

University of Florida
Center for African Studies Language
Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Wolof Language
Elementary 1
Fall 2020

Instructor: Mr. Macodou Fall

Email: Macodou.fall@ufl.edu

Classroom/Time: M 3.05-4.05p ; T 4.05 – 4.55p; W 1.05-1.55p; R 3.30 – 4.20p

Online

Language learning objectives

This course, designed to beginners, aims at providing the linguistic and communicational skills needed in most dialogs. The class offers a variety of competences related to reading, writing, listening as well as speaking. Regarding the needs of the Foreign Language Standards, this course will integrate activities that are embedded in both traditional and modern Senegambian society, which include all aspects emphasizing the 5 Cs (Communication, Cultures, Communities, Connections, and Comparisons). Students will have access to authentic material that will be part of the lessons within each unit. This will assist learners in their understanding of the everyday usage of the language as well as help them manage their exposure to authentic Wolof material.

Course Objectives: At the end of the course, a student should:

- a) Be able to read and write Wolof
- b) Be able to understand the basic ways to communicate in Wolof
- c) Be able to acquire basic speaking and listening skills
- d) Be exposed to Senegambian rich and diverse culture
- e) Acquire necessary communication skills that can allow them to be engaged in dialogues.

Required Materials:

Nanu Dégg Wolof (Omar Ka, NALRC, WI) available on Amazon and from publisher

Hand-outs will be emailed to students when necessary

Lecture Notes provided by Instructor

Methods of Instruction: Classes will be directed according to the language skills targeted in the course objective. Students are expected to engage in both reading and conversational activities as well as providing suggestions about relevant outside classroom activities. Activities are communicative and aim at transforming the classroom into a “Wolof society in miniature” and facilitate the acquisition of both language and culture.

Listening section: Students will listen to an audio or audiovisual record and they are expected to ask questions according to their understanding of the material. Also, students are expected to conduct dialogs engaging the instructor.

Grammar section: Students' understanding of syntax (sentence structures/formation) will be evaluated through multiple choice or other sentence completion and gap-filling activities.

Reading Section: Reading abilities will be tested through short texts, stories, and poems. Learners will be asked to respond to questions that would verify their understanding of the material.

Writing section: Students will write determined length of paragraphs/essays on the specific topics that have been discussed in class.

Class Requirements and Evaluation:

a. Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory and students are required to actively participate in all classroom's activities. As you are all Wolof language lovers, I expect you to be well engaged and give suggestions about particular class activities.

b. Students conduct: Be courteous and act in respectful manners

All students are expected:

- Pay attention when the instructor or your fellow student is speaking.
- Take notes, and be ready to participate.
- Bring all your learning materials in every class: textbook, dictionary, manuals, notes...

c. Evaluation/Testing

1. Assignments: At the end of each lesson, an assignment will be given to students. Assignments are in different forms and they will cover all the four language skills.

2. Personal dictionary: A personal Wolof/English dictionary will be submitted by email at the end of the semester. The dictionary must be arranged in the Wolof alphabetical order and must include:

- As much lexical items (seen in class) as possible
- Specify the grammatical nature of each lexical item. E.g.: ndox = water (noun) and ndox mi (the determiner). For complex lexical items, use additional examples to explain the lexical item.
E.g: *war (aux) = should*. E.g.: *Man war naa dem lekkool tay* (I should go to school today)

Do not copy from other dictionary words that have not been seen in class.

Build your dictionary on a daily basis to help yourself in the timing.

Make sure that you can easily use the words you include in your dictionary.

Course-mark Breakdown- Attendance and class participation: 10%

- Personal dictionary: 20%
- Quizzes: 15%
- Assignments: 10%
- Mid-term exam: 20%
- Final exam: 25%

Grading Scale

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| - A: 94-100 | A-: 90-93 |
| - B+: 85-89 | B-: 80-84 |
| - C: 70 – 74 | C: 67- 69 |
| - D+: 60 – 63 | D: 55 – 59 |
| - D-: 50-54 | F: 54 and below |

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Course introduction, Wolof alphabet, and classroom phrases

- Lesson 1: Course Introduction and a Taste of Wolof Greetings
- Lesson 2: Classroom phrases (thank you, I do not understand, Please, repeat, I am sorry).
- Lesson 3: Part 1 Wolof Alphabet (with vocabularies driven from the Alphabet)
- Lesson 4: Part 2 Wolof Alphabet (with vocabularies driven from the Alphabet)

Week 2: Greetings, Introducing Self and Others

- Lesson 1: Greetings (Include culturally appropriate greetings) and leave-taking expressions (good-bye, see you, have a good day...)
- Lesson 2: Introducing self (Name and surname)
- Lesson 3: Addressing self and others (I, me, you, them, she, he)
- Lesson 4: Glossary of Useful vocabularies and Practical exercises (Gender in Wolof and other familiar names: i.e: mother, father, friend...)

