

**Proposed Syllabus Revision for
DIPLOMA IN SINHALA
FOR SPEAKERS OF
TAMIL**

Target Group ■ Fee Levying Course – General Public
(With effective from 1st of September 2025)

DEPARTMENT OF SINHALA
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA

DIPLOMA IN SINHALA FOR SPEAKERS OF TAMIL

Key Features of the Programme	
Programme title:	Diploma in Sinhala for Speakers of Tamil
Final award: B. A or B. A (Hons), BSc. Hons)	Diploma in Sinhala for Speakers of Tamil
(SLQF) Level	SLQF Level 3
Justification for Proposed Syllabus Revision	The proposed syllabus is designed in order to upgrade the quality of the diploma program keeping with the current demands of the Sinhala language and contemporary professional requirements.
Exit Award/Fall-back Award	None
Programme Code	DSST
Cohort(s) programme/s to which this programme specification is applicable:	None
Awarding institution/body:	University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
Teaching institution:	University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
Faculty:	Faculty of Humanities
Language of study and assessment	Sinhala
Departmental web page address:	https://hu.kln.ac.lk/depts/sinhala/
Method of study (Fulltime/Part-time/Split/Other)	Part time

Mode of teaching/delivery (direct classroom teaching/online/distance etc.)	Blended Learning (Direct classroom teaching and online teaching)
Total no of notional hours	1500 hours
Credit value of the programme	The Diploma in Sinhala for Speakers of Tamil has a total value of 30 SLQF credits

	(Each credit is equivalent to 50 notional hours as defined by SLQF)
Maximum and minimum period of registration	From the effective date of registration: 1 year (minimum) – 3 years (maximum)
Placement and/or study Abroad	Not applicable
Criteria for admission to the programme (including SLQF level)	Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least S Grades for all three approved subjects at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification, or completion of NVQ level 4 or accredited work experience or accredited prior learning followed by a corresponding cognitive bridging programme of minimum 30 credits as determined by the Senate may also be considered as equivalent qualification for admission to SLQL3 in a particular field of specialization.
Length/duration of the Programme	One Academic Year
Progression: Employment and further study opportunities	

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement (SBS), if specified	Reference to the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject Benchmark Statement in Language Studies published by the Quality Assurance and Accreditation council, University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka • Subject Benchmark Statement for Languages, Culture and Societies published by the Quality Assurance Agency for UK Higher education.
Board of Examiners:	Examiners are nominated by the Coordinator and the Faculty Board of Faculty of Humanities and are appointed with the approval of the University Senate.

Minimum eligibility criteria for the award of a qualification	<p>(i) For the award of a Diploma, a student must</p> <p>(ii) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQL3,</p> <p>(a) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and</p> <p>(b) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.</p> <p>(ii) For the award of a Diploma with Merit, a student must</p> <p>(a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQL3,</p> <p>(b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and</p> <p>(c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQL3.</p> <p>(iii) For the award of a Diploma with Distinction, a student must</p> <p>(a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQL3,</p> <p>(b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and</p> <p>(c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQL3.</p> <p>Source – Qualifications Framework University of Kelaniya</p>
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Professional body of accreditation (if applicable):	Not Applicable
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Brief Introduction of the Awarding Institution & Department (approx. 500 words)

The Department of Sinhala is one of the largest departments of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya. Nearly 500 students enroll for the courses conducted by this department annually. At present the it is a fully fledged department with a highly qualified staff. One Chair Professor, Two Senior Professors, Five Full Professors, Two Senior Lecturers with PhD. Degrees, Eight Senior Lecturers are among them and some of them are competent in English, Japanese, Hindi and other oriental languages such as Pali & Sanskrit.

Classical and Modern Sinhala Literature, Evaluation of Sinhala Language and Paleography, Performing and Recording Arts, Metrics, Rhetoric and Oriental and Occidental Criticism, Sinhala Exegetical Literature, Sinhala Paleography and Inscriptions, Sinhala Culture and Folk lore, Art

and Architecture are offered by the department of Sinhala for the Bachelor of Arts General and Special degrees.

