

WOL 1130: BEGINNING WOLOF 1

Fall 2019

M T W R F: 12:50pm – 1:40pm

Instructor: Moustapha Hoyerck

Email: mhoyerck@ufl.edu

Office: 450 Grinter

Office Hours: 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, on 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 (10%):** Attendance is mandatory, and students are expected to participate in role plays, discussions and drills. Warm-up session: Starting in week 3, every time we meet, 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 on every Thursday or Friday of the week beginning on the third week of the semester.
- **Assignments (15%):** Written assignments will be graded and some of them will be done in class.
- **Midterm exam (25%):** Combines oral and written tasks on everything before the date of the exam.
- **Final Project (10%):** The format and content of the final project will be discussed later in class.
- **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+
93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	74-76	70-73	67-69	63-66	60-62	below 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

- Introduction
- Who speaks Wolof and where
- The Alphabet: Spelling and Pronunciation
- Key Grammatical characteristics

WEEK 2: Meeting Between Strangers

- Demba Njaay ak Nafi Sekk
- Formal Greetings
- Cultural Notes
- Greetings vocabulary and videos
- Pronunciation and Spelling guide

WEEK 3: Meeting Between Friends

- Aram ak Badu
- Informal greetings
- Simple and Long vowels
- Simple and Double consonants
- Quiz 1

Film: *Mandat Bi*

WEEK 4: Friends

- Identifying yourself and others
- Cultural note
- Grammar: The predicator *LA* in the singular
- Major cities in Senegal and Gambia
- Quiz 2

- The Independent/Emphatic Pronouns
- Senegalese music, video clips and media

Week 5:

- Review
- Quiz 3 and Assignment 3
- Film: *Guelwaar*
- Discussion about polygamy

Week 6: Identifying Someone Else

- Identifying a person (kii kan la?), an object (lii lan la?), a place (fii fan la?)
- The Family
- Grammar: The Identifying Predicator *LA* and the Predicator *LA* in a negative form
- Cultural Note
- Quiz 4

Week 7: Identifying others and their social status

- Family relationships, Geographic origin
- Cultural Note: married women and maiden names
- Grammar: The predicator *LA* in the plural and the negative plural
- Demonstrative pronouns and question words
- The possessives in the first and second persons
- The suffix *-kat*
- Quiz 5

WEEK 8: Midterm week

- Review
- Midterm Exam: Written and Oral

Week 9: Eating

- Meals and food etiquette
- ndekki* (breakfast), *añ* (lunch), *reer* (dinner)
- Main dishes
- Grammar: The imperative, *Kaay ak Amm*, the object pronouns, expressing ongoing actions
- The suffix *-e*

Quiz 6

Week 9: At the Corner Store

- Buying items
- Counting money
- Cultural note: the neighborhood store (bitik)
- Grammar: Numbers and nouns, the genitive construction, expressing possession
- Quiz 7

Week 10: 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*

-Film: *La Pirogue*

Quiz 7

Week 11: Review and Discussions

Quiz 8

Week 12: 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*

Quiz 9

Week 13: (continued)

Quiz 10

Week 14: Using Means of Transportation

-Getting Around

-Means of transportation and social conventions

-Grammar: The demonstratives, the possessives in plural, the *DA* conjugation

Week 15: Review and Final Project

Final Exam