



LEARNING ABROAD CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

August & Winter Break Intensive French in Senegal

Course Details

Course Designator & Number: SNGL 1004

Number of Credits: 4 Credits

Language of Instruction: French

Contact Hours: 60 hours

Course Description

This course is designed for students who have already taken beginning level courses of French and now desire to deepen their knowledge of the language while living in a French speaking country, Senegal, through language instruction and interaction with native speakers. It consists of language exposure in class and outside the class. The core components of language learning, that is, listening, speaking, reading and writing will be covered. All the materials will be context-based as students are learning the language in Senegal. Language and culture are therefore intertwined in this course.

Course Objectives

This course aims at introducing students to Senegalese society and culture through French language instruction. Students will be exposed to the French language through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Methodology

This course combines common course sessions with specialized sections for each level of linguistic ability.

Required Reading / Materials

Newspapers: *Le Soleil*, *l'Observateur*, and *Sud Quotidien*.

Novels: *Soudjata Keita ou l'Épopée Mandingue* by Djibril Tamsir Niane, *La Grève des bàttu* by Aminata Sow Fall, *Une si longue Lettre* by Mariama Ba, *L'enfant Noir*, by Laye Camara, *l'Aventure ambiguë*, by Cheikh Hamidou Kane.

Film: *Xala* by Ousmane Sembene

Grading

Grading Rubric

| Letter Grade | Score or Percentage | Description |
|--------------|---------------------|--|
| A | 93–100 | Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. |
| A- | 90–92 | Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements. |
| B+ | 87–89 | |
| B | 83–86 | |
| B- | 80–82 | Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect. |
| C+ | 77–79 | |
| C | 73–76 | |
| C- | 70–72 | Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to fully meet the course requirements. |
| D+ | 67–69 | |
| D | 60–66 | |
| F | 0–59 | Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I. |

Summary of How Grades Are Weighted

| Assignments | Percentage of Grade |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Attendance and Participation | 15% |
| Homework Assignments | 10% |
| Midterm Exam | 25% |
| Final Exam | 25% |
| Class Presentation | 25% |
| Overall Grade | 100% |

Assessment Details

Assignments

You will be given an assignment every day to be turned in the next day. Failure to turn in one's assignment will result in lowering one's grade.

Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend every single class and actively participate in all classroom discussions.

Midterm Exam

There will be a midterm exam that covers half of the program. The midterm has both written and oral parts.

Final Exam

There will be a final exam that covers the whole program. The final exam also has both written and oral parts.

Course Content

Common Classes

Day 1, Session 1

- Introducing self and others

Day 1, Session 2

- Introducing self and others (continued)
- **Reading:** Soundjata ou l'Epopée Mandingue

Day 2, Session 1

- Knowing about your environment
- **Reading:** La greve des Bàttu by Aminata Sow Fall

Day 2, Session 2

- Knowing about Senegalese family and family values
- **Film:** Xala by Sembene Ousmane

Day 3, Session 1

- Knowing about Senegalese traditional education system
- **Reading:** L'Enfant Noir by Laye Camara, l'Aventure ambiguë by Cheikh Hamidou Kane

Day 3, Session 2

- Knowing about religion in Senegal
- **Reading:** to be provided by the instructor

Day 4, Session 1

- Knowing about living conditions in Senegal
- Reading: to be provided by instructor

Day 4, Session 2

- Knowing about social events in Senegal

Day 5, Session 1

- Knowing about Senegalese politics

Day 5, Session 2

- Final Exam

1004 Specialized Classes

30 minutes seront consacrées chaque jour à une discussion sur un article de journal.

Day 6

- Révision: Verbes au Présent de l'indicatif

Day 7

- Révision: Présent de l'indicatif des verbes irréguliers

Day 8

- Révision: Pronoms COD et COI

Day 9

- Révision: Interrogation : recueillir et donner des informations

Day 10

- **La famille sénégalaise**
- Etude de texte et discussion

Day 11

- Les prépositions : orienter et situer

Day 12

- Lexique personnel
- La négation: refuser et s'excuser

Day 13

- **Le conte**
- Etude et explication de texte

- Le passé composé
- Imparfait de l'indicatif

Day 14

- Révision : les adjectifs et leurs accords
- Révision: les nombres
- Exprimer des quantités

Day 15

- **Le Conditionnel**
- **Examen Oral**

3015 Specialized Classes

30 minutes seront consacrées chaque jour à une discussion sur un article de journal.

Day 1

- Révision: Verbes au Présent de l'indicatif

Day 2

- Lexique personnel
- Révision: le passé composé : raconter une histoire, énumérer une série d'actions au passé

Day 3

- Révision: Pronoms COD et COI

Day 4

- Les adjectifs et pronoms démonstratifs

Day 5

- **Le café Touba**
- Etude de texte et discussion

Day 6

- Les pronoms relatifs : comment modifier les noms

Day 7

- L'interrogation : comment recueillir et donner des informations

Day 8

- Lexique personnel
- Le subjonctif présent

Day 9

- Le conditionnel : exprimer ses ambitions et sa volonté

Day 10

- **L'économie informelle**
- Etude et explication de texte

Day 11

- L'impératif : donner des ordres ou des instructions

Day 12

- Le pluriel des noms

Day 13

- **Les pronoms Y et EN**
- **Examen Oral**

3016 Specialized Classes

30 minutes seront consacrées chaque jour à une discussion sur un article de journal.

Day 1

- Révision: Verbes au Présent de l'indicatif

Day 2

- Révision: les adjectifs et pronoms démonstratifs

Day 3

- Révision: Pronoms COD et COI

Day 4

- Les pronoms relatifs : comment modifier les noms

Day 5

- **Le village Wolof**
- Etude de texte et discussion

Day 6

- Les pronoms Y et EN

Day 7

- Le futur : exprimer des actions à venir

Day 8

- Lexique personnel
- Le subjonctif

Day 9

- Le conditionnel : exprimer ses ambitions et sa volonté

Day 10

- **Genre et relations de genre au Sénégal**
- Etude et explication de texte

Day 11

- La négation : refuser et s'excuser

Day 12

- La voie passive

Day 13

- **Les formes et l'emploi de l'infinitif**
- **Examen Oral**

Policies

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the on-site syllabus for specific class requirements.

University of Minnesota Policies & Procedures

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

Student Conduct

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found [on the Learning Abroad Center website](#).