

Yor. 2201(07D2): Intermediate Yoruba II (2019 spring)

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Period: 7 M.W.F (1:55-2:45pm)
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Credits: 3
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YORÙBÁ People and their LANGUAGE

Yorùbá is a tonal language spoken in Nigeria by about thirty million people and in the neighboring countries of the Republic of Benin and Togo. In Nigeria, Yorùbá speakers reside in the Southwest region in states such as Oyo, Ogun, Osun, Ondo, Ekiti, Lagos, Kogi and Kwara states. Yorùbá is a Kwa language, which belongs to the Yoruboid group. Apart from about 30 million native speakers of the language found in south-western Nigeria and South-eastern Benin Republic, there are also descendants of Yoruba people transported to the New World during the Transatlantic slavery of 18th to 19th centuries; most especially in Brazil, Cuba, Haiti, Trinidad, Puerto Rico, etc who speak variations of the language.

Yoruba is a tonal language and so it is important to pay attention to the tones in the language. Tones occur on the syllable in Yoruba but in the orthography, tones are marked on vowels and syllabic nasals. There are three basic tones of different pitch levels in Yoruba: High, Mid and Low. In the writing system, the High and Low are marked with (´) and (˘) respectively, over the vowel. The mid tone is generally unmarked except where there might be ambiguity or confusion.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES.

This course is a continuation of Beginning Yoruba. It picks up from where First Year Yoruba ends. Emphasis will be on reinforcing the basic structures that were learned during the Beginners' Year through oral and aural activities, and increasing the level of active vocabulary through more reading and writing. More authentic texts will be provided for reading activities to expose students to authentic Yorùbá writings and cultures. By the end of the session, students are expected to have reached the intermediate middle or intermediate high level in oral proficiency.

REQUIRED TEXTS.

Our main text for the course will be: Schleicher, A. Y. F, (1993) **Jé Ká Ka Yorùbá**

New Haven & London: Yale University Press. (ISBN Number 0-300-07145-0). Get a personal copy of this textbook from the University Bookshop by 1 day of class. A course pack consisting of a language workbook and grammar workbook to

A Yoruba Dictionary is strongly recommended.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS.

To achieve our set objectives, regular class attendance, punctuality and active participation in class discussions are required. In addition, we will be using the language laboratory once every week; lab day will be announced in class at appropriate time.

COURSE EVALUATION.

Attendance and Class participation: **100**

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and to have done the assignments for that day. The class attendance and participation grade will be based on whether the student is prepared for class or not. Students are encouraged to ask questions, participate in drills and discussions and volunteer answers. More than **THREE** absences will lower the class participation grade.

Course work (take-home assignments and class Quizzes): **200**

Students will be given a number of take-home assignments and quizzes during the semester. There will be no make-up quizzes except for unavoidable circumstances.

Mid-Semester test **200**

This will involve both written (**150**) and oral (**50**) presentations

Weekly Journals: **150**

Final Semester examination: **350**

This will also involve both written (**200**) and oral (**150**) presentations

Grade Correspondence:

90-100 =A	70-74 =C
85-89 =B+	65-69 =D+
80-84 =B	60-64 =D
75-79 =C+	59-50 =E
	49-0 =F

General

Feel free to ask questions during class sessions so that you are not overwhelmed by the amount of information you will receive. However, if there are issues that cannot be resolved in class, you are encouraged to use my office hours or just send me an email. I look forward to a rewarding semester with you all. Do not forget to inform us of your birthday so that we can sing happy birthday in Yoruba as you mark the day.

Important Dates to Note: January 21: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Spring Break: - March 2nd to 9th

Classes end April 24

Reading days April 25 – 26

Final exam: April/01/2019 @ 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Weeks 1-2 (Monday January 7th , 9th 11th 14th 16th -18th)

The first week will be used for review of some important facts of grammar and effective ways of studying a new language. What new features are in the syllabus this semester?

Topic: Review Greetings- Schleicher: Preliminary Lesson. A review of how to learn a foreign language.

