

BUASAWAN SIMMALA, Ph.D.
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QUALIFYING PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Twelve years of previous experience in translating and teaching Lao language
Previous experience teaching the U.S. military and DEA officers who were prepared to work in Laos.

Four years of experience in translating and broadcasting Lao news for Voice of America, a media agency recognized worldwide.

Translating and Interpreting English Lao

1. *Lao Translator and Broadcaster for Voice of America Radio Program* *Sept. 2008-Present*
 - Translate news into Lao and broadcast it on a daily basis.

2. *Freelance Lao and Thai Translator and Interpreter and Voice Over in Lao* *2001-Present*
 - Translate, edit and proof read translations of English documents in different fields, such as educational laws, housing and urban development policies, health insurance, work compensation agreements, news and letters into Lao and Thai for Lao and Thai living in these two countries and for immigrants in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and European countries
 - Serves as a Lao interpreter and translator from English to Lao for Lao and American high ranking officials who met in Washington D.C. (for two weeks in Summer 2002).
 - Serves as a Lao and Thai interpreter for welfare offices, clinics, and immigration custody units or prisons throughout the United States through telephone (approximately 7 hours per week for six years).
 - Transcribes for audio CDs then translating from English to Lao
 - Voicing the translated text for recording it in telephone voice messages, audio tapes or saving in MP3 files for American actors who work for King of the Hill of Twentieth First Century Fox Film Corporation in Beverly Hills, an American major broadcasting and film producing company in CA and others for (approximately 2 hours per week for two years).

Language Teaching and Standardized Test Experiences

1. *Lao as a Foreign Language Instructor for American Military and Drug Enforcement Officers*
Washington Language Center, Spring and Summer, 2009
 - Instructed and designed curriculum mainly based on communicative teaching approach to help students at both beginning and intermediate level to acquire high levels of proficiency in Lao in as short as eight weeks.
 - Tailored curriculum for teaching all four skill areas of language (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) to foreign students at both beginner and intermediate levels to four students (three European and one Korean American student).
 - Provided standardized tests to students all four language skills: speaking, reading, listening and writing.

2. *Lao Literacy Instructor and Curriculum Developer*
Department of Foreign Language and Linguistics, University Of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI, Summer 2001, Summer 2003 and 2004, Fall 2005-Spring 2006
 - Taught Lao to first generation Lao and Hmong American students at both beginning and intermediate

levels.

- Developed curriculum and testing materials for both beginning and intermediate levels.
- Selected appropriate materials to teach Lao literacy.

3. *Lao as a Foreign Language Instructor (intensive courses)*

Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute, University Of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI Summer, 2001

- Instructed and designed curriculum mainly based on communicative teaching approach to help students at both beginning and intermediate level to acquire high levels of proficiency in Lao in as short as eight weeks.
- Tailored curriculum for teaching all four skill areas of language (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) to foreign students at both beginner and intermediate levels to four students (three European and one Korean American student).
- Developed testing materials.

EXPERIENCES IN WORKING WITH US DIPLOMATS IN LAOS

Translating news, diplomatic official letters, agreements and U.S. trading regulations from English to Lao and interpreting for official meetings

Commercial Assistant

February, 05, 1995-March, 2000

Embassy of the United States of America

Vientiane, Laos

- Acted as an informal interpreter and facilitator for all negotiations of different agreements related to trade and economics, and for the visits of American Ambassadors to Lao high ranking officials, such as ministers and her/his attendance in important ceremonies, such as trade show opening ceremonies and launching a mining project in Laos (approximately 6 hours per week for four years)
- Translated documents and letters made by American officials to submit to Lao officials in different ministries (approximately 10 hours per week for five years)
- Translated news related to economics policy, laws and regulations, procedures and events from English to Lao and Lao to English for the Embassy (approximately 10 hours per week for five years).
- Provided bilateral trade-related information for both U.S. and Lao businesses, which were interested in importing-exporting goods from both countries (approximately 5 hours per week for five years)
- Conducted in-depth analysis of economic sectors (e.g. textiles, telecommunications, and tourism) for U.S. Department of State and the Department of Commerce (approximately 5 hours per week for five years)

Translating reports, and action plans in education, and rural development fields from English to Lao

