Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI)
University of Wisconsin-Madison

ASIALANG 307 - 308 (8 credits): First and Second Semester Thai

June 17 – August 9, 2024
Monday-Friday 8:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Instructors: Aimkamon Bunmee, Janpanit Surasin, Nartnatda P. Hope, Patcharin Peyasantiwong

Office location: Service Memorial Institute (SMI) Room 116

Office hours: Mondays 1:30-3:30 p.m. and by appointment.

I. DESCRIPTION

At the beginning, students have to familiarize themselves with the AUA transcription symbols; thus, attention is given to sound production and representation. Students are expected to listen to online audio materials to improve listening skills and pronunciation. By the end of the first week, the Thai writing and reading system will be introduced and eventually fully replaced the transcription symbols.

Right from the start, students will be prepared to handle simple survival tasks and straightforward social situations using Thai such as introducing self and others, discussing daily activities, asking for and giving directions, describing places and locations, expressing preferences, making comparisons, making requests, telling time, buying and bargaining, traveling, reading simple advertisements and simple stories, and writing short lists, notes and short messages. Basic grammar and structure are presented and taught in real life contexts. Aspects of Thai culture will be integrated in the instruction when appropriate.

Extracurricular activities are also offered as an integral part of the program. Weekly Thai Table will be set up for informal conversation and social get-together with other Thai speakers. Further information regarding the exact time and place will be announced later. Some cultural activities
(going to a Buddhist temple, visiting the Thai Pavilion, cooking Thai food, etc.) will also be scheduled throughout the summer. All students are recommended to participate in all these opportunities.

*Thai will be the main language of instruction: questions or concerns that require the use of English are addressed outside of class.*

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

**Interpersonal:**
- Students can communicate and exchange information for basic personal and familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes supported by memorized language.
- Students can usually handle short social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering questions.

**Presentational (speaking and writing):**
- Students can present information about themselves and some other familiar topics using language they have practiced using phrases and simple sentences.
- Students can write short messages and notes on familiar topics related to daily activities.

**Interpretive (listening and reading):**
- Students will understand familiar words, phrases and simple sentences related to everyday life. They will recognize pieces of information and sometimes understand the main topic of what is being said.
- Students will understand words, phrases, and sentences within short and uncomplicated texts related to familiar everyday topics. They can sometimes understand the main ideas of what they have read.

III. TEXTBOOKS

**Required:** 1) *Speaking Thai 1 & 2* Textbooks and *Writing Thai Workbook* can be purchased at the Social Science Copy Center at Sewell Hall Room 6120.

2) *AUA Language Center, Reading and Writing: Text (mostly reading)* can be ordered either from Amazon or Cornell University Press.

3) Additional materials will be provided in class or uploaded on Canvas.
IV. COURSE POLICIES

- Students are expected to come to class on time. Repeated tardiness will result in a lowered grade.
- Students must come to class prepared for every session. This requires students to study the relevant vocabulary and patterns in the Textbook, and complete pre-task activities such as homework and assignments given before the class. The point of the synchronous session is to practice, perform and discuss what you have worked on/learned from the assigned tasks.
- Homework and assignments should be submitted on time. There will be a 10% penalty for late submission.
- Students who will be absent must contact the instructor via email before the class starts. Students who are absent are still responsible for turning in assignments on time.
- There will be a dictation exercise/quiz on various aspects of pronunciation daily at the beginning of class for 5-10 minutes.
- Smartphones must be turned off or silenced and kept out of sight during class time.
- Take pair work or small group work seriously. Remember that your peer’s learning is partly dependent upon your engagement.
- Respect others’ right to hold opinions and beliefs that differ from your own. Be open to hearing their perspectives. Be open to changing your perspectives based on what you learn from others. Be okay with disagreement.
- Students must contact the instructors if they have any questions regarding the class, grades, homework and assignments, etc. Questions, concerns or other questions that require the use of English are addressed outside of class time during the teacher’s office hours.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Homework
Homework will be evaluated equally based on on-time submission of both preparatory work (before-class assignments) and reinforcement activity (after-class assignments).

