

LIN 4930/LIN 6571: Structure of Swahili
Spring 2020, T 5-6 (AND 0101), R 6 (AND0019)

Instructor: Brent Henderson
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Course Description:

This course offers description and discussion of the linguistic structure of Swahili: phonology, morphology and syntax; as well as providing instruction in linguistic analysis and argumentation skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify and discuss linguistic facts about the Swahili language;
- Identify and discussion basic linguistic structures present in the Swahili language and how they related to similar structures in other languages
- Study sets of data in order to arrive at and argue for linguistic analyses using conventional argumentation methods, identify the necessary structural elements at the word and sentence levels, and discuss your conclusions in the light of existing literature.

Prerequisites

The prerequisites for this class is LIN3010 or equivalent background in linguistics.

Textbook:

There is no textbook for this course.

All readings will be made available on our Canvas site. A bibliography appears at the end of this syllabus and will be updated as the semester goes along.

Laptop/Cell phone policy

Research has shown that multitasking with a laptop in class not only reducing a student's performance, but the performance of all the students sitting near them (see Sana et al 2013; <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254>). Therefore, laptop and cell phone use are not permitted in our class. If you have a compelling reason for an exception to this rule, please let me know.

Course Requirements:

1. Readings/Participation (15%). You are expected to keep up with reading and come to class prepared to ask and answer questions and participate in discussion. It's a small class, so this will be vital to the success of the course. **You are required to come to each class with one written question about one of that week's readings.** It must be a genuine question you have about the topic - either something you didn't understand about the reading, or a question that the reading raised for you. We will discuss these in class.
2. Analysis Assignments. (40%). We will have 3-4 analysis assignments. These will consist of a data set and an analysis prompt asking you to provide a detailed analysis of the data with accompanying discussion and argumentation. You will be required to write a short paper (less than 10 pages) in response.
3. Article presentations. (20%) You get to teach the class! You are required to lead two discussions this semester based on one of our readings. You will prepare a handout, present the article, and lead discussion.
4. End of Course exam. (25%). Our end of course exam will test what you've learned about Swahili structure and analysis.

Grading Scale:

The course grading scale is the one recommended by CLAS: Other info on UF grading policies can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
90 or above	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	67-69	64-66	60-63	57-59	56 or below

OTHER COURSE ISSUES

Canvas

All class resources, including readings and assignments, will be posted on our Canvas site. Grades will also be posted there.

Attendance

Attendance is not a grade by itself, but will affect your class participation grade. You cannot turn in your question assignment without being present in class unless you have a documented excuse for class absence. Absences will be excused in accordance with UF policy. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, & military obligation:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. These need to be

documented excuses. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself about the material covered. Our class time is very valuable. Please do not be late.

Make up work

Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, make-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me on return to classes.

Late and Make-Up Work:

No late work will be accepted or make-ups will be offered unless the student offers a legitimate documented excuse. See Attendance above.

Student Conduct:

Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code may be found here:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Or may be saved as *The Orange Book*:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/08/The-Orange-Book-Web.pdf>

Academic Honesty

Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic misconduct have no place here and won't be tolerated. Committing such an act will result in a report to the Dean of Students and an E for the course. If you have any question about what does and do not count as an act of academic misconduct, please consult the University Honor Code

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php> and talk with your instructor.

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Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information see <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- ☐ U Matter, We Care: umatter@ufl.edu; 392-1575
- ☐ Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> ; 392-1575
- ☐ Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- ☐ University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- ☐ E-learning technical support: Learningsupport@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> ; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- ☐ Career Resource Center: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1601
- ☐ Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- ☐ Teaching Center: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- ☐ Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> ; 846-1138

Course Evaluation

“Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.”

Tentative Schedule:

Week 1:	Overview and history of work on linguistics
Week 2-3	Phonetics and Phonology
Weeks 4-7	Morphology
Weeks 8-12	Syntax
Weeks 13-14	Semantics
Week 15:	Exam

No Class:	1/23	Dr. Henderson in NY
	3/3, 3/5	Spring Break
	3/22, 3/24	(Lectures for these days will be online)

Week 1 Readings: History and Background

Nurse, D. and T Spear. 1985. The Swahili: Reconstructing the history and language of an African Society, 800-1500. (At least chapter 1)

De Vere Allen, James. Swahili Origins. 1993. (Foreward, pp 1-19)

Nurse, D., T Hinnebusch and G Philipson. 1993. Swahili and Sabaki: a linguistic history. (Chapter 1)

Weeks 2-3: Phonology

Contini-Morava. 1997 Swahili Phonology. In Kaye et al. Phonologies of Asia and Africa.

Marten, L. 1996. Vowel Harmony in Swahili. SOAS working papers.

Stress in Swahili.