University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department of Linguistics, Spring 2015

Elementary Wolof II: AFST 242 & WLOF 202

Instructor: Mor Gueye, E-mail: [gueye2@illinois.edu](mailto:gueye2@illinois.edu)

Language coordinator: Dr. Kristina Riedel, [kriedel@illinois.edu](mailto:kriedel@illinois.edu) (FLB 3045)

Office hours: Room 4108 FLB, M&T 12-1pm (by appointment)

Class schedule: MTWR: 11 – 11: 50 in Room 1112 FLB and F: 11 – 11: 50 in G7 FLB

Required text: Omar KA, *Nanu Dégg Wolof: A Multidimensional Approach to the Teaching and Learning of Wolof as a Foreign Language*, NALRC Press: Madison, WI, 2009.

Dictionaries:

1. 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. (electronic version available)
2. Sana Camara (2006). *Wolof Lexicon and Grammar*. Madison, Wisconsin: NALRC Press. [ISBN: 978-1-59703-012-0 (soft cover)] /

Web materials:

1. Culture talk Senegal: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/culturetalk/senegal/index.html>
2. Langmedia: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/collection/lm_senegal/sn_index.html>
3. the 200 Word project (Boston University): <http://www.bu.edu/200word/>
4. MSU Rich Internet Applications for Language Learning:

<http://clear.msu.edu/teaching/online/ria/>

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**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. From a general perspective, at the end of this course, students will be able to communicate their basic needs in Wolof.

**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 every day that we meet. Because students will be partly graded on their daily participation, they are expected to attend every class, and be on time. Tardiness of more than 10 minutes is unacceptable and is considered as an absence. After 3 unexcused absences, students lose 1% of their grade for every class they miss or late more than 10 minutes. The instructor is under no obligation to accept overdue homework assignments or test. In case the instructor accepts to take students' late assignment based upon a non-medical or non-emergency justification, the student will lose 5 points for every day that the assignment is late.

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.

NB: Use of cell phones during class time is not allowed and can seriously affect overall grade.

**Extra-curricular activities:**

Students may earn extra credit worth up to 5% of their total final grade by doing extra work on their own or by attending relevant events hosted by the Wolof program or other organizations, provided these are relevant to the course. You must sign in at any event hosted by the Wolof/LCTL program. For any other event you attend you must give a short written summary and reflection (in Wolof or English) to your instructor. Extra credit can be earned up to a maximum of 5% of the total final grade (earning 0.5% per event attended or summary produced). Email all summaries to your instructor or submit them on paper in class before the extra credit deadline.

**Assessments**

1. There will be seven graded homework assignments. Generally, the exercises will be on short comprehensions, writing and grammar based on topics that will be covered in class.
2. The course will have five tests. The test with the lowest grade will be dropped.
3. Students are required to produce four podcasts
4. Students are required to produce a final podcast.
5. There will be a written midterm exam and a final written exam.
6. Both the midterm and the final exams have an oral section

**Grades:**

Students' grades will be calculated according to their classroom participation, attendance, assignments, tests, and exams. If a student misses more than five classes, his/her final grade will be dropped one letter grade. The midterm and the final exams will both have an oral section. See below for a description of the grading:

Attendance & Participation: 10%

Writing assignments: 15%

Podcasts and online activities: 20%

Tests: 20%

Midterm exam: 15%

Final exam: 20%

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| A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | F+ |
| 97-100 | 93-96 | 90-92 | 87-89 | 83-86 | 80-82 | 77-79 | 74-76 | 70-73 | 67-69 | 63-66 | 60-62 | Below 60 |

**Course responsibilities:**

Evaluations are expected to be turned on due date. Any student who needs additional help can also inform the instructor via e-mail or call as early as possible. From time to time, Wolof cultural discussions will be organized, some Wolof musicians will be listened to and songs studied. It also can be extended to some Senegalese movies mainly for certain socio-cultural implications.

**Course Outline**

Ayubés 1 [1/20 – 1/23]

* Review
* Waxtaan: Naka say feet?
* Wonale: ci waakër, njàng, ak liggééy
* **Homework A**

Ayubés 2-3 [1/27 – 1/30, 2/2 – 2/6]

* Text: Ci fajukaay bi
* A conjugation (review)
* Na conjugation (review)
* Waxtaan: Ci sibbiru ci Senegaal
* Déglul baat yi: Màndargay sibbiru ak jàddaaral
* **Homework B**
* **Test 1: Tuesday February 3rd**
* **Podcast 1**

Ayubés 4-5 [2/9 – 2/13, 2/16 – 2/20]

* Ci lekkukaay bi
* Future Conjugation (review)
* Ongoing action
* Review Lujum ak meññeef
* Cultural discussion: Ci mbirum làng ci Senegal
* Déglul baat yi: Li nekk ci biir waañ wi
* **Homework C**
* **Test 2: Tuesday February 17th**
* **Podcast 2**

Ayubés 6-7 [2/23 – 2/27, 3/2 – 3/6]

* Songs: Li ma weesu (Yuusu Nduur), Taajabóón (Ismael Lo)
* Déglul baat yi: Xeeti liggééy yi
* Names of professions and school subjects
* Expression of “no longer” *–atuma* and “not yet” –*aguma*
* Adjectives
* Cultural discussion: Ban liggééy nga bëgg def? Lan nga bëgg nekk?
* **Homework D**
* **Test 3: Tuesday March 3rd**
* **Podcast 3**

Ayubés 8-9 [3/9 – 3/13, 3/16 – 3/20]

* Text: Xew yi ci Senegaal
* Déglul baat yi: Ci mbiru colin ak xew yi
* Past tense **Midterm exam: March 19**
* Waxtaan: Sañse ak làng ci Senegaal
* Ngénté (namimg ceremony), Dëj (funerals), Céét (wedding)
* **Homework E**

Ayubés 11-12 [3/30 – 4/3, 4/6 – 4/10]

* Text: Kéwél ak bukki (study of a folktale)
* Déglul baat yi: Rabi àll yi
* The imperfective markers
* Cultural discussion: A sketch portraying a proverb
* **Homework F**
* **Test 4: Tuesday April 7th**
* **Podcast 4**

Ayubés 13-14 [4/13 – 4/17, 4/20 – 4/24]

* Text: Ca are kaar ba
* Déglul baat yi: liggééykat yi
* Tabaxinu baat yi (1)
* Cultural discussion: film
* Means of transportation
* Directions and maps: Tektal
* **Homework G**
* **Test 5: Tuesday April 21st**

Ayubés 15-16 [4/27 – 5/1, 5/4 – 5/6]

* Ay waxtaan
* Ay way ci Wolof: Adduna bett nga ma (by Thione Seck)
* Bind ay taalif yu gàtt ci Wolof
* Tabaxinu baat yi (2)
* Cultural discussion
* Review
* **Final exam (Oral and written) TBA**