

Course Information:

SWA 1: Elementary Swahili, 1st quarter
Fall 2016 9-9:50am
M, T, W, R, F Media Lab, Powell Library
Final Exam: TBA

4 units, no prerequisites

Class Webpage: <https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/16F-AFLANG1A-1>



Instructor: Olga Ivanova
Office Hours: TBA
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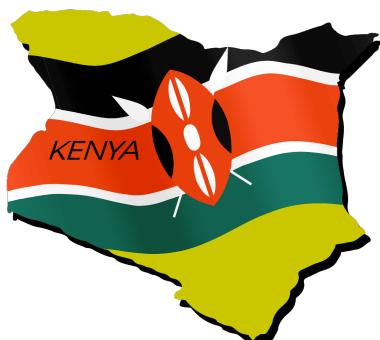
Teaching philosophy:

My goal is to provide an interactive environment in which you can immerse yourself in Swahili while gaining competency in the language and its culture(s). In class I try to make things fun and encourage you so that you will not be afraid to make mistakes. However, I believe in rigorous testing of what you have learned, through homework, quizzes, and exams, and will grade you according to how well you are able to demonstrate competency in Swahili.

Course objectives:

First Quarter Swahili is intended for students with no previous experience with Swahili. The course is designed to help you learn enough about Swahili to enable you to handle your needs adequately in basic conversations with East Africans. You will be able to talk about yourself and your preferences, needs, and interests in the past, present and future time. You will learn to greet others, introduce yourself, handle basic social situations, and talk about a variety of topics of common interest. You will learn to read and write Swahili in past, present and future time and how to understand written and spoken Swahili well enough to carry out routine tasks and engage in simple conversations. You will also learn about some aspects of everyday culture in East Africa.

My focus will be on standard Swahili, the dialect taught in East African textbooks. In later quarters you may learn slang and/or other forms of non-standard Swahili.

Tips on Succeeding in the Course:

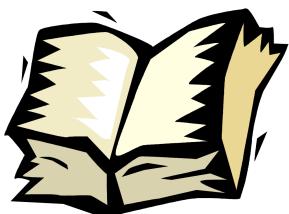
The course is divided into two major components designed to address different skills in complementary ways.

1. The first component is time spent in the classroom, where listening, speaking, and interacting in culturally appropriate ways are my goals. Swahili will be the medium of instruction and interaction; you will learn how to ask, "How do you say ... in Swahili?" and other necessary vocabulary that will enable

you to use only Swahili in class. Before class, you should study each week's vocabulary and grammar so that we can review it in class without using English. If you need an English explanation for something, please see the instructor outside of class for help.

Because class work focuses on oral performance, the textbook will not be used in class and you will not need to bring it with you. In class, you should try to limit time spent writing down new vocabulary or grammatical points, because generally these will have already been provided to you via the course web site, handouts, or your books. Use class time instead primarily for listening and speaking.

2. The other component occurs outside of the classroom, involving a textbook, interactive multimedia technology, and personal interaction. Learning that takes place out of the classroom is designed to prepare you for class work by familiarizing you with material that will be covered in class as well as to provide follow-up activities for review and assessment. Using texts and multimedia technology to address reading, writing and grammar skills allows us to use our limited classroom time as an opportunity for (primarily but not exclusively) oral communication and interaction. Assignments that involve English either in the instructions or in your responses will take place only outside of class.



Materials:

Thomas J. Hinnebusch and Sarah M. Mirza. *Kiswahili: Msingi wa Kusema, Kusoma, na Kuandika*. [referred to as Hinnebusch in the quarter schedule of assignments]

Katrina Daly Thompson and Antonia Schleicher. *Swahili Learners' Reference Grammar* [referred to as the grammar book in the quarter schedule of assignments].

Nicholas Awde. *Swahili-English / English-Swahili Dictionary*.

TUKI Kamusi Kiswahili-Kiingereza

I will occasionally ask you to bring materials (photos, etc.) to class with you.

Classroom Policies

Attendance

You will be graded every day for your oral performance, so you should understand that frequent or extended absences will not allow you to develop your oral skills and will therefore influence my evaluation of your oral performance. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what material was covered during your absence. I do appreciate it when students let me know that they will miss class.

Using any mobile devices, such as phones/laptops/planchets, is not allowed at any time during the class.

Tardiness

You are expected to arrive on time everyday. You will lose 1 or more points out of your 5 Oral Performance points if you arrive late. I do appreciate it when students apologize for being late and/or offer an explanation.

Participation

You are expected to come to class prepared and to participate actively in conversation with your partner, with me, and with the rest of the class. You will have ample opportunities to volunteer to speak; please don't wait for me to call on you. You should participate just as actively in online discussions as you do in class.

Code of conduct

Because this course meets everyday and we will be interacting extensively, you will probably learn more about your classmates than you do in other classes. Please treat one another with respect.

Academic integrity

Academic honesty requires that the course work (homework, quizzes, examinations, papers) you present to me honestly and accurately indicate your own academic efforts. Quizzes, exams, and homework must be done without the aid of outside materials, including dictionary.

Grading policies:

Oral Performance	30%
Homework	15%
Quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	20%
Meza (Swahili table)	5%

The number of points associated with an assignment is an indication of its relative weight. If you have questions about your grades, please come see me during office hours. I will not discuss grades by email or over the phone. At the end of the quarter, you will receive a letter grade using the following scale (+/- may be added to any grade).

1. Oral Performance 30%

Your oral performance will be evaluated based on oral participation in class **every day**. Using English in class will negatively affect your oral performance grade. Each day I will assign you an oral performance grade from 0-5.

2. Homework 15%

See the Quarter Schedule of Assignments for details.

3. Quizzes 15%

Quizzes will be given approximately once a week. Quizzes will be completed on-line, using the class website. Unannounced, in-class quizzes are also possible at any time. See the Quarter Schedule of Assignments for details.

4. Midterm Exam 15%

A written midterm exam will be given in class after Chapter 5 (a 50-minute exam). Students who need more time due to learning disabilities should let me know immediately. Absence from exams will be excused only if you provide me with **written proof** of a medical reason for your absence. Make-up exams will not be given. While quizzes and homework may test discrete grammar points or vocabulary items, exams will require you to synthesize everything you have learned and to perform activities similar to those you might encounter while using Swahili in real life.

5. Final Exam 20%

A written final exam will be given in class during exam week (a 3-hour exam). Students who need more time due to learning disabilities should let me know immediately. Absence from exams will be excused only if you provide me with written proof of a medical reason for your absence. Make-up exams will not be given. While quizzes and homework may test discrete grammar points or vocabulary items, exams will require you to synthesize everything you have learned and to perform activities similar to those you might encounter while using Swahili in real life.

6. Meza (Swahili table) 5%

You are required to participate at **one** Swahili table **each week**. Swahili table meets at or near Northern Lights coffee shop, North Campus Student Union, and may include students from upper levels of Swahili and/or other Swahili speakers.

Days and times will be scheduled in class early in the quarter. Participating at more than one Swahili table in one week will earn you extra credit and hopefully improve your oral performance. While talking with your classmates in Swahili will be difficult at first, you are expected to converse in Swahili only; this will get easier over time. You should **NOT** use Swahili table as a time to do homework.

You will earn **1 point** each time you attend meza, if someone turns in a list of those present. Signing your name to the meza attendance sheet is your promise to me that you have attended meza for a full hour and have spoken Swahili as much as possible while there. In general I will take your word on this. However, if I am at meza and notice that you arrive late, leave early, and/or do not speak Swahili, I will give you an appropriate fraction of a point.