**Course Description**

This course is offered for students who are able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with the routine tasks and social situations of the Intermediate level; and demonstrate a clear understanding of the Thai writing system. The aim of the course is (1) to improve student’s verbal communication skills in order to participate in some informal and formal conversations, (2) to enhance students’ communication capabilities in reading and writing at both casual and academic levels, and (3) to use the issues that the program looks at as tools to understand other ways of life while staying in various communities. Course materials are taken from current literature sources, newspapers, and current articles on focus issues.

The course content is divided into two parts. The first part focuses on enhancing students’ vocabulary and grammatical knowledge in order to increase their communicative competence in speaking, reading, and writing Thai. For the second part, students will gain deeper insight into various social and environmental issues and be able to discuss with people who are affected by those issues in Thailand.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Students will understand, make basic requests, and meet daily needs by communicating in Thai
- Students will be able to describe, narrate, and ask/answer questions in Thai about a variety of topics related to family, daily activities, eating, and traveling.
- Students will feel comfortable using Thai language in any setting
- Students will be able to read and write at both casual and academic levels
- Students will learn and use the ‘Issue-Based’ language as a tool to discuss with and understand villagers who are affected by various social and environmental issues

In order to determine how well students demonstrate competency in learning Thai on this program, students will have an oral proficiency test based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) guidelines twice during the semester. The aim of this assessment is to help students reflect on their progress in Thai and know their language proficiency level in the event of further Thai study.

The format of testing will be a 15-20 minute response to visual prompts and simulated situations. It will be an online test which allows the students enough time to complete the task without intervention. The student’s performance will be compared to the criteria outlined in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012 – Speaking as well as the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale. The comparison of ACTFL and ILR proficiency scales are:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ILR Scale</th>
<th>ACTFL Scale</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Distinguished</td>
<td>Able to use language skillfully, and with accuracy, efficiency, and effectiveness</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>Able to communicate with accuracy and fluency in order to participate fully and effectively in conversations on a variety of topics in formal and informal settings from both concrete and abstract perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Advanced - High</td>
<td>Able to discuss some topics abstractly, especially those relating to their particular interests and special fields of expertise, but in general, they are more comfortable discussing a variety of topics concretely</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Advanced - Mid</td>
<td>Able to contribute to conversations on a variety of familiar topics, dealt with concretely, with much accuracy, clarity and precision, and they convey their intended message without misrepresentation or confusion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced - Low</td>
<td>Able to contribute to the conversation with sufficient accuracy, clarity, and precision to convey their intended message without misrepresentation or confusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Intermediate - High</td>
<td>Able to handle successfully uncomplicated tasks and social situations requiring an exchange of basic information related to their work, school, recreation, particular interests, and areas of competence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Intermediate - Mid</td>
<td>Able to handle successfully a variety of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. But conversation is generally limited to those predictable and concrete exchanges necessary for survival in the target culture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intermediate - Low</td>
<td>Able to handle successfully a limited number of uncomplicated communicative tasks by communicating with the language in straightforward social situations</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Novice - High</td>
<td>Able to respond to simple, direct questions or requests for information. They are also able to ask a few formulaic questions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Novice - Mid</td>
<td>Able to communicate minimally by using a number of isolated words and memorized phrases limited by the particular context in which the language has been learned</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Novice - Low</td>
<td>Have no real functional ability and, because of their pronunciation, may be unintelligible</td>
</tr>
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**Course Prerequisite**
Beginning Thai

**Course Requirement**
1. Thai Oral Presentation
In the final week of the program, students must prepare a Thai oral presentation. This is an
effective communicative activity to promote their oral proficiency and increase their confidence in speaking Thai. Students will be evaluated by teachers and other students. The objectives of the activity are:

• To provide a stimulating experience for students in training themselves to have confidence while speaking in public
• To help bridge the gap between language study and language use
• To be able to collect, inquire, organize and construct information
• To provide opportunity to enhance team work
• To help students become active and autonomous learners

2. Term paper
After all the topical learning sessions, students must choose one topic they are interested in for further study in order to write a 1,000-word term paper as their final project, with appropriate use of words and grammatical patterns.

3. Thai Fun Activity (TFA)
As part of the Thai language course, we provide “Thai Fun Activity” sessions where students have fun while using the language through various activities. You will enjoy these fun activities with your Thai instructors and other people who work with the program.