Quizzes
Quizzes will be accounted for five-unit quizzes over each course:

ASIALANG 307: Quiz 1 (Units 1), Quiz 2 (Unit 2), Quiz 3 (Unit 3), Quiz 4 (Unit 4) and Quiz 5 (Unit 5) *Final Exam (after Unit 6)
ASIALANG 308: Quiz 1 (Unit 7), Quiz 2 (Unit 8), Quiz 3 (Unit 9), Quiz 4 (Unit 10), Quiz 5 (Unit 11) * Final Exam (after Unit 12)
Project
The Project will be assessed by the presentation of one project at the end of each semester (before the final exam.) The presentation will be scaffolded throughout the course.

Final Exam
Final exam will contain both oral and written exams. The 1st final will be on Friday, July 12, 2024 and the 2nd final will be on Thursday, August 8, 2024

VI. COURSE EVALUATIONS AND GRADING

Participation
Active classroom participation will be assessed based on daily participation and full attendance in class using the following rubric:

4 Well prepared, completed pre-task activities, engaged and fully and successfully participated in all classroom activities with the highest level of motivation and willingness. Followed all internet requirements and Classroom Policies.

3 Engaged and fully participates in some classroom activities but does not seem well-prepared for class and doesn’t follow some of the internet requirements and classroom policies.

2 Late, forgets textbook and materials, does not complete pre-task activities, does not complete homework, does homework in class, and is engaged and participates in some classroom activities.

1 Present but is not engaged or does not participate, does not show interest in class activities, unprepared.

0 Not present in class.

Grading:

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<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Evaluation is based on:</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 93-100</td>
<td>a. Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB 88-92</td>
<td>b. Homework</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>B 30-87</td>
<td>c. Quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>BC 75-79</td>
<td>d. Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>C 61-74</td>
<td>e. Final exam</td>
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<td>D 55-60</td>
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VII. CLASSROOM CONDUCTS

Learning can be uncomfortable; embrace grappling with your thoughts and ideas. Communicate with us after class, during an appointment, in a written note or over email when you feel uncomfortable about an event or discussion relevant to class.

The classroom should be a safe environment that encourages the participation of everyone. With this goal in mind, we can agree and disagree about ideas or viewpoints.

Take pair work or small group work seriously. Remember that your peer’s learning is partly dependent upon your engagement. The point of language learning is to practice, perform and discuss what you have worked on/learned from the assigned tasks and apply what you have learned to express your ideas, and also learn what your peers think.

Thus, we will not tolerate personal attacks, or blatant sexist, racist, homophobic or antagonistic language in the classroom. Do not insult each other or your teachers. Respect one another’s prior experience and points of view.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

The courses will begin with the focus on verbal communication. (The reading-writing skills in Thai will gradually be introduced and by the end of the summer, students should know the whole reading writing system and be able to go on practicing on their own.)

**Week 1** - Phonetic transcription, sounds of consonants and vowels, classroom language; greetings and small talk (greetings and leave taking, self-introduction); introducing the Thai Reading and Writing system

**Week 2** - Talking about places and describing their locations; numbers; basic comparison of people and places

**Week 3** - Describing things around classroom and university; learning languages; describing places, basic characteristics of people and expressing preferences of people and places

**Week 4** - Describing family and kinship terms; occupations; telling time (days and months), talking about clothing and colors; talking about daily activities *Project Presentation*
**Week 5** - Describing food items & fruits; identifying tastes and going to the market: buying and selling (bargaining)

**Week 6** - Cooking Thai food; giving and following instructions; inviting/ accepting and declining invitations; eating out at a restaurant

**Week 7** - Asking for and giving directions; description of places and providing details; describing pastime activities

**Week 8** - Asking for and giving information on traveling; talking about weather and seasons; inquiring and responding to sickness, getting treatments and talking about feelings.

**Final Exam** (4th Semester Thai): August 8, 2024  
**Final Presentation and final project:** August 9, 2024

Oral Proficiency Interview will be conducted during the last week.