The Kingdom of Cambodia is a Southeast Asian country bordered by Thailand, Vietnam and Laos – and bounded by a coastline to the south. The country, with a total area of 181,035 km², is divided into 24 provinces and one special administrative region, namely the country's capital, Phnom Penh. Cambodia is therefore about half the size of Germany or a little more than twice the size of Austria.

Cambodia's official language is Khmer – also known as Cambodian – and belongs to the Austroasiatic language family. It was influenced by Sanskrit and Pali through Hinduism and Buddhism and is spoken by 17–20 million Cambodians inside and outside of Cambodia.

The Khmer language has a script of its own. It consists of 33 consonants, 24 vowels and 14 initial vowels. Unlike the neighboring countries' languages – Thai, Lao and Vietnamese – Khmer is not a tonal language.

This Khmer II language seminar (advanced course) is aimed at interested students from all departments at the University of Hamburg who want to learn the Khmer language or refresh or deepen their Khmer language skills and who are interested in the culture and history of Cambodia.

In order to take part in the Khmer II course (advanced course) in the summer semester of 2024, successful completion of the course "Introduction to Khmer I" in the winter semester of 2023 or comparable language skills is required.

Learning objectives: Through this seminar you will be able to acquire the most important basics of the Khmer language and understand and use familiar, everyday expressions as well as various types of sentences both orally and in writing. You will also be able to write simple personal letters, postcards and emails.

Registration for this course number 57-332 is possible on STiNE. More information about this and other courses can be found in our current course catalog. If you have any problems with the registration, please contact Mr. Prum, who will be happy to help you unbureaucratically!

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