4. Peer tutors
As a supplement to classroom language instruction, peer tutors are provided for the linguistic needs of each individual, including listening, speaking, pronunciation, tones, grammar, reading, writing, vocabulary expansion, etc. These mandatory one-on-one language tutorials provide extra conversational practice and help with homework assignments. Students and tutors meet for eight sessions of structured practice for an average of 1 hour per session. If you have any problems working with your assigned peer tutors, or you would like optional extra peer tutor hours, please contact Ajaan Nidnoi.

Method of Instruction:
Regular classroom instruction involving structured practice with CIEE language instructors.
• Extra classroom instruction involving structured practice with assigned peer tutors.
• Assignments connected to community stays and interactive activities outside the classroom such as pair-recordings.

Attendance and Class Participation
Students may be excused from class only with the permission of the Resident Director. Students who miss class for medical reasons, they have to contact the Language Director to schedule the make up class. In case of unexcused absences, it may affect their participation grades and there is
no special assistance for catching up with the lesson.

**Assessment and Final Grade:**
1. Participation 10%
2. Assignment & Quizzes 25%
3. Midterm exam 25%
4. Final exam 20%
5. Term paper 10%
6. Thai Oral Presentation 10%

**Weekly Schedule**
* The topic for each class will be determined by student’s ability in Thai. However, intermediate Thai classes will be focused on
  Part I – Reinforces and strengthen students’ knowledge of the Thai language.
  Part II – Learning Specific Topics
** * Readings for this course will be selected from current articles from newspapers and magazines at the time that students are on the program.

**Week 1**
1.1 Introduction
Thai competency test

1.2 Lesson 1
Words without and without ending consonants
Article “Exciting Things”
Homework assignment:
- Complete exercise on words without ending consonants (Ministry of Education, 1993; 7-8)
Reading:
- Ministry of Education, 1993; 2-16

1.3 Thai Fun Activity 1
Learning about numbers through games

**Week 2**
2.1 Lesson 2
Middle Class Consonants and Vowels
Article “Prakai’s Brother”
Homework assignment:
- Conjugation of high class consonants and short vowels, no ending consonants.
Reading:
- Ministry of Education, 1993; 13-34

2.2 Lesson 3
Tones for words with silent “h”
Article “Big Bear and Wolf”
Homework assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 36-48

2.3 Lesson 4
Words with stop ending
Article “Two Siblings”
Homework assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 50-66

Week 3
3.1 Quiz 1

3.2 Lesson 5
Words with live ending
Article “Kong Likes Eating”
Homework assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 68-79

Week 4
4.1 Lesson 6
Words with “P” and “S” as leading consonants
Article “Songkran at Grandma’s House”
Homework Assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 82-96

4.2 Lesson 7
Vowels with “ī” sound
Article “Pick Up After You Play”
Homework Assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 110-122

Week 5
5.1 Review for Midterm

5.2 Thai Midterm

Week 6
6.1 Words with “ʌ” and “ɑ:” sounds
Article “Unity Bridge”
Homework assignment
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, 1993; 123-133

6.2 Public Health Vocabulary
Article “Grateful Daughter Taking Care of Disabled Father”
  • True/False exercise
Assignment: Preparation for community visit 1 presentation
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, n.d.: 14-15

Week 7
No class

Week 8
  8.1 Presentation of Community Visit 1
  8.2 Public Health Vocabulary
  Article “Aka Child Fell into Hot Spring”
  • Summary of text
Assignment: Preparation for community visit 1 presentation
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, n.d.: 23-24
  8.3 Thai Fun Activity 2
  Market

Week 9
  9.1 Public Health Vocabulary
  Article “5 Female Military Officers helped Women from Drowning”
  • Multiple Choice
Assignment: Preparation for international trip presentation
Reading:
  • Ministry of Education, n.d.: 23-24

Week 10
No class

Week 11
  11.1 Presentation from Laos and Grammar

Week 12
No class

Week 13
No class

Week 14
  14.1 Presentation and Grammar
  14.2 Review for Thai Final

Week 15
  15.1 Thai Final
Course Materials

Readings

Ministry of Education (1993), Basic Thai Language: Primary 2 Book 1, BKK: Kurusapa Printing Ladphrao (in Thai)
