

**SWW 4100: Readings in Swahili Literature**  
Section 07DB  
**Spring 2019**

Tuesdays 8-9 & Thursdays 9th Period  
**WEIM 1076**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course concentrates on developing of expository writing skills with increased emphasis on conversational fluency, comprehension and usage of advanced level grammar, and ability to acquire information, knowledge, and critical-thinking skill through reading Swahili texts drawn from a variety of authentic sources especially those from the media and modern Swahili authors and composers (i.e., comics, video music, poetry, film), illustrative of cultural life in the Swahili speaking communities.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Students should demonstrate the ability to

- **express** themselves freely and spontaneously, and for the most part accurately, on concrete topics and on most complex issues.
- **deliver** detailed presentations, usually with accuracy, clarity and precision, on a variety of topics and issues related to the Swahili speaking communities
- **write** extensively with significant precision and detail on a variety of topics, most complex issues, and some special fields of expertise.
- **understand** the main idea and most supporting details on a variety of topics of personal and general interest.
- easily **follow** narrative, informational, and descriptive speech, understand discussions on mot topics, and follow extended arguments.

**COURSE EVALUATION**

**Responsibilities, Assignments, and Grading**

Reading/viewing assigned texts, conducting internet search, and attending class are of course the keys to the success of this course. They are the foundation for what goes on in the course. Every individual's active participation is expected. Topics explored and discussed in this class guide us to achieve the set objectives.

Your course grade will be based on a combination of class attendance & participation, oral presentations, reading/viewing quizzes and short essays per selected groups of Swahili texts:

Films .....	10%
Comics/Caroons.....	10%
Novels .....	10%
Poetry/poems.....	10%
Music/lyrics.....	10%
Taarabu .....	10%
The Media .....	20%
Research project .....	20%

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100%

The authorized letter grades (A, B, C, D, E) are as follows:

**A** = 95-100; **A-** = 90-94; **B+** = 87-89; **B** = 83-86; **B-** = 80-82; **C+** = 77-79; **C** = 73-76; **C-** = 70-72; **D+** = 67-70; **D** = 63-66; **D-** = 60-62; **E** = 59 and below.

**Grade Points:**

**A** = 4.0; **A-** = 3.67; **B+** = 3.33; **B** = 3.0; **B-** = 2.67; **C+** = 2.33; **C** = 2.0; **C-** = 1.67; **D+** = 1.33; **D** = 1.0; **D-** = 0.67; **E** = 0.0

**Academic Honesty**

The University of Florida's honor code requires all students to be honest in their academic work. University policies on cheating, plagiarism, and related issues are available at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>

**Students with disabilities**

Students with disabilities will be accommodated accordingly. Those requesting such accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office which will provide them with documentation.

**Minor in African Studies**

Please note that this course, in combination with others, can count towards a Minor in African studies, an ideal complement to your disciplinary major. For more information contact Dr. Todd Leedy: [tleedy@africa.ufl.edu](mailto:tleedy@africa.ufl.edu)

**TEXTS**

Poetry, M.M. Mulokozi (*Mulika* Na. 21)

Poems: (newspapers; *Anthology of Swahili Poetry – Amina & Siku Kumi za Mgeni; Sauti ya Dhiki – 'Mnazi'*)

Taarab music (Shakila)

Films: "Nyange Kigoma", *Bongoland II*, Filamu nzuri kutoka Tanzania, *Arusi ya Mariam*.

Online newspapers

Online comic strips: *KATUNI INASEMA, KIPANYA*

Video music (Zilipendwa & Hip hop –bongofleva))

## **SCHEDULE**

**WEEK 1:** Review syllabus & basic conceptual terms.

**WEEK 2:** Describing & discussing pictures/blogs.

**WEEK 3:** Analyzing & discussing cartoons

**WEEK 4:** Analyzing & discussing cartoons

**WEEK 5:** "Amina" poem and poems in newspapers.

**WEEK 6:** Watching and discussing a Swahili film: "*Nyange Kigoma*"

**WEEK 7:** "*Nyange Kigoma*"

**WEEK 8:** "*Nyange Kigoma*".

**WEEK 9: Spring Break**

**WEEK 10:** Online newspapers.

**WEEK 11:** Taarabu music (Shakila)

**WEEK 12:** Taarabu music

**WEEK 13:** Research project: topic and synopsis.

**WEEK 14:** Research project: schedule and methodology.

**WEEK 15:** Research project: class presentations.

**WEEK 16:** Research project: final draft of the research proposal.