

**University of Florida**  
**Center for African Studies**  
**Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures**  
**Wolof Language**  
**Elementary Wolof 2**  
**Spring 2021**

Instructor: Mr. Macodou Fall  
Email: Macodou.fall@ufl.edu  
Classroom/Time: M,T,W 4.05 – 4.55p; Th-1-1.50p  
Online

**Language learning objectives**

This course is designed for Elementary Wolof learners and it aims to provide 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.

**Required Materials:**

- *Nanu Jang Wolof* by Mame Marame Seck
- *Nanu Dégg Wolof* by Omar Ka (NALRC, WI)
- Lecture notes by the instructor

**Additional Materials**

- *Wolof Lexicon and Grammar* (Sana Camara, NALRC, WI)
- YouTube, Internet, Video cassettes, CDs, computers, pictures
- Original dialogs, stories, and texts. Plus some preparations from both the instructor and learners

**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. Quizzes will be held as remedial tasks in order to ensure objectivity and comprehension of material covered.

**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**

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| - <b>A:</b> 94-100   | <b>A-:</b> 90-93  |
| - <b>B+:</b> 85-89   | <b>B-:</b> 80-84  |
| - <b>C:</b> 70 – 74  | <b>C:</b> 67- 69  |
| - <b>D+:</b> 60 – 63 | <b>D:</b> 55 – 59 |

- **D**:50-54

**F**: 54 and below

### **Class Schedule:**

#### **Week 1: Class Introduction and General Review**

- Presentation of the syllabus
- *First Meeting Dialog* (introducing self and others)
- General Review (calendar, date, Wolof conjugation)

#### **Week 2: Review of the possessive case and Articles Definite and indefinite**

- The Possessive Case:
  - Review of the Singular and Implementation through writing
    - \*\*i.e: **Sama** yaay (my mother); **Sa** baay (your father)...
- a. Implementing the possessive through writing
  - 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)...
- The Auxiliary Verbs (see notes from Nanu Dégg Wolof p.207)
  - i.e: War (must, should); Bëgg (to want to); Mën (can)

### **Week 3: Basic Concepts**

- Times of the Day and Clock Time
- Counting Money
- Colors, Shapes, Sizes

### **Week 4: Wolof Adverbs**

- Asking Questions or Interrogative Forms in Wolof
  - \*\*Kii kan la? Lii lan la? Fii fan la? Etc...(who, what, where, ....)
- Application activities (selected texts from *Nanu Jang Wolof*)
- Group work and Dialogue (waxtaan)

### **Week 5: Counting and Recognizing Family Members**

- Comprehensive Test 1- Grammar
- Counting Family Members
- Recognizing the extended Family in Senegambia (See *Nanu Dégg Wolof* p.38-39-40)
- Introducing People and Family Members to each other
- Activities on family relations

### **Week 5: Body Parts**

- Identifying the body parts
- Body Sizes
- Wolof cultural attire
- Text Based Dialogue: At the Hair Salon

### **Week 6: Shopping at the Market**

- Reading – “*Ndugg ca Marse ba*” (Shopping at the market)
- Identifying products (Lii lan la?)
- Bargaining (waxaale)
- Grammar notes with the use of benefactive **al** in sentences
- Practice through dramatization and role play

### **Week 7: Giving Directions**

- Comprehensive Test 2 – Reading/Listening
- Reading and understanding transport in Senegal
- Giving directions (hand-outs from *CIEE* textbook)
- Asking for directions to the store and other places
- Speaking practice

### **Week 8: Means of Transportation and fares**

- Identifying forms of transportation in Senegal (Q&A from *Nanu Jang Wolof* p.71)
- Discussion on selected topics (riding public transportation, describing traffic jams in Dakar.....)
- General Review
- Midterm exams (oral and written)*

### **Week 9: Transport and its Challenges of transportation during the rainy season**

- “*Yoon amul ci tali bi*” (from *Nanu Jang Wolof* p.77)
- Jàng ag dégg-dégg (Reading and understanding)
- Tërélinu Baat yi:

- 1-Reciprocal in Wolof
- 2-Review of Wolof Adverbs
- Reading and Understanding *Mbënn mi ci Senegal* (Flood in Senegal)
  - \*\*Laa ak Tontu (Q&A) from the text *Mbënn mi (Nanu Jang Wolof p.79)*
- Thione Seck: Booy *dawal bul waxtaan* (Do not talk when driving)
  - \*\*Description of the scenarios in the videoclip

### **Week 10: Food and Ordering Food**

- Reading from and practice *Nanu Jang Wolof p.65* “*Ayca leen ñu añ*”
- Eating and types of food
- Lexis related to cooking, serving, ordering, prices
- Ordering a meal in Wolof
- The Use of Emphatic pronouns in sentences *LA* (singular and plural)
- Follow-up: Assignment on ordering and Q&A

### **Week 11: Social Life**

- Teatime and Drinking in Senegambia
  - \*\**Lewël bi wex na* (text from *Nanu Degg Wolof p.97*)
- Reading and understanding
- Dialogue and Q&A from *Lewël bi wex na*
- Ceremonies and Celebrations
  - \*\*Birth Ceremony (Dialogue from *Nanu Degg Wolof p.205*)
- Review of the Question words *ANA* and *NAKA*, NA conjugation and ordinal numbers
- Cultural Notes and Review of on-going action

### **Week 12: Forms of Entertainment**

- Reading Activity: “*Soo bëggee, dinanu demca sabar ga*” (from *Nanu Degg Wolof p.205*)
  - \*\*Wrestling and Sabar as Senegambian Pastimes
- Talking sports: winning and losing
  - Use of the auxiliary *mujj*
- Review of temporal and conditional clauses
- Cultural notes on Wrestling in Senegambia
- *Comprehensive Test 3 - written/oral assignments*

**Week 13: General Review**

- General Review
- Submission of final personal dictionaries
- Discussion on selected topics

**Week 14: Final Exam**

- *Final Exam (oral and written)*

*Na Nu Yálla Jàppale!*