Week 3: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking Exercises (Jàng ak dégg-dégg)

- Lesson 1: Reading Exercise & Dialogue on greetings
- Lesson 2: Writing exercise (students will write and read dialogue between two persons)

- Lesson 3: Listening Exercise (students will listen to a scenario played by the instructor and fill in responses from the dialogue)
- Lesson 4: Speaking Exercise (students will discuss with fellow students where they live, come from, what they study)

Week 4: Basic Concepts Part 1

- Lesson 1: Wolof calendar, date, and times of the day
 - a- Days of the week, months of the year
 - Dialogue practice on days of the week and months of the year:
 - Q: Tey la ban bis/bes? – Q: Tey la ban weer? – A: Tey la...
- Lesson 2: Wolof calendar 2
 - b– Date in Wolof Q: Tey lan kañ? – A: Tey la...
 - Dialogue practice on complete date in Wolof (days, date, and months)
- Lesson 3: Times of the Day and Clock Time
- Lesson 4: Counting Money

Week 5: Basic Concepts Part 2

- Lesson 1: Colors
- Lesson 2: Shapes
- Lesson 3: Amount (many, few)
- Lesson 4: Sizes (big/small)
- Comprehensive Test 1-

Week 6: Counting and Recognizing Family Members

- Lesson 1: Counting Family
- Lesson 2: Recognizing the Extended Family in Senegambia (See Nanu Dégg Wolof p.38-39-40)
- Lesson 3: Vocabulary (Common Objects)
- Lesson 4: Vocabulary (Names of Places)

Week 7: Grammar and Conjugation Part 1

- Lesson 1: NGI Conjugation (present and ING forms)
- Lesson 2: NA Conjugation and the Imperative
- Lesson 3: The Future Tense and the expression of: Dinaa, dinga, dina in sentences
- Lesson 4: The predicator LA in the singular (See Nanu Dégg Wolof p.29-33)
 - Q: Wolof (nga/la) jang (have you or has he studied Wolof)? A: Waaw Wolof
 - (laa/la) jang (Yes, I/he Studied Wolof)
- Comprehensive Test 2: Grammar

Week 8: Grammar and Conjugation Part 2

- Lesson 1: The Independent / Emphatic pronouns
 - i.e: Makoddu **laa** tudd (Makoddu is my name)
- Lesson 2: Possessive Pronouns
 - i.e: **Sama** yaay (my mother); **Sa** baay (your father)...
- Lesson 3: Articles Definite and Indefinite
 - i.e: Taalibe **bi** - the student (right here); taalibe **ba** - the student (over there); woto **yii** (these cars); **ay** woto (cars)...
- Lesson 4: The Auxiliary Verbs (see notes from Nanu Dégg Wolof p.207)
 - i.e: War (must, should); Bëgg (to want to); Mën (can)
- *Midterm exams (oral and written)*

Communicating in the target culture

Week 9: Means of transport and understanding directions

- Lesson 1: Reading and understanding transport in Senegal
 - (See *Nanu Jang Wolof* , p.70-71 *Waruwaay ci Senegaal* or Transport in Senegal)
- Lesson 2: Identifying forms of transportation in Senegal (Q&A from *Nanu Jang*)

Wolof p.71)

- Lesson 3: Asking for directions to the store
- Lesson 4: Giving directions

Week 10: Shopping at the market

- Lesson 1: Reading – “*Ndugg ca Marse ba*” (Shopping at the market)
- Lesson 2: Identifying products (Lii lan la?)
- Lesson 3: Bargaining (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* 110)
- Lesson 4: Grammar note with the use of benefactive al in sentences to make an order

Week 11: Food and Social Life

- Lesson 1: Eating and Types of food (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* 65 to 69)
- Lesson 2: Tea Time and tea drinking in Senegambia (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* p.82)
- Lesson 3: Ordering food at a restaurant (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* p.69)
- Lesson 4: Ceremonies and Celebrations (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* p.205)

Week 12: Health

- Lesson 1 – Saying one is sick
- Lesson 2 – Visit to the doctor
- Lesson 3 – Personal Hygiene routine
- Lesson 4 – Hospitals and traditional doctors

Week 12: Body parts

- Lesson 1 – Identifying the parts of the body
- Lesson 2 – Body sizes
- Lesson 3 – Wolof cultural attire
- Lesson 4 – At the salon

- *Comprehensive Test 3 - written/oral assignmen*

Week 14: Housing

- Lesson 1 – Type of residence
- Lesson 2 - My bedroom
- Lesson 3 – My bathroom
- Lesson 4 – The Kitchen

Week 15: Social Life

- Lesson 1: Eating and Types of food (See *Nanu Degg Wolof* 65 to 69)
- Lesson 2: Tea Time and tea drinking in Senegambia (p.82)
- Lesson 3: Ordering food at a restaurant (69)
- Lesson 4: Ceremonies and Celebrations (205)
- *Final Exam (oral and written)*