Agitated by ablaut?
Dumbfounded by Devanāgarī?
Puzzled by Pāṇini’s karaka-theory?

Classics 540: Introduction to Sanskrit (3 cr.)

Classics 540: Introduction to Sanskrit is a survey of the grammatical system of Classical Sanskrit as described by the illustrious Sanskrit grammarian, Pāṇini. In this course we will cover the sound system, external sandhi, nouns and verbs, ablaut, nominal compounding, and the basics of Sanskrit syntax. At the end of the semester we will introduce the Devanāgarī script and read from the Sanskrit epic of Nala. As we journey through the thicket of the Sanskrit grammatical system, we will stop and rest at grammatical points that provide easy access to Indo-European linguistics.

There are no prerequisites for this course, but if you’ve studied an ancient Indo-European language, for example, Latin, Ancient Greek, Old English, etc., it may prove helpful.

Spring semester 2017, Tuesday/Thursday at 11:30 a.m
For more info, contact: Professor Rex Wallace (rwallace@classics.umass.edu)