

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

ASIALANG 507-508 (8 credits): Fifth and Sixth Semester Thai

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

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

I. DESCRIPTION

These courses are designed to enhance the students' overall proficiency in Thai language to fulfill the communications at both personal, professional and academic settings, to become competent in reading and writing for information, opinions or verification/ reference of proposed ideas. The students will be reading authentic texts from the UW-Madison Thai Reader online, online news, and selected short stories or articles, and listening to short talks, news, movies and academic presentations from YouTube, and other platforms online. The students will discuss both orally and writing in great length on selected topics. The students will also be encouraged to search for information or evidence related to what they are interested in, organize and share with others in class, discuss or debate and respond either orally or in writing in greater length.

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.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the courses, students are expected to be able to perform in the following modes of communications:

Interpersonal:

- Exchange general and specific information on topics related to fields of interest.
- Handle a complication of unexpected turn of events, both orally and in writing.
- Discuss and comment based on comparison and analysis on the topics of the materials read (vocabulary level depending on student's area of special interest) or listened to.

Presentational (speaking and writing):

- Summarize movies, news programs, stories, reading texts, etc.,
- Deliver well-organized concepts and ideas to describe situations and consequences or propose logical solutions equipped with appropriate reasons / evidence appropriate to their audience on topics relating to general interest, academic, and familiar professional topics,
- Respond spontaneously to complex questions related to interested issues.

Interpretive (reading and listening):

- Read and express orally or in writing, their concrete comprehension of the passage/ stories read and communicate in abstract terms regarding the issues.
- Follow more structured narrative, informal and formal, and descriptive speech or text and make transitions from idea to idea.
- Summarize the passages read and interviews/ discussions heard accurately.

III. TEXTBOOKS:

- 1) Thai Reading Materials (Vol. 2) developed by UW-Madison Thai Readers Program <http://readingthai.wisc.edu/thai-reader-site-volume-2.html>
- 2) Additional authentic materials compiled based on broad themes of students' interests
- 3) Supplementary materials will be provided regularly.
- 4) Samples of authentic aural academic presentations.

Recommended: Thai-English dictionaries:

Thai-English Student's Dictionary by Mary Haas

[http://www.thai-language.com/dict/%C2%A0\(Links%20to%20an%20external%20site.](http://www.thai-language.com/dict/%C2%A0(Links%20to%20an%20external%20site.)

<https://www.thai2english.com/thai-dictionary-designed-for-learners-of-thai> Thai

Grammar Reference online: <http://thai-notes.com/FSITLC/#!/Index>

IV. COURSE POLICIES

- Students are required to participate in classroom activities regularly and to be on time. • Students who will be absent from class, must contact the instructor via email **before the class starts**. Students who are absent are still responsible for turning in homework on time and learning the material covered in the missed class.
- Students must come to class prepared for every class. This requires students to study the relevant vocabulary listed at the end of the lessons, and complete pre-task activities or homework and assignments in Canvas before that session is discussed or taught.
- Students are responsible for memorizing all vocabulary learned during lessons. • **Every Monday and Thursday** (or the following day if there is a holiday that week), there will be a quiz on vocabulary, grammar, reading and writing at the beginning of the class for 10-15 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.
- Students must contact the instructors if they have any questions regarding the class, grades, homework and assignments, etc. Questions, concerns that require the use of English are addressed outside of class time during the teacher's office hours.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Homework and assignments

- Students are required to submit all homework, assignments, and pre-class activities by the due date because we will discuss the answers in class. Please be assured that my only goal is helping you learn Thai language, and to know more about Thai society and culture. The purpose of feedback in the assessment and learning process is to improve a student's performance. Students are encouraged to read the teachers' feedback in order to help them learn from their performance and apply what they have learned to revision, resubmission and future assessment.
- All homework and assignments must be handwritten. Typing is not allowed except for English answers. Please **write out entire sentences**, instead of filling in blanks; it is good practice for both vocabulary and writing.

Journal

The writing assignments are designed to reinforce students' learning and to provide an opportunity for students to practice vocabulary and sentence structures related to the topics covered in class, correct tone markers and improve their accuracy. Students are required to write a weekly journal (writing specifications will be given in class) and submit in class every

Monday morning. After writing assignments are reviewed, students can revise their work following the instructor's comments and resubmit in order to practice improving their writing by **Thursday** of that week.

