

**Study Intensive Sindhi at University of Illinois
Summer 2000**

<http://osl.cs.uiuc.edu/~jamali/sindhi/course>

Sindhi is one of the major literary languages of South Asia, with approximately 24 million speakers. Another 15 Million people speak closely related varieties, such as Kutchi and Siraiki. Beyond its intrinsic literary merits, Sindhi literature is of great interest to scholars of Eastern religion and philosophy, and its linguistic structure offers interesting challenges to professional linguists. Currently, instruction in Sindhi is not offered by any university in the United States.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is now offering an Intensive Sindhi summer course sequence through the Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. The course will be offered during the second half of the 8-week summer sessions and will meet five days a week, for four hours each day.

Ling 304: Intensive Sindhi I

Intensive course in the Sindhi language and introduction to elements of Sindhi culture. Course includes conversation with a native Sindhi speaking tutor, basic grammar, reading skill development, and introduction to the standard script. The course is supervised by a linguist-instructor. The course is offered during the 4-week second summer session and meets five days a week, for four hours each day. *5 semester hours of undergraduate credit or 1 unit (4 hours) of graduate credit.*

Out-of-state students and non-students can obtain significantly reduced tuition by registering through the Extramural Programs office. The tuition, minus a small processing fee, is refundable if a student withdraws by the first week of classes.

Summer Session: July 10, 2000 - August 4, 2000

Tuition: Approximately \$600 (if registering through UIUC Community Outreach)

Registration forms may be obtained from Extramural Programs:

Web: <http://www.outreach.uiuc.edu>

Phone: (217)333-6305

Address: Extramural Programs, 1406 University Inn
302 E John, Suite #202, Champaign, IL 61820

Support for Teaching Sindhi

Donations are solicited from individuals and organizations interested in supporting research and education in Sindhi. Your support can help underwrite the cost of developing course materials and instruction, and provide fellowships for students who are interested in studying Sindhi. All contributions are *tax-deductible* in the United States. They should be made out to the University of Illinois and mailed to:

Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Attention: Sindhi Studies Project
220 International Studies Building, MC 489
910 S. Fifth Street
Champaign, IL 61820

About the Instructor

Ms. Vimmi Sadarangani, a Sindhi scholar and Lecturer at *Tolani College of Arts and Sciences* in India, has been selected to teach the course. She will be working under the supervision of Professor Jennifer Cole of the UIUC Department of Linguistics. Professor Cole has previously done linguistic research on Sindhi.

Ms. Sadarangani was born in Ajmer, and holds a Master's degree in Sindhi. She has previously taught special Sindhi courses in India, Hong Kong and Singapore, and served as a Research Fellow of the Teaching Materials Project at the *Indian Institute of Sindhology* (IIS).

Ms. Sadarangani is the author of five books for teaching the Sindhi language. These include two co-authored books on introductory Sindhi, two short books on the Sindhi alphabet, and a Sindhi reader. She is an award winning Sindhi writer and poet: four books of creative writing by her have been published. Ms. Sadarangani serves as the sub-editor of *Rachna*, a quarterly literary magazine published by the IIS, as well as a co-editor of IIS's bulletin.

Ms. Sadarangani is an energetic and enthusiastic instructor. Professor Cole notes that Ms. Sadarangani is credited with reviving the once dormant program in Bachelor's studies in Sindhi at Tolani College. As a result of her outstanding teaching ability, dozens of students have been attracted to the advanced Sindhi studies at Tolani College.

In announcing the selection, Dr. Hans Henrich Hock, Professor of Sanskrit Language and Linguistics and Director, Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign stated:

"As Dr. Rohra (Director, Indian Institute of Sindhology) kindly observes, Ms. Sadarangani has a great amount of experience in innovative approaches to Sindhi language teaching and vast experience in preparing teaching materials. In addition, to judge by her curriculum vita, her command of English seems to be excellent. All of these are qualities that should be helpful in teaching Sindhi here next summer."

About the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a comprehensive, major public university ranked among the best in the country.

As a land-grant institution chartered in 1867, it provides undergraduate and graduate education in more than 150 fields of study, conducts both theoretical and applied research, and provides public service to the state and the nation. The campus includes some 200 major buildings on 1,470 acres, serving more than 2,000 faculty members, 26,000 undergraduates, and 10,000 graduate and professional students. The University has the largest library system of any public university in the world, with over 17 million items. The University's annual budget is over \$800 million.

UIUC is a member of CIC, a consortium of Midwestern institutions with agreements on inter-institutional cooperation, including offerings in less commonly taught languages. Other members are Chicago, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan State, Michigan, Minnesota, Northwestern, Ohio State, Purdue, Penn State, and Wisconsin (Madison). Students at these universities can register through their home institution for the Sindhi course.

Living expenses in Urbana-Champaign are also considerably lower than in major metropolitan areas. Being a university town, summer sublets are particularly inexpensive around campus. Cultural activities such as summer theater and music, restaurants and parks abound. Chicago, St. Louis and Indianapolis are 2-3 hours by car or bus from here. Trains also connect to Chicago and major Midwestern airline hubs.

For more information about the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, visit the website: (<http://www.uiuc.edu/admin2/about.html>)