From 2010 the Sinhala Department has introduced a Bachelor of Arts (General) degree course in Literary Criticism. Based on the highest marks at the B. A. first year examination, students are recruited for the B. A. (Special) degree program.

The candidate who has acquired high marks in the Sinhala Special Degree will be awarded a Gold Medal by the Professor D. J. Wijerathna Memorial Foundation.

Any student who belongs to the Faculties of Science, Commerce and Management Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities can follow an auxiliary course unit - Practical Sinhala I & II offered by the Department if they have not studied Sinhala for G. C. E. (A/L) examination. Furthermore, an Auxiliary course unit - Modern Sinhala Writing Skills- is offered for the students who are not studying Sinhala for their degree as a subject but have studied Sinhala for the G. C. E. (A/L) examination.

Introduction of the Programme

Diploma in Sinhala for Speakers of Tamil is especially designed to meet the needs of Native Sri Lankan Tamils who wish to pursue a career in Sinhala Language related institutions, academia and the corporate sector. Sinhala Diploma has evolved as a specific discipline, based on Sinhala language, literature and vulture.

Overall aim of the programme

Overall aim of the Diploma programme is to develop knowledge of the Sinhala language among Tamil-speaking Sri Lankans to support the official language policy aimed at trilingualism. Moreover the course carries the aim of developing Sinhala language translation ability required for duties and normal daily life activities while understanding Sinhala language and culture.

Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

At the completion of the Diploma in Sinhala for Speakers of Tamil programme, the student will be able to:

PLO 1 Demonstrate a basic understanding of Sinhala Language

PLO 2 Speak in Sinhala for communication.

PLO 3 Write and read in Sinhala language grammar.

PLO 4 Demonstrate understanding of basic principles of Sinhala language.

PLO 5 Identify different varieties of correct Sinhala language usage with Literature.

PLO 6 Demonstrate knowledge about Sinhala culture, Arts and Folklore.

Course Structure**Existing course structure**

Course Code	Course Title	No. of Credits
DSST 13016	Introduction to Language I (Spoken Sinhala)	6
DSST 13026	Introduction to Language II (Written Sinhala)	6
DSST 13036	Sinhala for Professional Purposes	6
DSST 13046	Appreciation of Sinhala Literature	6
DSST 13056	Sinhala Culture	6

PROPOSED**Proposed course structure**

Course Code	Course Title	changes proposed
DSST 13014	Studies in Sinhala Language	04
DSST 13026	Sinhala for Communication	06
DSST 13036	Functional Sinhala Grammar	06
DSST 13045	Sinhala for Professional Purposes	05
DSST 13054	Language through Sinhala Literature	04
DSST 13065	Sinhala Culture, Arts and Folklore	05

Course Specifications

Course Code:	DSST 13014		
Course Name:	Studies in Sinhala Language		
Credit Value:	4		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning

	45	75	80
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Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course student will be able to

- **Identify the origin and evolution of the Sinhala language**
- **Explain the relationship between Sinhala and Tamil languages**
- **Explain Sinhala language history of prose and verse**
- **Understand the relationship between Sinhala and foreign languages**
- **Identify Various forms of the Sinhala language**

