises also form part of homework). Homework is due on the class day immediately following the one on which it is assigned. **Late homework will not be accepted.** The date of submission will be given as and when the lessons are completed in the class.

**Oral presentation:** During the term each student will make one presentation for 7-10 minutes on an assigned topic. The presentation will be on the day specified in the syllabus. A week before the presentation, the presenters must submit a list of new words that they plan to use in the presentation together with English meaning. The presentation handout copy should be given to all the classmates on the day of presentation.

**Essays:** There will be 4 essays based on the audio, video clip from movie, picture(s), and topics of comprehension passages etc. Essays should be submitted on due date.

**Exam:** There will be 4 Exams during the semester.  
The 4<sup>th</sup> exam will be the final one.

**Grading system:** Grading is on a straight scale. Weights assigned to each activity are as follows:

Attendance (42x5) ... 210

Homework (5x20) ... 100

Essays (4x 20) ... 80

Exam 1-3 (3x50) ... 200

(One Exam for Reading-one lesson from the text lessons and one new passage:  
knowledge of script, ability to give exact translation, ability to read rapidly and grasp  
general content)

Presentation 75

Conversation/speaking85 (utilization of phonological distinctions, aspiration, retroflex  
ion, etc.; command of vocabulary, application of grammatical rules, overall fluency)

Exam 4 ..... 250

Total . . . 1000 (the total will be worked out for 100% for final grade)

New +, - grading will be followed.

\*59 and below 59% Fail

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DATES AND TIME ON ACTIVITY FOR GRADING:

JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY
- F 16 Exam-1		-	F 13 Essay-3	W 02 Exam
- F 23 Essay-1		F 09 Essay-2	F 20 Exam-3	-
- -		F 23 Exam-2	F 27 Presentation	
- -		-	M 30 Essay-4	-

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Services for Students with Disabilities website (found here:

<http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/providing.php>

Good Luck!