

**Intermediate Burmese (LCA 403/404 001)**  
**SEASSI 2018 (June 18<sup>th</sup> – August 10<sup>th</sup>)**  
**University of Wisconsin, Madison**

**Course outline**

**Instructors:** Daw San San Hnin Tun, Daw Chan Lwin, Daw Ei Thin Zar

**Office:** [REDACTED]

**Office hours:**

- Daw San San Hnin Tun [REDACTED] : Monday (3:00 – 5:00 p.m) or by appointment
- Daw Chan Lwin [REDACTED] : Thursday (2:00 – 4:00 p.m) or by appointment
- Daw Ei Thin Zar [REDACTED] : Friday (2:00 – 4:00 p.m) or by appointment

**Conversation hour:**

When: Tuesday (Time: TBA)

Where: TBA

This hour offers an opportunity to practice conversing in Burmese in an informal setting with some of our instructors on topics of interest of the participants.

**Objectives**

This Intermediate Burmese course is intended for those who have studied Burmese at the basic level, and/or familiar with basic notions of Burmese linguistic structures, including Burmese script. Our goal is to help develop proficiencies further in all four language skills – speaking, listening, reading and writing – which should allow the learner to communicate in Burmese with an increased control and confidence. Learners will also be exposed further to written contemporary Burmese, which makes use of a greater amount of “literary Burmese”.

The overall language pedagogy is based on a communicative and performance-based approach: learners are thus required to participate in various activities that are designed to help them master the linguistic skills at the intermediate level, which is defined as follows for this course:

- Ability to engage in conversation about selected topics and social settings, using more complex utterances about a wider range of topics, including a better knowledge of lexical items that cannot only be explained in terms of their grammatical functions
- Abilities to read and understand texts in contemporary Burmese, including those written in literary style Burmese.
- Ability to communicate with increased sensitivity about various cultural aspects of Burmese societies, using socially appropriate behavior in interpersonal relations with Burmese speakers

**Requirements**

Given that language acquisition is a complex process that can be best achieved through a consistent and active participation in learning activities, learners are required to attend all classes and engage in all in-class activities everyday throughout the whole course period of SEASSI. Furthermore, all assignments done outside of class must be submitted as specified by the instructors. Failure to fulfill these requirements will not only result in your personal failure to learn Burmese, but also in negatively affecting your grades (see grading criteria below for details).

Joint-sessions, organized 3 times a week, gathering all students in Burmese, are designed to create a forum for discussion on all matters related to learning Burmese, with a special emphasis on pragmatics of language use, that take into account the crucial role of socio-cultural aspects of Burmese. Active participation in the forum is required as a part of course work.

Final exam dates cannot be rescheduled, except for medical emergencies, for which an official medical certificate must be provided.

Be sure to follow all other specific instructions as they are given throughout the course period. Be sure to seek advice from the instructors if you have any doubts or concerns about your language learning process as soon as possible without waiting until the approaching exam periods.

**Resources:**

There is no set textbook for this level, but a selection of miscellaneous reading and listening materials will be drawn from various resources including the following:

- Okell, John (1994), *Burmese: An introduction to literary Burmese*, NIU
- NIU seasite (Myanmar): <http://www.seasite.niu.edu/Burmese/>

**Assessment**

Your work in the course will be assessed through a daily evaluation of your participation in class, assignments turned in as required, quizzes (dates TBA) and two final exams.

**Grading criteria (for LCA 403 001 & LCA 404 001)**

- Attendance and class participation: 30%
- Homework and assignments: 20%
- Journal writing 20%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Final exam : 20%

**Time table: 18<sup>th</sup> June – 13<sup>th</sup> July (the second half TBA)**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
Tuesday, Thursday**

8:00 – 9 :00	Practical Burmese II (CL)
9:00 – 9:10	BREAK
9:10 – 10:10	Thematic conversation in Bse (ETZ)
10:10 – 10:20	BREAK
10:20 – 11:20	Developing reading skills (SSHT)
11:20 – 11:30	BREAK
11:30 – 12:00	Joint session

8:00 – 9 :15	Practical Burmese II (CL)
9:15 – 9:25	BREAK
9:25 – 10:40	Thematic conversation in Bse (ETZ)
10:40 – 10:50	BREAK
10:50 – 12:00	Developing reading skills (SSHT)

**Special Needs:**

If you have special requests regarding access to the classroom or seating arrangements in class (e.g. you would like to sit close to any visual aids or would like to record sessions), please let us know. We will do our best to make sure that people with disabilities and/or special needs are well accommodated in the course, so that you can participate fully. If there is any information you would like to share with us, confidentiality of your personal information will be maintained.

We also recommend contacting the McBurney Resource Center for UW students with disabilities. The staff there will work with you to allow you to be successful in this and all of your courses.

**Statement on Preferred Name and Gender Pronouns**

Class rosters and University data systems are provided to the instructors with the student's legal name and gender identification. We will gladly honor your request to address you by a preferred name and gender pronoun. Please advise us of this reference early in the program.