<p>Course Content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Sinhala Language 2. The origin of the Sinhala Language 3. Sinhala and Tamil Language 4. The history of prose and verse 5. Diglossia in the Sinhala Language 6. Dialects 7. Restricted Language 8. Registers 			
<p>Teaching /Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities • Online learning 			
<p>Assessment Strategy:</p>			
<p>Continuous Assessment 30%</p>		<p>Final Assessment 70%</p>	
<p>Details: mid – term 10% writing Assessment 20%</p>		<p>Theory (70%)</p>	<p>Practical (0%)</p>
		<p>Other specify (0%)</p>	
<p>Prescribed Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත සිංහල භාෂා අධ්‍යයනය කෘතිය 			
<p>Recommended Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ධම්මරත්න, හිස්සල්ලේ, (1963). සිංහලයේ ද්‍රාවිඩ බලපෑම්. කොළඹ; අනුල මුද්‍රණාලය. ➤ ධර්මදාස, කේ. එන්. ඕ. (1972). භාෂාව හා සමාජය. කොළඹ; ලේක්හවුස් ඉන්වෙස්ට්මන්ට් සමාගම. ➤ බලගල්ලේ, විමල් ජී, (1995). භාෂා අධ්‍යයනය හා සිංහල ව්‍යවහාරය, කොළඹ; ඇස් ගොඩගේ සහ සහෝදරයෝ. ➤ බලගල්ලේ විමල් ජී. (2004) සිංහල භාෂාධ්‍යයන ලිපි I, කොළඹ; ගොඩගේ සහ සහෝදරයෝ. ➤ සන්නස්ගල පුඤ්චිබණ්ඩාර (2015). සිංහල සාහිත්‍ය වංශය, කොළඹ; ගොඩගේ සහ සහෝදරයෝ. 			

Course Code:	DSST 13026		
Course Name:	Sinhala for Communication		
Credit Value:	6		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	40	100	160

Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes:
At the completion of this course student will be able to

- Demonstrate understanding of spoken Sinhala

- Develop simple communication skills
- **Develop the ability to pronounce and speak Sinhala words**
- Expresses creative and clear ideas
- Demonstrate listening and comprehension skills
- **Approach job interviews with confidence**

Course Content:

1. Spoken Sinhala alphabet
2. Spoken Sinhala grammar
3. Greetings
4. Invocations and Address
5. Simple communication
6. Conversations and dialogues
7. Interviews
8. News releases
9. **Presentation skills**
10. **Leading group discussions**

Teaching /Learning Methods:

- Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities
- Online learning
- **Practical Communication**

Assessment Strategy:

Continuous Assessment 10%	Final Assessment 90%		
Details: mid – term 10 marks	Theory (50 marks)	Practical (40 marks)	Other (specify) 0%

Prescribed Readings:

- සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත සිංහල භාෂාව හා සන්නිවේදනය කෘතිය

Recommended Reading:

- අමරරත්න, ඇල්. එස්. ඊ. කුමාරෝදය, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම.
- දසනායක, ඒ. ඊ. එස්. කුමාර රචනා, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම.
- දිසානායක, ජේ. බී. අකුරු මිහිර 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම.
- භාෂණ සිංහල (2008). කොළඹ: රාජ්‍ය භාෂා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව.
- මූලික සිංහල (1993). කොළඹ: රාජ්‍ය භාෂා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව.

Course Code:	DSST 13036		
Course Name:	Functional Sinhala Grammar		
Credit Value:	6		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning

	60	60	180
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Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course student will be able to

- Distinguish the difference between Spoken Sinhala and written Sinhala
- **Use grammar for Speaking and Writing**
- Develop sentences and paragraphs in written Sinhala
- Comprehend texts in written Sinhala
- Use the Sinhala alphabet correctly
- Demonstrate the understanding of correct spelling
- Create Sinhala sentences correctly
- **Edit and proofread for grammar and clarity**

1. Course Content:
2. **Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions**
3. **Punctuation marks**
4. Spellings
5. Division of terms
6. **Grammar of the Sinhala**
7. **Sentence structure** and syntax
8. Varieties and peculiarities of written Sinhala
9. **Types of sentences**
10. **Active voice and passive voice**

Teaching /Learning Methods:

- Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities
- Online learning

Assessment Strategy:

