Introduction to the Postgraduate Diploma in Sinhala (Part Time)

The Postgraduate Diploma in Sinhala intends to provide the students with an outline of Sinhala language, literature and culture. Those who have not obtained classes having studied for a special degree in Sinhala, and those who have followed general degree Program with Sinhala as a subject, and those who have not followed any courses in Sinhala related subjects will be the main target group of this program. Those who have obtained their first degrees in subjects other than Sinhala are also required to follow this course if they intend to carry on further postgraduate studies in Sinhala.

Thus, while this diploma is an independent degree program that stands in itself, it is also a ‘prerequisite or a foundation’ program for those students who continue into further postgraduate studies in the subject.

**Sinhala Language**

In relation to Sinhala language, the program will focus on training students in correct and elegant use of Sinhala in written communication for different communicative purposes. Moreover, the language courses of this program will expose students to diverse language styles, grammatical traditions, language histories, and many forms of accepted language use.

**Sinhala Literature**

In terms of literature, the diploma program covers classical Sinhala literature focusing on many different literary genres belonging to various different time periods. Both classical prose and poetry will be studied extensively in two different courses. This innovative curriculum of the program introduces new courses with new teaching methods and theoretical approaches to literature in order to encourage students to develop broader perspectives on the subject matter.

**Culture**

Under the stream of culture, the program presents a group of courses capturing the most salient features of human culture and the evolution of Sinhala culture. In that, this curriculum includes courses in cultural norms and behaviors, rituals and performance, institutions, and cultural monuments. In these courses the students will be trained to holistically understand culture as a collection of multitude of human actions and creations by providing them with a theoretical grounding in the concept of culture.
Creative and Communicative Skills
In addition to these major streams, there will be a supplementary section under which subjects such as, mass communication, and creative writing will also be taught intending to develop the students’ skills in communication and creative usage of language.

Prospective Careers after Graduating
After following this diploma program the students will have knowledge and background to enter into diverse careers in education, research, administration, media, public relations, art, theater, clerical service, and they will also be to further develop their skills and knowledge in these fields. This program will help those who are already employed in institutions related to above subjects to further develop their skills and potentials for career advancement.

Medium of Instruction: Sinhala (English on Request)
Duration: one year
Admission Criteria: Basic Degree in any discipline from a reputed university
Post-graduate Diploma Program

This one-year program that contains eight subject related courses and one compulsory course leads to a Post-graduate Diploma in Sinhala. The eight subject related courses are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Prerequisite</th>
<th>compulsory/Optional</th>
<th>Cumulative Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>New/Existing/Revised Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>PDS SL 501</td>
<td>Classical Sinhala Poetry</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Practical Sinhala: Grammar and Styles</td>
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<td>Sinhala Folk Rituals, Folk Drama and Modern Theater</td>
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<td>PDS SL 506</td>
<td>Classical Sinhala Prose: Intentions, Styles, Forms, and Themes</td>
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<td>Thematic Approach to Modern Literature</td>
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**Objectives**
- To familiarize students with the history of classical Sinhala poetry
- To enable students understand various sources of influence on classical Sinhala poetry
- To make students understand diverse traditions and genres in classical Sinhala poetry
- To train students to appreciate different styles, forms, themes in classical Sinhala poetry

**Time Allocation:** Lectures 45 | Tutorials ||

**Course Description**
This course will be a thorough study of the classical Sinhala poetry focusing on its origin and development, and special attention will be paid to the inspiration that the Sinhala poetic tradition has drawn from the Sanskrit Epic poetry as it is demonstrated in Siyabaslakara. This course focuses on key genres found in classical Sinhala poetic tradition such as Mahakavya, Khanda Kavya, Sandesakavya, Prashastikavya and Upadeshakavya. The course will study the characteristic features of the language, style and other literary aspects of the classical Sinhala poetry. This course also includes a special study of the ‘Sigiri Gi’ examining the entire collection of ‘Sigiri Graffiti.’

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<th>Course No:</th>
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<td>Course Title:</td>
<td>Practical Sinhala Prose: Literary Grammar and Styles</td>
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**Objectives:**
- To train students to write elegant and grammatically correct prose
- To provide the students with a thorough understanding of basic grammar in Sinhala prose
- To enable students to use different and appropriate styles in prose
- To provide students with extensive feedback on their prose writing

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<th>Time Allocation:</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>45</th>
<th>Tutorials</th>
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**Course Description**
This is a course training students in correct and accepted forms of modern Sinhala prose writing. Firstly, the course focuses on linguistic aspects of correct and elegant prose such as subject-verb agreement, spelling, punctuation, word separation and sentence structures. Secondly, the concept of ‘style’ and its significance in prose writing will be evaluated paying attention to different styles of Sinhala prose taking examples of various classical and modern texts. In this writing-intensive course, the students will be trained with practical writing assignments to appreciate and to create different styles of Sinhala prose.

