

Frank Smith
<http://www.studykhmer.com>
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Professional Experience

Khmer Language Lecturer

University of California-Berkeley, 2008-Present (100% / 9 months)

Create all teaching materials for and conduct all instruction for three levels (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced) of Khmer language instruction to undergraduate and graduate students. Develop language teaching standards to further enhance and expand the Khmer language program. Teach Distance Learning Khmer language courses (Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced) broadcast via video in real time to UCLA, UC-Irvine, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Khmer Language Coordinator

Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), 1990, 1993, 1996-7, 2000-2016 (100% / 2 months)

Oversaw all aspects of intensive summer Khmer language program at Cornell University (1990), University of Washington-Seattle (1993), Arizona State University (1996-7) and University of Wisconsin-Madison (2000-2016). Hired, trained and supervised native-speaking Khmer instructors. Designed curriculum and teaching materials for all levels of instruction. Taught Khmer in performance-based, communicative language classrooms at all levels.

Heritage Language Program Facilitator

SEASSI, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, August, 2003 – 2009 (25% / 9 months)

Coordinated curriculum design and instruction for Khmer Heritage Language Program at intensive summer language institute. Consulted with and provided technical assistance to coordinators of other heritage languages (Hmong, Vietnamese, Lao, Filipino) to aid in curriculum design, establish program goals and create detailed language proficiency guidelines. Designed and maintained a website for the SEASSI Heritage Language Program. Recruited university students throughout the U.S. for the program via e-mail.

Lexical Resources Manager

SEAlang Lab. Center for Research in Computational Linguistics, 2006-2008 (50% / 9 months)

Oversaw development of (primarily) Thai-language resources for the SEAlang Lab, a US/ED-funded project that is building assistive technology tools for reading, writing, and vocabulary acquisition in complex-script languages. Responsibilities included enriching text corpus and lexicographic resources, developing metrics for assessing text difficulty, establishing core-coverage wordlists, and helping devise innovative tools to dynamically generate drill, test, and review materials for self-directed study.

Teacher Training Workshops Conducted

“Using Video in the Classroom for Group Projects,” a two-day workshop for students and instructors, sponsored by the Center for Philippine Studies and Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Honolulu, HI, March 16-17, 2017

Designed and conducted a 2-day (6 hours the first day, 4 hours the second day) workshop for instructors and students of Tagalog and Ilokano languages at the University of Hawai'i. Demonstrated techniques for planning, shooting, and editing video, with the goal of fostering quality major video projects to be carried out by language students as part of their course requirements.

“Content-based Instruction for Southeast Asian Language Instructors,” a two-part workshop UC-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, September, 2015 and UW-Madison, Madison, WI, June, 2016

Co-designed, co-organized and co-facilitated two two-day workshops for 20 Southeast Asian language instructors from around the US, including language-group based lesson development projects following each workshop. Topics (besides lesson design) included classroom management and workflow, and syllabus design.

“Issues and Techniques in Distance Language Teaching,” a Workshop for UCLA Teachers of Less-Commonly Taught Languages, Center for World Languages, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, May, 2014

Designed and conducted a two-hour teacher training workshop focusing on concerns and strategies for distance language instructors, covering classroom-to-classroom instruction, incorporating individual distance students into an existing classroom, and facilitating student group work across remote sites.

“Teaching Southeast Asian Languages: Performance-based Instruction” National Foreign Language Resource Center, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, HI, January, 2005

Designed and conducted a two-day teacher training workshop focusing on designing curriculum and materials for teaching Southeast Asian languages to heritage students at the university level. The 30+ participants were university instructors of Khmer, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Tagalog and Ilokano from Hawai'i and California.

Center for Khmer Studies, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, October, 2004 and October, 2005

Designed and conducted a two week-long workshop for 6 (2004) and a one week-long workshop for 16 (2005) Cambodian teachers of Khmer language to foreigners. Instructed workshop participants, using hands-on, participatory methods, in classroom planning, teaching techniques and materials design. Conducted entirely in Khmer.

Education

MLS (Master's in Library Science)

Simmons College, Boston, MA, January 1994 – December, 1994

Specialized coursework in multimedia (including website) design, online information and database management.

GPA: 3.85

BA in Sociology (honors)

University of Wisconsin-Madison, August, 1985 – August, 1988

Significant coursework in Anthropology as well as Sociology. Completed 168-page Senior Honors Thesis on Cambodian peasant refugee lifeways in U.S., based on ethnographic research funded by a Knapp-Brittingham Honors Research Grant. **GPA: 3.75**

Publications

A Learner's Grammar of Khmer (including audio files of all examples used). In preparation, 2022-2023.

