

Sanskrit Language I (Online Course)

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Class Time (in Nepal—UTC +5:45)

Grammar (Joe)	Traditional (Neela)	Tutorial (Miriam)
F21 SLAN 101 S1 Class <i>TBD</i>	F21 SLAN 101 TR 1 Class <i>TBD</i>	F21 SLAN 101 REV 1 <i>TBD</i>
F21 SLAN 101 S2 Class <i>TBD</i>	F21 SLAN 101 TR 2 Class <i>TBD</i>	F21 SLAN 101 REV 2 <i>TBD</i>

The Sanskrit Language Program at RYI:

- The Sanskrit Language program at RYI is designed so that students complete Sanskrit grammar during their third semester of study. During Sanskrit Language I and II, the students focus almost exclusively on the study of grammar. In Sanskrit Language III, students will complete their study of Sanskrit grammar and begin to translate texts. Further study of Sanskrit (Sanskrit Language IV–VI) will focus on the reading of selected texts, with increasing emphasis placed on independent reading of Sanskrit texts.

Sanskrit Language I Course Description:

- Sanskrit Language I has two instructors and two components: a Western-trained teacher whose focus is grammar, and a traditionally-trained teacher whose foci include oral approaches to studying Sanskrit.
- Sanskrit Language I introduces students to the grammar, orthography and pronunciation of the Sanskrit language.
- There will also be some discussion of the historical, cultural, linguistic and religious contexts of the language. These aspects of the course will not be part of the assessments.

Sanskrit Language I Course Objectives:

- Students will be able to recognize and understand many common grammatical features of the Sanskrit language (e.g., case, number and gender of nouns; person, number and tense of verbs; etc, etc, etc!)
- Students will be able to read, write and pronounce Sanskrit in the *devanāgarī* script.
- Students will learn the basics of Sanskrit melody and conversation skills.

Prerequisite:

- There are no prerequisites for Sanskrit Language I. The course does not presuppose any familiarity with Sanskrit, South Asian languages or South Asia. All are welcome.

Required Text:

- There is no required text for this course. The instructors will distribute all necessary materials electronically, including video lessons, grammar documents, homework assignments and vocabulary lists.

Evaluation—Western (80% of Final Grade):

- *1 Midterm Exam (10%)*—In the week before the midterm break, students will write a midterm exam focused on the consolidation of grammatical concepts. The midterm exam will also serve as good practice for the final exam.
- *1 Final Exam (50%)*—During the exam week, students will write an exam designed to demonstrate their consolidation of all the grammar taught in the course.
- *8 Homework Assignments (5% each/40% total)*—Students will submit eight homework assignments. These assignments are to be done individually or in pairs. Homework assignments are due at the end of Sundays and will be taken up in tutorial. They will focus on material covered in the week before they are due, e.g., the homework due on the Sunday of week three will cover material taught in week two, etc.

Evaluation—Traditional (20% of Final Grade):

- *1 Midterm Exam (25%)*—In the week before the midterm break, students will sit a midterm exam focused on the mastery of the skills taught in the course.
- *1 Final Exam (50%)*—During the exam week, students will sit an exam designed to demonstrate their mastery of the skills taught in the course.
- *Assignments (25%)*—Students will submit five assignments during the term. Details of these assignments will be discussed in class.

Attendance Requirement:

- Students are expected to attend and be prepared for all classes. Given the relentlessly cumulative nature of language learning, missing even one class can put a student significantly behind.
- In order to receive credit for the course, students must attend at least 80% of classes in both components of the course.

Academic Integrity:

- Students must be familiar with what academic integrity (or dishonesty) and plagiarism mean and behave accordingly. (Refer to the Student Guidebook for further details.) In case of uncertainty about what academic integrity means, please consult with the instructor. Academic integrity expectations have not changed with the online format of the course. All work done by students must be the result of their own individual efforts.

Not For Credit (NFC) Students:

- Learning Sanskrit requires consistency and commitment. For your Sanskrit studies to be worth your time, it is necessary to be engaged with the material and take the time to review it properly. NFC students will not have to take the tests or final exam, but are expected to maintain 80% attendance, prepare for all classes, and complete all homework assigned throughout the semester.

The RYI Grading System:

Letter Grade	Grade Points	Percentage
A	4.00	93.3-100%
A-	3.67	90.0-93.2%
B+	3.33	86.6-89.9%
B	3.00	83.3-86.5%
B-	2.67	80.0-83.2%
C+	2.33	76.6-79.9%
C	2.00	73.3-76.5%
C-	1.67	70.0-73.2%
D	1.00	60.0-69.9%
F	Fail	0-59.9%

The Online Structure:

- Sanskrit Language I will be delivered entirely online. The course will use a combination of prerecorded grammar lessons and live sessions to teach the course material. A typical week will be structured as follows:
 - Prerecorded Material:* students will watch grammar videos ahead of the live meetings
 - Live Sessions:* there will be two live sessions per week to discuss current material (90 minutes)
 - Tutorial:* there will be a live tutorial each week to discuss current material (60 minutes)
 - Traditional Class:* there will be a live session each week with a traditional teacher (60 minutes)
- Please note that the timing of the live sessions will depend upon the time zones of the students. The class will be divided into two groups depending on time zone, and the live sessions on Tuesdays, Thursdays and the tutorials will be repeated for each of these two groups.
- This format approximates the five-day format of the in-person version of this course.
- Unless specified, all homework will have to be submitted electronically as a PDF file. Images of handwritten homework will not be accepted. The electronic nature of homework submission requires students to become familiar with both diacritic and *devanāgarī* keyboards early in the course.

Reading Schedule

TBD