

Banaras Hindu University
Faculty of Arts
Department of Indian Languages

Syllabus

Two Year U.G. Diploma in Tamil

(There shall be Four written papers in Level – I, carrying 70 marks each of 3 credit points along with 30 marks of Internal Assessment and viva-voce for 100 marks of 3 credit points will be conducted at the end of Level – I by Internal & External examiners. There shall be Four written papers in Level – II, carrying 70 marks each of 3 credit points along with 30 marks of Internal Assessment and viva-voce for 100 marks of 3 credit points will be conducted at the end of Level – II by Internal & External examiners. Admission eligibility criteria and time frame of the course will remain same as before)

LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 1

PAPER – I: Introduction to Tamil Script

CREDITS – 3
70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Background to the Tamil language
- 1.2: The Tamil Alphabet ('Soul' and 'Body' letters)
- 1.3: Tamil Sounds and Pronunciation
- 1.4: Tamil Grantha Letters (Special Letters)

Unit 2

- 2.1: Tamil Greetings
- 2.2: Parts of the Body
- 2.3: Days of the Week
- 2.4: Pronouns (Personal and Possessive)

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. T.B. Siddalingaiah, 1968. *ABC of Tamil – Book One*, Chennai: Paari Nilayam.
2. M.S. Thirumalai & D.P. Patnayak, 2004. *An Introduction to Tamil Script: Reading and Writing*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.

PAPER – II: Introduction to Basic Tamil

CREDITS – 3
70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Numbers (1-100)
- 1.2: Demonstrative Pronouns
- 1.3: Talking about oneself and one's family
- 1.4: Listening to a Conversation

Unit 2

- 2.1: Colours and Descriptions
- 2.2: Question Words
- 2.3: Finding a Restaurant
- 2.4: States, Places and Languages

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
2. N. Aruna Bharati, 1986. *A Tamil Premier*, Chennai: Paari Nilayam.
3. T.B. Siddalingaiah, 1968. *ABC of Tamil – Book One*, Chennai: Paari Nilayam.

LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 2

PAPER – III: Reading and Comprehension - I

CREDITS – 3

70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Reading a passage
- 1.2: Discussing a picture
- 1.3: Simple reading exercise
- 1.4: Listening to a Conversation

Unit 2

- 2.1: Identifying Flora and Fauna
- 2.2: Describing Weather
- 2.3: Talking about own state
- 2.4: Talking to a co-passenger

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. E. Annamalai, 1980. *The Jim and Raja Conversations*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
2. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
3. N.D. Krishnamurthy, U.P. Upadhyaya & M. Sadasivam, 1999. *Conversational Tamil – A Microwave Approach*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.

LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 2

PAPER – IV: Reading and Comprehension - II

CREDITS – 3

70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Numbers (100-1000)
- 1.2: Vocabulary review (Trees/Fruits/Vegetables)
- 1.3: Making simple descriptions
- 1.4: Spelling practice

Unit 2

- 2.1: Telling the Time
- 2.2: Times of the day
- 2.3: Conversation practice
- 2.4: Translating a passage

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. S. Rajaram, 2000. *An Intensive Course in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
2. N. Aruna Bharati, 1986. *Tamil Reader*, Chennai: Ainthinai Pathippagam.
3. N. Deivasundaram & A. Gopal, 1984. *Tamil – An Auto Instructional Course*, Chennai : International Institute of Tamil Studies.

Viva-Voce

CREDITS – 3

100 Marks

LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 3

PAPER – V: Grammar & Communication Skills

CREDITS – 3

70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Identifying basic sentence structures
- 1.2: Verb formation
- 1.3: Active and Passive sentences
- 1.4: Wh-questions and Answers

Unit 2

- 2.1: Using ‘perhaps’, ‘might be’, ‘probably’
- 2.2: Thoughts and intentions of using ‘because’ and ‘but’
- 2.3: Months & Seasons
- 2.4: Talking about one’s weekend & One’s family tree

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. P. Kothandaraman, 1975. *A Course in Modern Standard Tamil – Texts and Exercises*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.
2. S. Rajaram, 2000. *An Intensive Course in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
3. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
4. Thomas Lehman, 1989. *A Grammar of Modern Tamil*, Pondicherry: Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture.

LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 3

PAPER – VI: Writing Skills

**CREDITS – 3
70 Marks**

Unit 1

- 1.1: Jobs and Professions
- 1.2: Daily routines
- 1.3: Making arrangements
- 1.4: Adjectives and Adverbs

Unit 2

- 2.1: Spotting spoken and written forms
- 2.2: Writing a small passage
- 2.3: Contemporary Tamil Cinema
- 2.4: Revision of vocabulary

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
2. S. Rajaram, 2000. *An Intensive Course in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
3. Thomas Lehman, 1989. *Grammar of Modern Tamil*, Pondicherry: Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture.

LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 4

PAPER – VII: Tamil Grammar

**CREDITS – 3
70 Marks**

Unit 1

- 1.1: Prepositions
- 1.2: Similarity and Contrast
- 1.3: Irregular verbs
- 1.4: Future Tense

Unit 2

- 2.1: Reporting someone's speech
- 2.2: Making adjectives into verbs
- 2.3: Infinitive verbs
- 2.4: Negative verbs

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
2. S. Rajaram, 2000. *An Intensive Course in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
3. Thomas Lehman, 1989. *Grammar of Modern Tamil*, Pondicherry: Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture.
4. P. Kothandaraman, 1975. *A Course in Modern Standard Tamil – Texts and Exercises*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.

LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 4

PAPER – VIII: Introduction to Tamil Literature and Culture

CREDITS – 3
70 Marks

Unit 1

- 1.1: Brief overview of Tamil Literature
- 1.2: Sangam literature and short history of Tamil literature
- 1.3: Essays on Tamil Important Tamil Literary works
- 1.4: Contemporary Tamil literature

Unit 2

- 2.1: Tamil Festivals
- 2.2: Tamil Proverbs
- 2.3: Essays on Tamil Important Places of Tamil Nadu
- 2.4: Tamil in other countries

Internal Assessment

30 Marks

Reference Materials

1. Mu. Varadarajan, 1987. *History of Tamil Literature*, New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi.
2. P. Kothandaraman, 1975. *A Course in Modern Standard Tamil – Texts and Exercises*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.
3. N. Aruna Bharati, 1986. *Tamil Reader*, Chennai: Ainthinai Pathippagam.
4. M.L. Thangappa (Tr.), 2008. *Love Stands Alone – Selected Poems from Sangam Literature*, New Delhi: Penguin.

Viva-Voce

CREDITS – 3
100 Marks

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