Kannada, the Dravidian language of the South Indian state of Karnataka, is a classical Indian language and distinguished by its rich literary history. Today, Kannada is spoken by about 50 million people.

The course provides an introduction into classical Kannada language and classical Kannada literature. The classical literary genre *champu* will be introduced along with its form and content. Selected major texts of classical Kannada, viz. Kavirajamarga, Vaddaaraadhane, Pampa Bhaarata, Gadaayuddha, Yashodhara Charite and some Jain Purana texts will be read and studied in the course. The Reader “Classical Kannada Poetry and Prose” by C.N. Ramachandran and B.A. Viveka Rai, published in 2015, will be used as a basic text in the course.

Participants are expected to possess or acquire basic reading and writing skills of Kannada before attending the course. Study materials for the Kannada script can be sent to you upon request.

The course is taught by Prof. Dr. B.A. Viveka Rai, who is a retired professor of Kannada Literature and Folklore at the University of Mangalore. Since 2010, he is a regular guest professor at the Chair of Indology, University of Würzburg, teaching Kannada as well as courses on the culture and literature of Karnataka.

**Time and Place:**
May 30th until June 10th 2016  
Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
at the Chair of Indology,  
97074 Würzburg, Am Hubalnd,  
Philosophiegebäude, Building 8

**Please register:**
until April 15th 2016

Accommodation can be arranged upon request.  
The course is free of cost, but participants may be requested to pay for teaching materials.

**Contact:**
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