COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on learning Khmer (the national language of Cambodia) for students who have completed beginning and intermediate level Khmer. Students will be able to communicate in every day conversation using complex questions/answers. I will be using communicative approach to language learning. The course focuses on reading, writing, speaking, and listening to Khmer words, long sentences, upper level texts and Khmer novels/books. It also emphasizes on grammar and sentence structures and their use in the right context. This course is applied to persons who want to continue to learn Khmer and want to pursue the language study in the future.
By the end of the course, students will become proficient in listening to long texts and conversations. They will be able to read texts, long stories, Cambodian folk tales, novels and books. They will be able to write complex essays/texts about various aspects of Cambodian life and culture. Students will enrich vocabulary, and be able to build sentence structures and apply them in their communication and will be able to communicate for long conversations. The goal of the course is for students to master the language. I also utilize various technology tools, visual aids and different activities such as role plays. They do pair work and group work.

**LEARNING OUTCOME**

By the end of the course, students use the interpersonal mode of communication

- to discuss topics beyond self and families using full paragraphs
- to talk about their feelings, or ideas on various topics
- to interact with each other in non-routine daily situations

For the interpretive mode, students

- will understand up-to-date news articles, Cambodian folktales, songs, or conversations
- will understand the materials they read, listen, or view
- will demonstrate what they learn.

For the presentational mode, students

- will be able to work on presentations and present them to class in person or recording it
- will be able to write about various topics in organized paragraphs
- will be able to interview native speakers

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**Week 1:**

**Greeting**

- Review (self, family, study/work, vacation/free time, future plan)
- Text: Two friends
- Students will learn to:
  - greet each other, greet people based on their age and status
  - make a number of statements about yourself, your family, friends
  - talk about their study and their research interest
  - review the writing system
  - write some vocabulary
  - talk about their vacation time, their hobbies
o narrate about their future plan 
o story The Elephant and the ant

Quiz

Week 2:

Home and villages

- Text: Khmer ancient houses
- Video: weaving
- Khmer proverbs
- Movie: Neak Sre’ Rice People
- Students will learn:
  - vocabulary for Khmer houses
  - people’s life in rural areas
  - rice cultivation practice in Cambodia
  - discuss how young people continue weaving tradition from their families and ancestors
  - Khmer culture and tradition in villages
  - Grammar - infixation

Week 3:

Health and workers

- Video - news broadcast: Unions and Workers Call on Government to have clear measures
- News article: Covid-19 in Cambodia
- Novel: Sophat
- Students will:
  - learn about workers during the pandemic
  - discuss health issues in Cambodia
  - learn vocabulary from the news that are related to current health situation in Cambodia
  - how to use the vocabulary and tell each other about the news
  - Grammar- diacritics

Quiz

Week 4: (short week)

Environment
• Video - news broadcast: Villagers Fret about Coming Dam
• Text: Anti-litter campaign
• Review
• Students will be able to:
  o discuss about the effect of dam construction on people and environment
  o discuss campaign to raise public awareness
  o talk about environment issues
  o use political/administrative vocabulary related to the campaign

Mid-term exam (written and oral)

Week 5:

Khmer literature

• Excerpt from the novel: Dtum Dteav
• Movie: Dtum Dteav
• Video: Human rights
• Students will:
  o read Khmer novel and poems
  o discuss the issues in the novel
  o the vocabulary related to the novel and poems
  o learn how to write Khmer poems
  o talk about human rights

Quiz

Week 6:

Economy

• News article: World Bank forecast Cambodia economic
• Folktale: Mountain of Men and Women
• Novel: Sophat
• Students will:
  o Discuss how the Covid-19 pandemic affects Cambodian economy
  o read the novel Sophat
  o learn the folktale
  o discuss the issues in the novel
  o learn vocabulary and expressions in the story
Week 7:

Placing Ads

- read an advertisement from a magazine
- Khmer New Year celebration
- Students will be able to know:
  - how people celebrate new year in Cambodia
  - words related to advertising
  - how to place an advertisement
  - read various advertising signs

Quiz

Week 8:

- Review

Final project

Course materials

There is no set textbook for this course, but there will be a selection from various sources as follow:

- Sak C. *Advanced Khmer textbook 1, Interactive Advanced Khmer*, university of Hawaii
- Sophat: A Khmer Novel annotated and exercises by Frank Smith, 2008
- Cornell Media Library (Khmer): https://cornell.app.box.com/file
- Kimsun, S. *Cambodian folktales of 24 provinces, part 1*. Reading Book, Cambodia, 2012
- News broadcast and video clips from different social media platforms

GRADING

Class participation/attendance/pre-class activities 20%
Homework assignments 30%
Four Quizzes 20%
Mid-term 10%
One final project 20%

Grades are based on the total of the accumulated points according to the above evaluation criteria.
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