Course title: Advanced Kiswahili
Course code: SWAH 3001 TANZ
Programs offering course: Community Development, Language, and Culture
Language of instruction: Kiswahili
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

This course is designed for students whose native language is not Swahili. The course aims at improving knowledge and skill levels in the Swahili language through speaking, reading, and writing.

Students will engage in an initial proficiency evaluation during orientation and will participate in ongoing intensive Kiswahili each day during the first week of orientation to build upon their existing knowledge.

During the on-campus phase of the program, students will have daily classroom instruction in order to build upon their existing language skills and to teach students technical language specific to their upcoming field work and homestay living situations. These in-class lessons will be structured to meet the needs of the students based on their existing proficiency.

Students will be accompanied to the one-month, homestay field component by the Swahili instructor to continue their structured language learning in an embedded, homestay setting.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:
- Memorize, analyze, and reproduce most Swahili sentence constructions
- Use general vocabulary for general interest topics
- Compose sentences into paragraphs by using connectors with only occasional grasping for words
- Accurately compose works using idiomatic expressions
- Construct sentences that are understood without difficult by speakers unaccustomed to dealing with foreigners

Course Prerequisites

Successful completion of an intermediate Swahili class.

Methods of Instruction

In order to meet objectives of the course the following activities will be used in the class:
- The intermediate grammatical points will be reviewed through different activities like peer teaching, translation of different material pertaining to noun classes, verb endings, improving vocabulary inventory games, comparison exercises, as well as community contact assignments.
- Open Conversation: students will be encouraged to speak on any topic of their choice during class. There will be no requirement to prepare the topics of open conversation before class.
- Prepared Speeches: Students will be asked to make a number of prepared speeches on a variety of topics throughout the semester and present these speeches in class.
- Prepared speeches should reflect much deeper thinking and the usage of appropriate, specialized vocabulary for the topic to be selected by the student. The speeches will be presented aloud in class.
- Reading Comprehension: Students will be presented with texts containing new words that can be used to convey different meanings. Students will answer questions about the text to show their understanding of the new words depending on the context.
- Composition: Students will write stories and essays about different topics in order to apply and improve their usage of the Swahili language.
**Vocabulary**: Students will receive materials to study, including vocabulary lists and a list of Swahili proverbs and idiomatic expressions.

**Field Assignments**: During the field component, students will be given conversation topics and questions which must be completed via conversations with locals.

**Students** are encouraged to use the host families and the community as a language learning laboratory. After their research exercise, students are required to make their research presentation in Swahili.

**NOTE**: Special attention inside and outside the class is given to **SPEAKING SWAHILI ALL THE TIME**.

### Assessment and Final Grade

1. Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities  
   10%
2. Essays  
   10%
3. Mid-term Exam  
   20%
4. Prepared speeches  
   20%
5. Final Written Exam  
   30%
6. Class Participation  
   10%

**TOTAL**  
100%

### Course Requirements

**Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities**

These will be assigned throughout the semester and consist of worksheets to be filled out in class.

**Essays**

Two essays of 450 words each will be assigned throughout the semester and will be graded according to a provided rubric.

**Mid-term Exam**

This exam will include all content from the first half of the course.

**Prepared speeches**

This includes one prepared speech of five minutes to be given in front of the class and graded according to a provided rubric and two external assignments in the community. These external assignments are a bargaining activity and a personal interview. Students will record the interactions and submit them for grading. The student will also be expected to prepare and present the research presentation in Swahili at the end of the course.

**Final Written Exam**

The exam will include all content from the course. It will be graded according to the US grading system.

**Class Participation**

Late papers will be marked down 10% after the first day and 5% for each additional day. No coursework will be accepted after the last day of class. Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will result in a failing grade for the class. All students will be expected to participate fully in all class sessions.

**Attendance**

Attendance will be taken daily. Students may miss one class without being penalized. Any absence after this will have to be excused by a doctor’s note. Tardiness will affect the final grade.

*Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.*

### Weekly Schedule

**Week 1**

Class: Orientation Week

(advanced, intermediate, and beginning students will be combined in one class for review and evaluation) Introduction to class
Greetings

Introductions

Present tense, subject prefixes, and the verb “to be”

**Week 2**
Class: Written and oral exercises

Students will be given a variety of exercises to gauge where they are with the Swahili language

**Week 3**
Class: Review of all grammar from beginning and intermediate levels

This includes all topics covered in these levels

**Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities**

**Week 4**
Class: Noun classes and presentations

M/wa class, ki/vi class, m/mi class

**Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities**

**Week 5**
Class: Noun classes and presentations

Ji/ma class, n class, u class, ku- class

Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities **Essay due**

**Week 6**
Class: Noun classes and peer teaching

Review of all noun classes and preparation for midterm

**Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities**

**Week 7**
Class: Noun classes and peer teaching

Review of all noun classes and preparation for midterm

**Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities**

**Week 8**
Class: Mid-term Exam

Verb endings and peer teaching

Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities **Prepared speech due**

**Week 9**
Class: Vocabulary exercises and peer teaching

Reading comprehension and vocabulary activities **Essay due**

**Week 10**
Class: Homestay in the village

Speeches

Essay writing
Storytelling
Reading

Community contact assignments (bargaining and personal interview)

Week 11
Class: Homestay in the village
Speeches
Essay writing
Storytelling
Reading
Community contact assignments (bargaining and personal interview)

Week 12
Class: Homestay in the village
Speeches
Essay writing
Storytelling
Reading
Community contact assignments (bargaining and personal interview)

Week 13
Class: Homestay in the village
Speeches
Essay writing
Storytelling
Reading
Community contact assignments (bargaining and personal interview)

Week 14
Class: Prepare for final exam and research presentation

Week 15
Class: Final exam and research presentation

Course Materials
Readings
Handouts and materials as provided by the teacher