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<td>Course Title: Sinhala Folk Rituals, Folk Drama and Modern Theatre</td>
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<td>Credit: 3</td>
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<td>Prerequisites: None</td>
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<td>Core/Optional: Core</td>
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**Objectives:**
- To introduce the interconnections between folk rituals and folk drama and modern theatre
- To familiarize students with the dramatic and aesthetic aspects of folk rituals
- To appreciate folk rituals as modes of performance
- To evaluate the salient features of modern theater and evolution of modern Sinhala theatre
- To appraise the contribution of university dramatic productions and translated world theatre in shaping modern Sinhala theatre
- To critically assess original modern Sinhala dramatic experiments

**Time Allocation:** Lectures 45 | Tutorials |

**Course Description**
This course has two distinct sections: (1) introduction to Sinhala folk rituals and folk drama and their relationship with Sinhala modern theater. (2) An overview of modern theater in general. Under section (1) the course evaluates the key dramatic and aesthetic aspects of folk rituals and drama and their significance as modes of healing, art and performance in Sinhala culture. Under section (2) the basics of modern theater will be discussed with dramatic texts taken from various dramatic traditions that have influenced modern Sinhala theatre. In addition, the origin and evolution of Sinhala theatre will also be addressed with attention to early modern modes of theatre such as *Nadagam* and *Nurti*. The role of the translated dramas in shaping modern Sinhala theatre will be evaluated by examining ‘Vishvavidyalayeeya Natya’ i.e. dramas produced at the university college of Ceylon and, later, at the university of Ceylon. The two sections of the course are interconnected in examining the ways by which modern Sinhala theatre was developed with the influence of folk dramatic traditions and world theatre. The course also engages with various dramatic experiments by key playwrights in the history of modern Sinhala theatre such as Edirivira Saracchandra, Dayananda Gunawardhana, Sugathapala de Silva, Henry Jayasena, and Simon Nawagatthegamma, Jayalath Manorathne.
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**Required Texts**


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**Course No:** PDS SL 504  
**Course Title:** Sinhala Exegetical Literature  
**Credits:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Core/Optional:** Core

**Objectives:**
- To introduce existent early Sinhala prose works composed in book-form  
- To enable students to understand the origin of lexical units in Sinhala  
- To reflect on textual antecedents, such as Pali and Sanskrit commentaries, of the selected texts  
- To evaluate commentarial styles in Sinhala exegetical literature  
- To appreciate the stylistic diversity of individual authors

**Time Allocation:** Lectures | 45 | Tutorials |

**Course Description**

This course will explore and examine the special characteristics in the classical Sinhala prose works including ‘*Sanna*’, ‘*Getapada*’, ‘*Parikata*’ and other exegetical texts focusing on their content as well as language, style and etymology. This course includes a study of the etymological and linguistic significance of ‘*Sanna*’, ‘*Getapada*’ and etc., for the study of the evolution of the Sinhala language, techniques of interpretation used by the authors of these texts together in the diversity in their individual styles and the use of language as a medium in interpretation. The course will also study the significance of these texts as sources of studying the original Pali texts. The following texts are selected for reading and class discussion: *Dhampiya Atuwa Getapaday, Sikhavalanda ha Sikhavalanda Vinisa*, and *Dharmapuradipikawa*. 

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**Course No:** DPS SLS 505  
**Course Title:** Sinhala Culture  
**Credits:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Core/Optional:** Core  
**Objectives:**  
- To familiarize students with the basic concepts and analytical methods of culture  
- To study different interpretations of the origin and evolution of Sinhala culture  
- To comparatively evaluate different cultural borrowings occurred in the history of Sinhala culture  
- To evaluate the socio-cultural significance of cultural artifacts and social institutions  
- To examine the cultural connections among Sinhala and other cultures  

**Time Allocation:** Lectures|45| Tutorials||  
**Course Description**  
The basic concepts and analytical methods of culture will be given at the outset of this course, which will be followed by a thorough survey of the different interpretations of the origin and evolution of Sinhala culture. This course consists of the following sections: Arts and crafts and...
cultural institutions as depicted in texts and material culture. Under arts and crafts the course will study the techniques used in the irrigation system, indigenous architecture, sculpture, carvings and paintings, highlighting how these arts evolved as independent (indigenous) local traditions. The Indian and other foreign sources of influence on these arts and crafts and traditional technological knowledge will also be examined. This course will especially concentrate on the following: religious and domestic institutions, kingship, the system of administration, family, the village, and city.