Topic: Health and learning parts of the body, Schleicher: **4th Lesson**

Function: Talking about one's health

Grammar: Expressing pain and illness, use of the negative maker "a!" and vowel elision

Reading: Yoruba folktale on Mr. Tortoise and his friend (page 75), what lessons can you learn from this story. Write your impression in Yoruba

Weeks 3 & 4 (January 21st to February 1st)

Topic: More on the market system, the different types of markets

Function: Write two paragraphs about hawking one's products In Yoruba (pages 83 to 84)

Grammar: Use of "oni-" summary of question forms, difference between "eéloo" and "elelòó"

Reading: Essay on Yoruba market (pages 91/93-94)

Schleicher: 5th Lesson

Weeks 5-6 (February 4th to 15th)

Topic: Leisure time activities (pages 101 to 102)

Function: Class activity talk about your leisure time activities

Writing letters in Yoruba how to start and how to end them. (page 107)

Grammar: Unreal Conditional form "iba"

Reading: Folktale on Mr. Tortoise and the Elephant (pages 111-112)

What do you learn from this story? Pay attention to the names of the characters in the story. How does it relate to how humans use animals for medical trial in these modern times?

Weeks 7& 8 (February 18th to March 1st)

Topic: Home training and raising children

Function: Class assignment, talk about how you were brought up and compare to how Yoruba people bring up their children.

Grammar: Review negations; what do you remember about negations

Reading: Conclusion of Folktale on Mr. Tortoise and the Elephant (pages 124 to 126).

Schleicher: **8th Lesson**

Mid-Semester review and test

Spring Break: - March 2nd to 9th

Week 10 (March 11th to 15th)

The poem Take care of your character/ behavior.

How do Yoruba people view everyday survival? (**Page 127**)

Different kinds of Government jobs (**pages 131 to 132** focuses on the different kinds of Police jobs) Which aspect of their job will you like to do?

Write about your experience or encounter with a Police officer in Gainesville. If not yours, research about someone else's and write it in Yoruba.

Grammar: Expressing phrases such as "each....every month (pages 133 to 134)

Use of the particle fi (recall the difference between lo and fi)

Expressing comparative and superlative forms. Remember Yoruba does not have words constructions like Good, Better Best. How does the language express best?

Weeks 11-12 (March 18th to 29th)

What are taxes in Yoruba? Who pays and why? (**Page 137**)

What do you know about taxes in America or in any other country? Express what you know in Yoruba. Include this in your weekly journal.

The poem on Money. What is the attitude of Yoruba people to money? (page 140)

9th Chapter Traditional jobs. What are they?

Write an essay on one of the traditional jobs you are familiar with.

Weeks 12-13 (April 2nd to 13th)

Continue Schleicher: **9th Lesson** ...

Grammar: Different ways to use the word lati (recall what happens when you use fẹran and a verb, what must follow fẹran before the verb?).

Reading & comprehension: Handy work (page 148)

Poem: Work is the antidote to poverty (**page 150**)

What are your thoughts on poverty? Why are people poor? Write your thoughts in Yoruba.

Weeks **14&15** (April 16th to 24th)

10th Chapter (pages 153 to 154). Food preparation and culture of eating

Grammar: Review of fi and lo, more on the use of the relative clause Marker tí

Naming ceremony (pages 159 to 161)

Meaning of names

Poem: Idowu-The Third born after twins

What did you learn about this child? Write your description in Yoruba

Class end April 24th

Week Final revision and exam.

Final Exam: 4/30/2019 @ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Reading days April 25 – 26

Assignments during the semester that will make up for 200 points and dates due

- (1). First one is due **January 18, 2019**—Write an essay on greeting in Yoruba. Why is it important and give examples of how to greet people who are sick, a woman who has just given birth, a family who just suffered loss, people enjoying themselves, a person at work, someone traveling,
- (2). Write a page about your experience at a market in Nigeria, if you do not have any experience ask someone who has been to the market. **Due February 1st**
- (3). You are at a market, haggle for the price of the product that you want to buy. Choose a product; decide on how much it will cost initially and how much you are prepared to pay finally. There must be at least 4 steps before the final price is agreed upon.....**Due Feb 15th**
- (4). Write a summary in English of the passage on taxes (page 137 to 138)..**March 1st**
- (5). Write one page about a farmer, start by telling us the type of farmer he or she is, include what the farmer does on the farm, the crops he or she cultivates, how he sells his harvest and how rich or poor you think farmers are. Due **March 15th**
- (6) Home training of children. Write a page about the different methods of home training in Yoruba culture Due **March 29th**
- (7). **April 15th** Learning any language can be difficult, write a page in Yoruba about how a student can learn Yoruba. (25 points)
- (8). Due **April 24th** Two of your friends are hungry and both told you about their hunger. Write a page telling us what happened from when they told you and about your deciding to go to a Yoruba restaurant to eat. Talk about different kinds of Yoruba foods and drinks you had and how much in total you paid for the three of you.