Education and Women's Development and Health Care Program Officer 1993-November, 1994

Consortium for World Learning, World Education, and U.S. Save The Children Vientiane, Laos

- Translated reports and action plans in English which were made by American deputy representative and representative directors into Lao to submit to Lao related government officials in ministries of Foreign Affairs, Labor and Social Welfare, Public Health, and Education
- Reported activities related to educational and women's development projects in Lao and English for American officers and related international staff who worked in the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) program
- Trained adult literacy teachers for Lao and Hmong refugees returning from refugee camps in Thailand to resettle down in Luangprabang and Sayabouly provinces
- Assisted local government in developing budget proposals for health, education, and women's
- development of repatriate Lao and Hmong villages in Northern Laos for UNHCR

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Ph.D. in Urban Education

Focus on Adult Education

Minor in second language acquisitions

May, 2012

School of Education, University Of Wisconsin-Milwaukee,

Milwaukee, WI

Dissertation: *Cross-cultural adjustment experiences of Lao and Vietnamese international students in the U.S.*

Studied:

- Applied Linguistics for Teachers
- Pro-seminar in Linguistics
- Leadership in Multicultural Organizations
- Coordination, Staff Development, and Administration of Training Programs

M.A. In International Commerce and Public Policy, August 2002

George Mason University, School Of Public Policy

Arlington, VA

Studied:

- International Finance Institutions and Globalization
- Culture and International Commerce, and Globalization

B.A. in International Trade, 1987

Foreign Trade University

Hanoi, Vietnam

Studied:

- International Trade Relations,
- International Payment Methodologies
- International Trade Theory.

Vientiane Secondary & High School, 1974-1981

Vientiane, Laos

TRAINING

Certified Qualified Tester of Lao speaking proficiency Tester provided by American Council of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) May 27, 2008

Certified Qualified Tester of Thai speaking proficiency provided by American Council of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), March, May and Aug., 2005 Honolulu, Hawaii, and New York, NY

Certificate of DLI teaching materials developing Nov. 2008,

Arlington, VA

LANGAGE PROFICIENCY AND SKILLS

- Lao (native),
- Thai (near native)
- Vietnamese (fluent)
- French (limited)

PUBLICATION

A. Lao Language Teaching Related Publications

- Simmala, B. & Becker, B. (2003). Learning Lao for Beginners (2003). Bangkok, Thailand: Paiboon Publishing Co.

B. Lao Development Related Research and Publications

1. Well-Deng, A. & Simmala, B. (2006). Economic Integration and Social Development of Ethnic Minority Communities in Laos: Case Studies from Luang Namtha and Savannakhet Provinces, Lao PDR. Juth Pakai 6, (in Lao and English Languages), the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) of UNDP–United Nations Development Programme, Vientiane, Laos. Available at http://www.undplao.org/recent_publication.htm
2. Well-Deng, Simmala, B. & Dalpino, C. A. (2005). State Capacity and Ethnic Relations in Laos: Integration Within and Without. Contemporary Southeast Asia Journal. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (in progress).

C. Research Method Book Review

1. Simmala, B. (2005). Review of the book: Doing qualitative research by David Silverman (2nd Ed.), 2005. New Horizons in Adult Education, 19(2), 56-58. Available at <http://education.fiu.edu/newhorizons/journals/volume19no2spring2005.pdf>

LANGUAGE TEACHING AND TRAINING SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES (ATTENDED)

A. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Madison, WI, Jul. 24-29, 2005

- The 14th World Congress of Applied Linguistics

B. University of Hawai'i [National Foreign Language Resource Center](#), Honolulu, HI, Jul. 27-30, 2004

- The 2004 Summer Institute Symposium Distance Education and Distributed Learning and Language Instruction: Reports from the Field

C. American Council Of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 21-23, 2003

D. The 2003 ACTFL Convention Council of Teachers Of Southeast Asian Languages, (COTSEAL), Madison, WI, Jul. 17-19, 2003

- The 13th COTSEAL Annual Conference

E. Center for Applied Linguistics and National Foreign Language Center, Tyson's Corner, VA Oct.19-20, 2002

- The Second National Conference on Heritage Languages in America.