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Course No: PDS SLS 506
Course Title: Classical Sinhala Prose: Intentions, Styles, Forms, and Themes

Credits: 3
Prerequisites: None
Core/Optional: Optional

Objectives:
- To introduce the formal and stylistic features of classical Sinhala prose
- To understand social and cultural function of prose works
- To identify and appreciate structural aspects of classical Sinhala prose narratives
- To evaluate historical and contextual goals of classical prose works


Course Description
This course provides the students with an introduction to the art of classical Sinhala prose focusing on the functions of prose works in the classical Sinhala literary culture and beyond. In this course the students will able to recognize Sinhala prose writing as one important heritage of Sinhala literary culture and also the social and cultural functions of Sinhala prose works. The structural and formal qualities of Sinhala prose will be introduced with a selection of examples taken from books written between 12th and 15th centuries. The excerpts from prose works belonging to different time periods, styles and intended functions will be the ‘content’ of the course. This course pays special attention to, intention, styles, forms, and themes. After following this course students will be able to recognize, understand, and comment on classical Sinhala prose.

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Required Texts
Dharmapradipika ("Sulukalingudawata", "Weelamana Bamunage katawa," "yassa", "atta")
Amavatura ("Ditthamangalika", "Angulimaladamana", "Nalagiridamana"
"rajadamana", "gahapati")

Butsarana ("Angulimala", "Nalagiri Damana", "wessantarajataka")

Saddharmaratanawaliya ("Patipujikawage wastuwa", "nagasena wastuwa", "gerimara
kana ekekuge pukekuge wastuwa", "cundasukara wastuwa")

Pujawaliya

Jatakapota ("Andhabhuta Jataka," "illisa jataka", "asamatamanta jataka," "chaddanata
jataka," "kurudharma jataka")

Saddharamalankara

Sinhala Bhodhiwansaya

Eluattanagaluwanasaya

Kuweni asna

Dambadeni asna

Sihaba asna

Reference


Pannakiththi himi, Kotahene. Sahithya katha 1, 2, 3, 4. Kelaniya: Vidyalankara Mudranalaya,
1951.

Sannasgala, Punchibandara. Sinhala sahithya wanshaya. Kolamba: Sanskruthika katayuthu


Thilakarathna, Miniwan P. Sambhawy Sinhala sahithya sampradaya ha podu jana ruchiya.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course No: PDS SL 507</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Title: Thematic Approach to Modern Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credits: 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisites: None</td>
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<td>Core/Optional: Optional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objectives:</td>
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<tr>
<td>To familiarize students with key genres, themes in different literary traditions in modern literature</td>
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</table>
To train students in approaching literature with thematic perspectives
To appreciate aesthetics, poetics and styles in different literary traditions
To make students skilled in understanding basic human qualities expressed in literature
To enable students in comparatively appreciating literary works taken from diverse cultures

**Time Allocation:** Lectures 45 | Tutorials

**Course Description**
The central goal of this course is to provide a broad outline of modern literature. While modern literature is the main course content, the teaching method is primarily ‘thematic’ with attention to the significance of the selected literary works in contemporary human life. The course content is not restricted by genre, language, literary culture, and the required texts are selected from different genres such as novel, short story and poetry and translated literature from different countries and literary cultures such as African, Asian, and European. In this thematic approach, the course will look at themes such as the representation of village, city, women, minorities in literature, and the ways of modern literature deals with human affairs such as coming of age, love, married life, aging, gender, and cultural difference and ethnic diversity and so on.

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**Course No:** PDS SL 508

**Course Title:** Mass Communication, Journalism and Creative Communication

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** None

**Core/Optional:** Optional

**Objectives:**
- To introduce the basics in mass communication and journalism
- To train students in journalism and creative communication
- To train students in correct, creative language and appropriate styles in journalistic writing
- To familiarize students with key genres in printed media

**Time Allocation:** Lectures 45 | Tutorials

**Course Description**
This is a course in mass communication theories and journalistic practices. Thus, the course has two layers, one focusing in theories of mass communication and the other focusing on practices of journalism.

The course will also deal with the history of mass communication with special attention to traditional modes of communication. Under journalism, the students will be trained in major forms of journalistic writing. In addition, the history and trends of Sinhala language journalism will be discussed.
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**Reference**


