

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Academic year: 2026/2027	
University: Comenius University Bratislava	
Faculty: Faculty of Arts	
Course ID: FiF.KPR/A-boRE-352/22	Course title: Introduction to Maya Hieroglyphs
Educational activities: Type of activities: seminar Number of hours: per week: 2 per level/semester: 26 Form of the course: on-site learning	
Number of credits: 4	
Recommended semester: 16.	
Educational level: I.	
Prerequisites:	
Course requirements: Continuous assessment - Elaboration of the assignment Final evaluation - Decipherment of text+ colloquium A (100-93 %) B (92-85 %) C (84-78 %) D (77-69 %) E (68-60 %) Fx (59 % and lower) Violation of academic ethics results in the cancellation of points obtained in the relevant evaluation item. Scale of assessment (preliminary/final): Class participation - 10%Assignments - 35%Final decipherment - 55%Optional extra-points - 10%	
Learning outcomes: 1. Knowledge of the basic vocabulary and grammar of Maya hieroglyphs 2. An introductory-level sign inventory (100+ characters) and reading skills 3. Basics of the Classic Maya culture	
Class syllabus: 1. Basics, timeschedule, Maya glyphs - context and decipherment 2. Character of Maya inscriptions I. - glyphblocks, reading order, Logograms and syllabograms 3. Character of Maya inscriptions II. - phonetic complements, transcription and transliteration, vowels and consonants, synharmony and disharmony 4. Calendar systems I. - mathematics, Long count 5. Calendar systems II. - Calendar round, Distance numbers, Supplementary series 6. Group work - decipherment 7. Wrap-up	
Recommended literature: BOOT, Erik. A Preliminary Classic Maya–English/English–Classic Maya Vocabulary of Hieroglyphic Readings. Electronic document, 2002. Dostupné na: https://www.mesoweb.com/resources/vocabulary/vocabulary.pdf CALVIN, Inga. Maya Hieroglyphics Study Guide. Electronic document, 2004. Dostupné na: https://www.famsi.org/mayawriting/calvin/glyph_guide.pdf (accessed 24 August 2011). COE, Michael. Breaking the Maya Code. London: Thames & Hudson, 1992.	

JOHNSON, Scott. Translating Maya Hieroglyphs. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2013.
 KETTUNEN, Harri. a Christophe. HELMKE. Introduction to Maya Hieroglyphs. The European Association of Mayanists-Wayeb, 2020.
 LEBRUN, David. (Director). Breaking the Maya Code (Documentary). Night Fire Films, 2008.
 MACRI, Martha a LOOPER, Matthew. The New Catalog of Maya Hieroglyphs: Volume One, The Classic Period Inscriptions. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2003
 MONTGOMERY, John. How to Read Maya Hieroglyphs. Hippocrene Practical Dictionaries. New York: Hippocrene Books, 2004.

Languages necessary to complete the course:

English

Notes:

The course will be created space within Microsoft Teams with shared materials (presentations, literature).

Past grade distribution

Total number of evaluated students: 17

A	B	C	D	E	FX
94,12	0,0	0,0	0,0	5,88	0,0

Lecturers: Mgr. Jakub Špoták, PhD.

Last change: 29.06.2022

Approved by: