

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY – AFRICA
SWA 1000: BEGINNING SWAHILI 1
COURSE SYLLABUS
COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the history, origin and spread of Swahili; basic greetings, basic vocabulary, pronunciation, noun class system, verb structure, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, sentence structure.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course the student is expected to:

- Have acquired knowledge on basic grammatical structures of Swahili
- Be able to use appropriately the various greetings in Swahili
- Pronounce Swahili words correctly
- Have the ability to use basic vocabulary in Swahili
- Have the ability to speak and write basic Swahili
- Be able to comprehend simple conversations in Swahili
- Be able to participate in simple conversations in Swahili

COURSE CONTENT

The course will include the following topics:

Week 1: General Introduction

- Historical background of Kiswahili
- International and National significance of Kiswahili
- Basic sound structure and pronunciation
- Identification and greetings

Week 2: Basic vocabulary and structure

- Roots, stems and affixes in Kiswahili
- The Family

Week 3: Basic vocabulary and Structure

- Days of the week
- Months of the year
- Noun classes- M/Wa class

Week 4: Basic Vocabulary and Structure

- Parts of the body
- Numerals (1-50)
- Money (counting)
- Noun classes M/Mi class

Week 5: Basic Vocabulary and structure

- Foods and drinks
- Telling time
- Noun classes Ki/Vi class

Week 6: Basic Vocabulary and Structure

- Transport
- Sports
- Nature
- Noun classes Ji/Ma class

Week 7: Basic Structure: Pronouns and tense marking

- Personal pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- Tense marking – present tense – NA-

MID QUARTER EXAMINATIONS

Week 8: Basic Structure: Pronouns and tense marking

- Demonstrative pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- Tense marking – Past tense –Li-

Week 9: Basic Structure: Pronouns and tense marking

- Relative pronouns
- Tense marking – future –TA-
- Noun classes –N- class

Week 10: Interrogatives

- Interrogative – Adverbs
- Interrogative - Pronouns
- Interrogative – Adjectives
- Noun classes –U- class

Week 11: Other parts of speech

- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Noun Classes – pa – ku – m(u)-class

Week 12: Basic Structure

- Basic word order
- Simple sentences
- Tense marking: past perfect – ME-

Week 13: basic structure

- Simple sentences
- Verbs – Auxiliaries-
- Revision

Week 14: FINAL EXAMINATION

TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

- Lectures
- Dialogue and group work
- Oral exercises
- Reading exercises
- Written assignments

COURSE TEXT:

- P.M Wilson Simplified Swahili (Nairobi: Kenya Literature Bureau, 1977)
- F. Johnson A Standard Swahili – English Dictionary (Nairobi: Oxford University press, 1986)
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COURSE EVALUATION:

Final Examination	25%
Mid-quarter	20%
Oral Presentation	10%
Assignments	15%
Quiz/Dictation	10%
Attendance & Participation	10%
Dialogue/Group Work	10%
Total	100%