

Course No: SLS 3007

Course Title: Sinhala Folklore and Folk Beliefs

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None

Core/Optional: Optional

Objectives:

To familiarize students with contemporary theories of folklore studies

To study folklore and oral traditions and the meanings that people bring to contemporary society

To provide a background in methods of classification of oral literature, material folk culture, folk medicine, urban folklore, social customs and the performing arts

Intended Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to

Demonstrate the major concepts, theories, genres and methodology in the folklore study

Understand the origin and development of the study of the Sinhala Folklore and Folk Beliefs

Conduct a field work using the folklore theories

Emphasize the anthropological value in the field of Folklore study

Time Allocation: (Hours): Supervised Independent Research: 300

Course Description

This course studies the folklore and oral traditions, and to explore the meanings that people bring to contemporary society by invoking folklore. In addition, the course will examine the foundation of the study of folklore and folk beliefs paying attention to oral literature, material folk culture, folk medicine, social customs and urban folklore. The course takes a systematic approach to the folklore genres in anthropological and

comparative perspectives, in order to introduce definitions and current analytical theories of Folklore. This course also reviews the beginning and development of the study of Sinhala folklore and folk beliefs. Readings in oral history with the study of performances such as traditional dances, rituals, dramas and festivals of cultural aesthetics of Sri Lanka.

Recommended Texts:

Dundes, Alan. *The Study of Folklore*. Englewood Cliffs, Prentice- Hall, 1965.

Rathnapala, Nandasena. *Janashruthi Vidyava*. Colombo: S. Godage, 1995.

Weerasinghe, Amaradasa. *Sinhala Janashruthiya Haderima*. Colombo: Sulalitha Printers, 1986.

Assessment	Percentage Mark
Continuous Assessment (Assignments, Presentation, Examinations)	40
End Semester Examination	60