Continuous Assessment 30%	Final Assessment 70%		
Details: mid – term 10% writing Assessment 20%	Theory (70%)	Practical (0%)	Other (0%)(specify)
<p>Prescribed Readings:</p> <p>➤ සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත සිංහල භාෂාවේ ව්‍යාකරණය කෘතිය</p>			
<p>Recommended Reading:</p> <p>➤ අමරරත්න, ඇල්. එස්. ඊ. කුමාරෝදය, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. ➤ දිසානායක, ජේ. ඩී. අකුරු මිහිර, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. ➤ භාෂණ සිංහල (2008) කොළඹ: රාජ්‍ය භාෂා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව. ➤ සිංහල ලේඛන රීතිය (2004). මහරගම: ජාතික අධ්‍යාපන ආයතනය. ➤ සිංහල ව්‍යාකරණ සංග්‍රහය, (2025). අධ්‍යාපන ප්‍රකාශන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව.</p>			

Course Code:	DSST 13045		
Course Name:	Sinhala for Professional Purposes		
Credit Value:	5		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	60	60	130

Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes:
 At the completion of this course student will be able to

- Translate basic documents from Tamil to Sinhala
- Translate basic documents from Sinhala to Tamil
- Compose essays, letters, CVs, invitations in Sinhala
- **Prepare Agenda for ceremonial occasion.**
- Summarize the main points of a document/passage in Sinhala
- Identify academic writing and practical writing in a variety of disciplines

Course Content:

1. Translating Sinhala to Tamil and Tamil to Sinhala
2. Essay Writing
3. Letter Writing
4. Preparing a Curriculum Viate
5. **Writing Invitations and Agenda**
6. **Writing Newspaper reports.**
7. **Summarizing a given passage/ document**
8. **Academic and research writing**

Teaching /Learning Methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities • Online learning 			
Assessment Strategy:			
Continuous Assessment 30%		Final Assessment 70%	
Details: mid – term 10% writing Assessment 20%		Theory (70%)	Practical (0%)
		Other (%)(specify)	
Prescribed Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත ප්‍රායෝගික ලේඛන කෘතිය 			
Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ අමරරත්න, ඇල්. එස්. ඊ. කුමාරෝදය, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. ➤ ප්‍රායෝගික ලේඛන සහ සාරාංශකරණය, අතිරේක සිංහල කියවීමේ පොත. (2023). අධ්‍යාපන ප්‍රකාශන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව. ➤ දසනායක, ඒ. ඊ. එස්. කුමාර රචනය, කොළඹ: ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. ➤ දිසානායක, ජේ. ඩී. නිවැරදි සිංහලය. (2018). මහරගම: සුමිත ප්‍රකාශකයෝ. ➤ හපුආරච්චි අප්පන්නා, (2006). තීරු කතුච්චි විශේෂාංග. කොළඹ: රත්න පොත් ප්‍රකාශකයෝ. 			

Course Code:	DSST 13054		
Course Name:	Language through Sinhala Literature		
Credit Value:	4		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	50	70	80
<p>Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes: At the completion of this course student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Apply creative thinking to language use ➤ Comprehend different pieces of literature ➤ Appraise different pieces of literature 			
<p>Course Content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Stories and Picture Stories 2. Selected Prose and Verse 3. Selected Sinhala Novels 4. Selected Sinhala Short Stories 5. Selected Sinhala Drama 6. Selected Sinhala Films 			
<p>Teaching /Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities • Online learning 			
Assessment Strategy:			
Continuous Assessment 30%		Final Assessment 70%	
Details: mid – term 10% writing Assessment 20%	Theory (70%)	Practical (0%)	Other (%)(specify)
<p>Prescribed Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත සිංහල සාහිත්‍යය කෘතිය 			

Recommended Reading:

- ඉලංගරත්න, ටී. බී, (2019). *අඹ යහළුවෝ*. නුගේගොඩ: මිනැස් ප්‍රකාශන.
- දිසානායක, විමල්, (2018). *නව කවි සරණිය*, කොළඹ: ප්‍රදීප ප්‍රකාශකයෝ.
- පලන්සුරිය, සාගර, (1943). *සුදෝසුදු*. වැල්ලම්පිටිය; දිවැසි ප්‍රකාශකයෝ.
- මුනිදාස, කුමාරතුංග, (2013). *මඟුල් කෑම*. කටුනායක; නිපුණ පබ්ලිෂර්ස් ප්‍රයිවට් ලිමිටඩ්.

