

THAI 105
Beginning Reading and Writing Thai I
Syllabus

Course Description

THAI 105 is in essence a Thai literacy course, designed to develop an understanding of the Thai writing system and Thai script reading and writing skills. This course is intended for not only novice learners but also learners, including Thai or Lao heritage or bi-lingual or semi-bilingual students, who already have some aural and oral skills in Standard Thai but lack Thai literacy skills.

UHM students who are novice learners of Thai are required to take THAI 105 in conjunction with THAI 103 Beginning Conversational Thai I, as THAI 103's co-requisite course. This is in accord with the ACTFL National Standards for Foreign Language Learning – a standard which defines the goal of communication in languages other than English as both written as well as spoken language. (Standard 1.2).

In addition, foundation skills in Thai script reading and writing developed through this course series (THAI 105 and THAI 106) will enable students to enroll in higher level Thai courses, in which competency in all the four basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) are assumed.

Thai is a tonal language with its own non-Roman script. The Thai script is alphabetic. There are 44 consonant letters and 21 vowel forms and a number of diacritic marks indicating tones and vowel length. There is a fairly complex set of rules for determining the tone of a syllable from the spelling. In addition, in Thai writing, “thaileavesnospacesbetweenwords”.

Students will be systematically introduced to the Thai writing system, the tone rules and relevant reading strategies.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of the course, the students will

- understand the basic Thai reading and writing system (28 regular consonants., 21 vowel forms, syllable types and tone rules)
- know how to identify syllables and words in Thai script.
- read simple (i.e. non-Indic loan) Thai words and sentences written in Thai script, with correct pronunciation.
- write simple dictation of Thai words and sentences phrases in Thai script, with correct spelling.

Course Organization

The “flipped” mastery class

Language learning is one kind of skill building.

The exercises and practice activities are therefore an essential part of building language skills, both receptive and productive.

In order to maximize practice activities during class time, this module is taught as a “flipped” class. Essentially the concept of a flipped classroom is this: that which is traditionally done in class is now done at home or outside the classroom, and that which is traditionally done at home as outside the classroom assignment is now done during class.

In this class, unit “lectures/tutorials” are done outside of class through multimedia interactive e-tutorials available online.

Each class session is basically a Q&A and practice session. Each session activity is designed based on the assumption that the assigned e-tutorials and practice will be completed before class.

Mastery of the materials is demonstrated by:

- 1) Unit exercises on WAU (Web Audio Utility)
- 2) Unit test

Texts/Materials

- 1) AUA Language Center Thai Course Reading and Writing: Mostly Reading
- 2) AUA Language Center Thai Course Reading and Writing: Mostly Writing (Workbook)

E-MATERIALS

The following e-materials for Thai 105 are located at the course website on Lulima (UHM Learning Management System).

- 1) Reading Thai Script Interactive E-Tutorials: accessible from the course website on Lulima,
- 2) ANKI Flashcards
- 3) Lab work/Exercises on **Web Audio Utility (WAU)**: <http://lc.manoa.hawaii.edu/wau>

You can access the above materials by selecting "Home" in the Lulima menu and then clicking on "Lessons."

Additional Materials

- 4) Learning Thai From Songs <http://www.hawaii.edu/thai/thaisongs/>
- 5) Thai 101 RW Handouts <http://bit.ly/Thai101RW-reference>

Course Content & Weekly Schedule

This is a progressive and cumulative modified “Unit Mastery” format skill building course for both receptive and productive literacy skills.

The materials are presented in sequential units. Students work through each unit, practicing until they “master” the unit materials. Students must demonstrate mastery on unit goals each week before moving on to the new materials. Since this is literacy skill building course, the expected level of mastery is typically 90-100%.

There are 60 units in each AUA Thai Course Reading and Writing book. This course will cover up to Unit 32.

Week	Content
1	Technology Orientation; Introduction to Thai Orthography; Anatomy of Thai Script; AUA Unit 1The seven sonorants
2	AUA Units 1-2 The seven sonorants, vowel /aa/
3	AUA Units 3-4 The vowel /a/
4-5	AUA Units 5-8 The seven plain stops, live syllables, long dead syllables, short dead syllables
6-8	AUA Units 9-12 The seven low aspirates, vowels /ɔɔ / /ɛɛ/ /ii/ /uu/
9-10	AUA Unit 13-16 The seven high aspirates, the seven high sonorants, vowels /e/ /ee/ /o/ /oo/
11-12	AUA Units 17, 20 Meaningful text, tone mark 1 AUA Units 21, 24 Double initial consonants, vowels /ia/ and /ua/,

13-14	AUA Units 25, 28 Tone mark 2, vowels /ɯ/ /ɯɯ/ /ua/ /əə/
	AUA Unit 29-31 Weak syllables, syllable boundaries, special tones
15	AUA Unit 33- The seven common irregulars
	AUA Unit 41- The seven rare irregulars
16	Review

Evaluation

Evaluation is based on class participation, assignments, weekly quizzes and exams.

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| 1. class participation/attendance | 10% |
| 2. class work /tests/quizzes | 30% |
| 3. homework/assignments/ labwork (WAU) | 30% |
| 4. final test | 30% |

****Attendance, active class participation and daily practice is essential to skill learning, which is what learning a foreign language is. Class attendance will be recorded.

Tardiness exceeding 10 minutes without reasons will be treated as absence.

****Students must be well-prepared for classroom activities.****
