

# INTRODUCTION SUMERIAN LANGUAGE

Lecturer: Wafaa Zwaid  
University of Baghdad  
Room: 1, Email: wafaa\_hadi2006@yahoo.com  
Office Hour: Tuesday, Wednesday 12-13

## Course Description

The aim of the course is to introduce ancient languages which were spoken by the residents of Mesopotamia such as Sumerian language with introducing cuneiform writing and signs and Sumerian Grammar, besides focusing on vocabulary of noun phrase and the mutual features among language.

## Reading and Lectures

The reading are listed in the syllabus as required material:

- Introduction to the study of Sumerian Language
- The Sumerian Language
- Stage of Cuneiform script
- Sumerian writing and its main characteristics cuneiform script and material of writing, Drawing of signs
- Determinative signs preceding the nouns
- Determinative signs following the nouns
- Sumerian Grammar (Noun Sentence, Noun, Genitive, Plural of Noun, Adjective, Possessive Pronouns, The Demonstrative, The Postpositions).

## Required Readings:

- Moayad,S.(2004): Sumerian grammar according to texts of Lagash Dynasty in the Ancient Sumerian age, Thesis, Baghdad.
- Rachid,F.(2009): Sumerian Language Grammar, Syria
- Ali,F.&others(1980): Introduction to the study of Ancient language, Mosul.

## Please do the readings before you come to class:

This will provide some background to what you will be learning during the lecture. I will usually provide some hints about the questions and concepts you should be thinking about when doing the reading.

## Grade

Evaluation for this course will be based on a midterm, final a term paper and response papers. The grade breakdown is as follows:

**The Midterm** (40%)

**The Final** (70%)

**Quizzes** (5%)

**Attendance and class participation** (5%)

This web-site might be very useful:

<http://www.cdli.ucla.edu>

### **Paper, Quizzes and in class presentation**

Each week you have assigned reading. They have to be read before the class. You will receive questions about these reading every week.

### **Attendance**

You are required to attend all classes. Attendance signatures will be taken during class at end of the lecture. The attendance grade consists of your attendance, participation and discussion during class.

### **Week1**

**Tuesday:** Introduction to the study of Sumerian, and periods of Sumerian Language.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,27-28)

Ali(1980,17)

### **Week2**

**Tuesday:** Characters of Sumerian language

Required Readings

Moayad(2004,16-17)

### **Week3**

**Tuesday:**Stage of Cuneiform script

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,27)

### **Week4**

**Tuesday:**Sumerian Writing and its main characterizes cuneiform script and material of writing, Drawing of signs.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,15-18)

Ali(,17)

### **Week5**

**Tuesday:**Determinative signs proceeding the nouns.

Determinative signs following the nouns

Required Readings

Moayad(2004,27-29)

Ali(1980,19-20)

### **Week6**

**Tuesday:**Sumerian Grammar,Noun Sentence,Noun.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,51)

Moayad(2004,60)

### **Week7**

**Tuesday:**Genitive

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,61)

Moayad(2004,134)

**Week8**

**Tuesday:**Plural of Noun.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,54-55)

Moayad(2004,84)

**Week9**

**Tuesday:**Adjective

Required Readings

Moayad(2004,91)

Ali(1980,21)

**Week10**

**Tuesday:**Possessive pronouns.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,45)

Moayad(2004,94)

**Week11**

**Tuesday:**The Demonstrative pronouns.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,48)

Moayad(2004,110)

**Week12**

**Tuesday:**The Postpositions.

Required Readings

Rachid(2009,60)

Moayad(2004,125)

**Week13**

**Tuesday:**Exrcises

**Week14**

**Tuesday:**Quizzes

**Week15**

**Tuesday:**Exercises