COURSE OVERVIEW:

SAMS102 is a one semester online introductory course designed to enable students to communicate skillfully in Samskritam (aka Sanskrit). The course will focus on developing the student’s ability to speak fluently and read and write in both Devanagari and roman transliterated script. Basic grammatical concepts will also be introduced. The course will build on topics covered in SAMS101, as well as foster an appreciation for Indian culture.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Ask and answer questions about familiar topics skillfully in Samskritam using appropriate tenses and case endings.
2. Understand basic grammatical concepts relating to verbs, nouns and pronouns.
3. Continue to build vocabulary base.
4. Write clear and correct answers to questions in Samskritam.
5. Become familiar with the International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration.
6. Cultivate an understanding for Indian culture and Samskritam literature.
7. Appreciate and be knowledgeable about the contributions of Samskritam scholars to different fields.

CORE CONTENT – TOPICAL OUTLINE:

Part 1:
- Conversation & Listening
  - Daily conversations related to routines
  - Use of adjectives in conversation
  - Describing a person’s age and physical features
  - Vocabulary: Names of animals, foods and tastes

- Reading & Writing
  - Writing and reading of paragraphs in Devanagari script
  - Usage of the past tense in the singular and plural
  - Usage of the future tense in the singular and plural
  - Declension of selected nouns in three genders
  - Numbers: 51-100
Part 2:

- **Conversation & Listening**
  - Buying and selling items
  - Conversations between friends
  - Describing family relations
  - Visit to the doctor’s office
  - Simple stories and proverbs
  - Vocabulary: names of the body parts and colors

- **Reading and Writing**
  - Definitions and characteristics of nouns, pronouns and verbs
  - Conjugation of verbs in the present tense in singular, dual and plural
  - Simple stories and proverbs
  - Branches of Samskritam literature
  - Introduction to International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration
  - Samskritam Scholars’ contributions to various fields

**Grading Plan:**

5% - Class Attendance
20% - Homework Assignments
30% - Unit Exams
20% - Final Project
25% - Final Exam on Part 1 and 2

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C= 70-79%
D= 60-69%
F= 59% and below

**Course Assignments, Exams and Projects:**

1. **Class Attendance (5%):**

This course includes a mandatory, once a week, 1.75 hour contact class by video conference. A Samskrita Bharati trained teacher will lead this session. The time will be used to practice conversational skills, introduce new topics, and answer any questions. The only excused absences are those due to
sickness or family emergency. In such cases, an email from a parent of the student must be sent at least 24 hours before the start of the class in order to excuse the absence. Please note that too many absences affect students’ grasp of the material and ability to stay in sync with the rest of the class. So, similar to policies that are normally followed in the schools, a maximum of only 5 absences per semester (1/3 of the classes in a semester) are allowed after which the student will not be allowed to continue in the SAFL course that year and their account will be suspended. Therefore students are required to attend classes regularly.

2. **Homework Assignments (20%)**:

Homework is assigned as indicated in the weekly syllabus on the course website. Students are expected to complete the homework before midnight on the day before the class day. All homework assignments are to be submitted via the course website. 5% per day late will be deducted from assignments submitted late. Extensions must be requested at least 24 hours before the deadline for any assignment.

3. **Unit Exams (30%)**:

Unit exams will be administered at the end of each unit in order to track the student’s progress in all aspects of Samskritam learning. Exams may be oral or written. A total of two unit exams will be administered during Spring 2020 as indicated in the class schedule. Students are to complete all exams without the aid of any textbooks, notes, or other people.

4. **Final Project (20%)**:

This project allows the student to gain an understanding of Indian culture. Students are expected to research and write a paper in English regarding one Samskritam scholar who made significant contributions to Indian culture. The paper should be three pages, double spaced, and size 12 Times New Roman font. Further guidelines will be available at the course website. The project will be graded on the usage of correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, creativity, and presentation of the topic.

5. **Final Exam (25%)**:

The final exam will be administered at the end of the semester. The final exam will test the student’s written skills and knowledge of the topics in part one and two. The final exam will take place during class time and is proctored by the course instructor. Students are to complete all exams without the aid of any textbooks, notes, or other people.
COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Students are required to have access to a computer, scanner, webcam, microphone and the internet for this course. Teachers primarily use email to contact students and it is imperative that students respond in a timely manner.

Apart from the weekly class, students are expected to spend ample time studying the course material and completing the homework. Students are expected to honor academic integrity when completing all assignments and exams.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:

The following texts and materials will be required for this course.

- First-year SAFL Textbook [Mukulam]
- First-year SAFL Workbook [supplement to Mukulam]
- samskṛtavyāvahārasahasrī
- saṁskārabinduḥ
- sārāṇiṣṭhāyaḥ
d- sāṁskṛtabhāṣāśikṣaṇam (Level 1- Lessons 1-40) – Online link for video will be provided by SAFL Team or SAFL Instructor.
- Online link for dictionaries will be provided by SAFL Team or SAFL Instructors