Course Code:	DSST 13065		
Course Name:	Sinhala Culture, Arts and Folklore		
Credit Value:	5		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	60	60	130
<p>Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes: At the completion of this course student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify culture, Arts and Folklore according to interpretations ➤ Examine aspects of Sinhala culture ➤ Compare the Sinhalese culture and Tamil culture ➤ Appreciate Sinhala cultural festivals and customs ➤ Demonstrate knowledge of Sinhala arts and crafts 			
<p>Course Content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 01. Life style of Sinhala people 02. Costoms 03. Sinhala Buddhist Culture 04. Irrigation Culture 05. Sinhala Folklore 06. Sri Lankan Arts and Crafts 			
<p>Teaching /Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures, discussions, exercises, activities • Online learning 			
<p>Assessment Strategy:</p>			
<p>Continuous Assessment 30%</p>		<p>Final Assessment 70%</p>	

Details: mid – term 10% writing Assessment 20%	Theory (70%)	Practical (0%)	Other (0%)(specify)
Prescribed Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ සිංහල අධ්‍යයන අංශය මගින් සම්පාදිත සිංහල සංස්කෘතිය, කලාශිල්ප හා ජනශ්‍රැතිය කෘතිය 			
Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ අමරසිංහ, මාලිංග. (2004). ලක්දිව සුපතල බුදු පිළිම. කොළඹ: ඇස්. ගොඩගේ සහ සහෝදරයෝ. ➤ ඩී. ඊ. හෙට්ටිආරච්චි. (1979). සිංහල සිරිත් සංග්‍රහය, කොළඹ. ➤ නන්දදේව, විජේසේකර. (1995). ලංකා ජනනාච, ඇම්. ඩී. ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. ➤ රැල්ෆ් පීරිස් (2001). සිංහල සමාජ සංවිධානය පරිවර්තනය - කේ. ඒ. ඩී. පෙරේරා බොරලැස්ගමුව: විසිදුනු ප්‍රකාශන. ➤ වික්‍රමගමගේ, වන්දා. (1990). ස්ත්‍රී. මක්තෙගොඩ: ශ්‍රී ලංකා සංස්කෘතික ශාස්ත්‍රායතනය. ➤ විමලවංශ හිමි, බද්දේගම. (1964). අපේ සංස්කෘතිය, කොළඹ: ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම. 			

Assessment and Marking Scheme

The whole examination will consist of give components as above and grades will be awarded to each paper as follows.

Range of Marks	Grade	Grade point Average
85 -100	A+	4.0
70 - 84	A	4.0
65 - 69	A-	3.7
60 - 64	B+	3.3
55 - 59	B	3.0
50 - 54	B-	2.7
45 - 49	C+	2.3
40 - 44	C	2.0
35 - 34	C-	1.7
30 - 34	D+	1.3
25 - 29	D	1.0
00 - 24	E	0.0

Grade point Average

Grade point Average (GPA) is the credit - weighted arithmetic mean of the grade point values. i. e. the GPA is determined by dividing the total credit - weighted grade point value by the total number of credits.

For example, a student who has completed two course units, each with 4 credits, one course unit of 3 credits and one course unit of 2 credits with grades A, B+, B-, C+ respectively would have the GPA as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{4 \times 4.0 + 4 \times 3.3 + 3 \times 2.7 + 2 \times 2.3}{4 + 4 + 3 + 2} \\
 &= \frac{16 + 13.2 + 8.1 + 4.6}{13} \\
 &= \frac{41.9}{13} \\
 &= 3.22
 \end{aligned}$$