Quizzes

There will be quizzes spread out in the semester. These quizzes will be in any skills covered in the previous week (s). Students must be in class on time in order to ensure adequate time to complete the quiz. If students come to class late on the assigned quiz day, they will not receive extra time to complete the quiz.

Short Talks

A 3-5-minute prepared talk is an in-class activity to ease into impromptu public speaking practice and utilize vocabulary and grammar that students have learned. Every student has the chance to participate once or twice a week. Students are able to tell stories, describe experiences or inform the class current events happening locally or in Thailand. While one student is talking, the others have to take notes, and ask questions or opinions.

Final Exam

The finals will contain both oral and written exams. The first written final will be on Friday, **July 12, 2024** and the second written final will be on Thursday, **August 8, 2024**.

Final project and final presentation

Working on a presentation gives students the opportunity to integrate what they have learned in the course and apply these skills to real life situations in academic or professional settings. Presentations' content must include grammatical structure and vocabulary learned in class to express the more complex/ structured functions students intend to employ. Students are encouraged to prepare the presentations according to the guidelines provided. Progress will be monitored, and students are welcome to discuss their progress and emerging ideas with the instructors.

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:

<u>Grading Scale</u>		<u>Evaluation is based on:</u>	
A	93-100	a. Participation	20%
AB	88-92	b. Homework	25%
B	80-87	c. Quizzes	30%
BC	75-79	d. Project	10%
C	61-74	e. Final exam	15%
D	55-60		
F	≤ 54		

VI. 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.

VII. LANGUAGE PORTFOLIO:

As language learning is a lifetime venture, documenting the process is important. Students are encouraged to formally record their language learning progress. Language portfolio documents your journey in this area. It allows you to follow your own progress, identify strengths and challenges, and adjust your learning goals.

Language portfolio is mandatory for students from the Thai Flagship Language Initiative (TFLI.) For TFLI, particularly, language portfolio helps articulate what the students learn in the domestic segment to the overseas program. If you are not part of TFLI and interested in developing your own language portfolio, please meet with the Thai language coordinator during her office hours.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1:

- Get to know members of the class and share experience of learning Thai language and culture.
- Collaboratively set learning goals and discuss how to reach them.
- Experience an integrated skill lesson and how to assess language learning.
- Read multi paragraphs or stories for general comprehension and express understanding orally or in writing.
- Listen to stories read or long conversation for general comprehension and express understanding orally or in writing.

Week 2:

- Scan longer reading texts or article for specific information and present it accurately.
- Listen to talk or lecture to capture the main arguments and express them accurately.

- Read longer reading texts or articles to summarize the main points accurately. •
- Listen to longer talk or lecture to summarize the outline and key concepts accurately.

Weeks 3 – 4:

- Select some material of interest and prepare to lead a discussion on it. (Other members and instructor: comment and discuss.)
- Read two or more writing pieces for comparison. Be prepared to criticize and/or defend passages or stories read.
- Final assessment of the **project preparations**
- Review and **first Final Exam**

Final Project: July 11, 2024

Final Exam: July 12, 2024

Week 5:

- Scan longer reading texts or article for specific information and present it accurately. •
- Listen to talk or lecture to capture the main arguments and express them accurately. •
- Follow-up on project plan, discuss modifications/ changes.

Week 6:

- Revisit learning goals and reflect on learning strategies/ learning goals. • Read longer reading texts or articles related to individual's research interest to summarize the main points accurately.
- Listen to longer talk or lecture to summarize the outline and key concepts accurately.

Week 7:

- Select some material of interest and prepare to lead a discussion on it. (Other members and instructor read to comment and discuss.)
- Finalize the presentation draft.

Week 8:

- Read two or more writing pieces on the same topic for comparison. Be prepared to critique and/or defend concepts proposed in the passages or research articles read.
- **Project presentations.**
- Review and second Final Exam.

Final Exam (4th Semester Thai): August 8, 2024

Final project and final presentation: August 9, 2024

Oral Proficiency Interview will be conducted during the last week.