Phaputthahuub Saksit: Novel and Study Guide. <http://www.studylao.com/phaput.html>, 2009.

Muk Khmae: Beginning Khmer Textbook. <http://www.studykhmer.com/textbooks/beginning.html>, 2007.

Includes multimedia materials.

Extreme Khmer Video Podcast. A monthly video program documenting Khmer language and culture in Southeast Asia, intended for Khmer students who have completed Beginning level study. Available on [studykhmer.com](http://www.studykhmer.com) (see below), on *YouTube*, and via RSS subscription. 2006-2011.

studykhmer.com Website that hosts “Extreme Khmer” video podcasts, samples of Khmer textbooks, and videos on various aspects of Khmer, Lao and Thai culture: <http://www.studykhmer.com/> 2006-present.

Kamlang Phiasaa: A Khmer Heritage Language Textbook for University Level.

<http://www.studykhmer.com/textbooks/heritage.html>, 2006. Includes multimedia materials.

Thang Lao: Beginning Lao Study Guide. <http://www.studylao.com/beginning.html>, 2007 (revised 2017).

Includes multimedia materials.

Than Samay: A Lao Heritage Language Textbook for University Level. <http://www.studylao.com/heritage.html>, 2005 (revised 2017). Includes multimedia materials.

Khmer Language Training Guidelines for Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Instructors. Madison, WI: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Document, Feb., 2003.

“Review of ‘Soul Survivors: Stories of Women and Children in Cambodia,’ by Carol Wagner, et. al.,” in *Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 62, No. 1 (Feb., 2003).

Sophat: Novel and Study Guide. <http://www.studykhmer.com/textbooks/sopha.html>, 2002, revised 2008.

“Cultural Consumption: Cambodian Peasant Refugees and Television in the ‘First World,’” in May Ebihara, Carol Mortland and Judy Ledgerwood (eds.), *Cambodian Culture Since 1975: Homeland and Exile*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, pp. 141-160. 1994.

“Of Ducks, Experience, and Reading: a Bilingual ESL Project,” in Steve Reuys (ed.), *Reflections: An Anthology of Selections from the All Write News, Newsletter of the Adult Literacy Resource Institute*. Boston, MA: Adult Literacy Resource Institute, pp. 40-43. 1993.

Interpretive Accounts of the Khmer Rouge Years: Personal Experience in Cambodian Peasant World View. Madison, WI: Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Wisconsin Papers on Southeast Asia, Occasional Paper No. 18. 1989.

Professional Organizations

Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages: President, 2014-2017

Conference Presentations

The Ten-Week Semester: Curriculum Design for a Three-Site Distance Beginning Language Class Paper presented at the **Annual Conference of the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, May, 2019.

Creating Heritage Learner-Focused Textbooks: Language Pedagogy and Empowerment Paper presented at the **Third International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages**, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, February, 2018.

But the Dictator Fathered an Elephant Baby!: Task-based Political Language Instruction in Intensive Intermediate Khmer Paper presented at the **Association for Asian Studies Meeting**, Chicago, IL, March, 2015.

My Right to Free Speech: Using a 1990s Cambodian Elections PSA Video to Teach Students How to Say Things in Khmer They Take for Granted in English Paper presented at the **Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies**, Tempe, AZ, October, 2014.

Truth is More Exciting Than Fiction: Using Provocative Realia to Engage Learners in Text-Decoding

Multimedia presentation at the **22nd Annual Conference of the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, July, 2014.

Distance Intermediate Khmer: Five Years of Strategies and Outcomes Multimedia presentation at the **17th Annual Conference of the Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages**, Itasca, IL, April, 2014.

The Carrot and the Stick, Crowd Control, and Trick Tests: 14 Years of Strategic Curriculum Design and Teaching in the Intermediate Heritage Khmer Language Classroom Paper presented at the **Second International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages**, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, March, 2014.

Building a Khmer Language Program with Title VI Funding: My Life as a Grant Line Item Multimedia presentation at the **Title VI Anniversary Conference**, Washington, DC, March, 2009.

Video Podcasts: A Learning Tool that Starts After the Teaching Stops Multimedia presentation at the **17th Annual Conference of the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, July, 2007.

Telling the Customer What to Do: A Thai Sex-Worker Folk Chant. Paper presented at the **Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Chicago, IL, March, 2005.

Languages

English (native); Khmer (distinguished spoken proficiency and literacy); Thai, Lao and Northern Khmer (advanced spoken proficiency and, for Thai and Lao, advanced literacy); French (basic literacy only).