

Course No: SLS 2004
Course Title: Sinhala Culture Part I: From Pre-historic Times to Kurunegala Period
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: None
Core/Optional: Optional

Objectives

- To familiarize students with the concept of “culture”
- To examine proto-Sinhala culture
- To evaluate the definitions of “Sinhala culture”
- To understand Buddhism’s influence on Sinhala culture and social institutions
- To assess “Sinhala culture” in architecture and other arts
- To study Sinhala language and literature as culture

Intended Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion the course, student will be able to

- Gain a standard knowledge of historical evolution of Sri Lankan culture
- Acquire analytical vision of relevant monuments due to the historical contexts
- Obtain a broad vision of the term “culture” and have a comparative understanding of various interpretations

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

Course Description

This course provides the students with a comprehensive understanding of the beginning and growth of Sinhala culture. The course covers pre-historical Sri Lankan culture as well as the culture influenced by Buddhism and other Indian traditions with specific attention to social institutions, architecture and, arts such as painting and sculpture. In terms of historical scope, the course studies through pre-Anuradhapura culture to Kurunegala period. Throughout this course, the notion of “culture” will be theoretically evaluated with relevant examples from Sinhala culture.

Recommended Texts :

- Kularathne, Saliya. *Sambhavya Sinhala Sanskruthiya Pilibanda Bhauthika ha Sankalpeeya Nirikshana*. Colombo: Vijitha Yapa, 2010.
- Senevirathne, Anuradha. *Purana Anuradhapuraya*. Colombo: Ministry of Cultural Affairs, 1995.
- Vogel, J. P. H. *Buddhist Arts in India, Ceylon and Java*. New Delhi, 1998.

Assessment	6	Percentage Mark
Continuous Assessment (Assignments, Presentation, Examinations)		40
End Semester Examination		60