

WOL 1130: BEGINNING WOLOF 2

Spring 2020

Ustler 101

M T W R F: 10:40am – 11:30am

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Office Hours: Mondays 1-3pm or by appointment

**Course Description:** This is a four-skill Wolof course leading towards elementary proficiency in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and cultural understanding. Students will be trained using the communicative teaching approach. It will combine written and oral practice based on major cultural aspects of traditional and modern Wolof society. These exercises will include oral production, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, and writing.

**Course Objectives:** At the end of this semester, students should

- be able to recognize all contrastive sounds and distinguish question and answer intonation.
- be able to hold a basic conversation in Wolof, to ask as well as answer questions.
- be able to correctly spell, read, and interpret written text in areas of practical need covered in the course materials.
- be able to develop insight into Wolof culture, and Senegalese culture in general.

**Course Materials:**

*Required Text:* **Nanu Dégg Wolof**, Omar Ka, NALRC Press, 2009

*Recommended: Dictionary:* Pamela Munro and Dieynaba Gaye, **Ay Baati Wolof-A Wolof Dictionary**, (revised edition). UCLA Occasional Papers in Linguistics, Number 19. Los Angeles:UCLA Department of Linguistics, 1997.

NB: In the course of the semester additional materials will be designed in case of needs or for a better teaching/learning process.

**Classroom procedures:**

The teaching/learning process in this class will emphasize speaking, listening and communication rather than only book-based reading and writing. Consequently, it is indispensable that students attend class everyday that we meet. Because students will be partly graded on their daily participation, they are expected to attend every class, and be on

time. When there are homework assignments, students must turn them in on time. The instructor is under no obligation to accept overdue homework assignments or test.

The classroom is the students' primary source of information and practice.

**Communication in the classroom will be primarily in Wolof.** However, to respond to some basic comprehensive needs, the use of English will be favored in certain contexts for a more effective delivery of the material.

Any student who needs additional help can let me know via e-mail or during office hours. In addition, o the textbook materials, Wolof cultural discussions will be organized, some Wolof musicians will be listened to and songs studied, and Senegalese movies will periodically be watched and discussed, especially as far as their socio-cultural implications are concerned.

### **Grades and Course Requirements**

Students' grades will be assessed according to their classroom attendance, participation, homework assignments, quizzes, and exams.

- **Attendance and class participation (20%):** Attendance is mandatory, and students are expected to participate in role plays, discussions and drills. Warm-up session students are encouraged to prepare a few basic questions to ask in a 5-minute warm-up session.
- **Quizzes (15%):** There will be a quiz at the end of each chapter.
- **Wolof production (15%):** Each student is expected to either write a short story, record a short poetry, or provide any creative production in Wolof. This is expected to be presented on the last week.
- **Midterm exam (25%):** Combines oral and written tasks on everything before the date of the exam.
- **Final Exam: (25%):** Exam week. Will include all the material covered in class. Combines oral and written tasks.

### **Grade Scale**

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F+
93-	90-	87-	83-	80-	77-	74-	70-	67-	63-	60-	below
100	92	89	86	82	79	76	73	69	66	62	60

Things to keep in mind:

- The use of the target language in class is required; however, if you do not understand

something you can ask your question in English, I will make sure you understand.

- Learning a new language is not an easy task for all; therefore, do not feel like when it is hard for you to get it, you are failing.
- There is a high chance that we will not get to everything that's on the syllabus, but luckily you are expected to take the course again in the Spring; therefore, we can pick up where we left off in the Fall.
- If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask either in class or by emailing me.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

\*Note: the schedule is subject to change depending on the progress of the learning process of the class

#### **Week 1: Brief review, Syllabus**

##### **At the Corner Store**

- Buying items
- Counting money
- Cultural note: the neighborhood store (bitik)
- Grammar: Numbers and nouns, the genitive construction, expressing possession

##### **Week 2: Tea Time**

- The Attaaya ceremony
- Cultural note: How people socialize in Senegambia
- Grammar: the *NA* conjugation, the ordinal numbers, the question words *Ana* and *Naka*

##### **Week 3: Using Means of Transportation**

###### **Quiz 1**

- Getting Around
- Means of transportation and social conventions
- Grammar: The demonstratives, the possessives in plural, the *DA* conjugation

##### **Week 4: Shopping at the market**

- How people buy clothes and dress in Senegambia
- Bargaining (*waxaale*)
- Types of clothing
- Family and religious ceremonies
- Grammar: the noun classes, the object pronouns in plural, the benefactive suffix *-al*

##### **Week 5: Clothing and Fashion**

###### **Quiz 2**

- Bargaining for clothes
- Expressing Negation
- Expressing "every" vs "all"
- Expressing "one" vs "another"

### **Week 6: Telling Time**

- What time is it?
- Divisions of the day
- Division of the week
- The A conjugation

### **Week 7: Visiting Relatives**

#### Quiz 3

- The imperfect aspect
- Expressing the future
- The position of the object pronoun
- Locating the pronoun *fi* and *fa*

### **Week 8: Review & Midterm (Feb 24-28)**

### **Week 9: Spring Break**

### **Week 10: Village Hospitality**

- Cultural notes: The village leader
- The past tense suffix -oon
- Expressing “another one” vs “every one”

### **Week 11: Farming**

#### Quiz 4

- Diary of a farmer
- The seasons in Senegambia
- The imperfective past *doon*
- *doon* and *daan* in the negative

### **Week 12: Giving Directions**

- Cultural note 1: the *Pénc*
- Cultural note 2: Right vs left
- Cultural note 3: The cardinal points
- The locative prepositions

### **Week 13: Ceremonies and Celebrations**

#### Quiz 5

- Cultural Note 1: Family ceremonies and celebrations
- Cultural Note 2: Naming a child in Senegambia
- The auxiliary verbs
- The imperative negative

### **Week 14: Forms of Entertainment**

- The talking drum events
- Cultural Note 1: Wrestling
- Cultural Note 2: the *sabar*
- Temporal clauses
- Conditional clause

## **Week 15 Review & Final Exam**