

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, ST. AUGUSTINE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION
CENTRE FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING**

COURSE DOCUMENTATION

COURSE TITLE: LEVEL 2B YORUBA

SEMESTER: I

LEVEL: I

PREREQUISITES: LEVEL 2A YORUBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Level 2B Yoruba course builds on the content covered in Levels 2A, 1B and 1A Yoruba and continues to introduce and deepen students' knowledge of some aspects of Yoruba culture and daily life. Students of this course are required to have some prior formal knowledge of the language. This course is specifically designed to provide intermediate students with the information to promote their receptive skills that will assist in the mastering of the language. Yoruba is a tonal language as such, the class will continue to sensitize the students to the importance of tonal accents on vowels in words, their meaning and contextual usage. To this end the focus will still be on word articulation, contextual usage and cultural values but with more emphasis placed on grammar, while also developing the four skills involved in language learning (i.e. reading, writing, listening and speaking).

Upon completion of this course, students should have the knowledge and skills and demonstrate the attitude expected at the level A2 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) [http:// www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_en.pdf) and mid Novice level of American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Proficiency Guidelines 2012 (ACTFL) <http://d2k4mc04236t2s.cloudfront.net/wpcontent/uploads/2014/12/ACTFL%20Assessments%20Brochure.pdf>

Students are required to attend four hours of class per week over the course of the semester, either on weekdays or on Saturdays. In addition, students are expected to spend time on self-study to prepare for classes and to review and consolidate work done in class. Students are also encouraged to develop a repertoire of strategies to promote their autonomy as language learners.

Additionally, although classes are a good chance to develop the four language skills, emphasis will also be placed on oral comprehension and production, as well as on the analysis of various short texts and dialogues. In this way, the course aims to strengthen students' performance in communicative and immersion scenarios of Yoruba as a foreign language.

COURSE RATIONALE:

Language learning at all levels and in all languages is normally intensive, requiring regular and frequent contact with the language both inside and outside the classroom. This is even more so for Yoruba, which is classified as a Category IV language.

The aim of this course as every other language course at the CLL is to enable students to participate in the target language at the particular level. It is designed for people who are interested in interacting with Yoruba people in a way that will permit them to pursue social, religious and other goals in the Yoruba society. Thus, attention is paid to the way students grasp and recall the alphabet, tonal accents and sounds and contextual usage of words and sentences as these are central to the learning and understanding the language.

As you are becoming familiar with the course structure and expectations, as well as the basics of the Yoruba language, students will be continued to be introduced to writing, culture and value system of the Yoruba people. Whether they are speaking, reading, or writing, these are crucial to determining how well they grasps and comprehend the language. Once students are accustomed to articulating Yoruba words correctly and speaking in Yoruba in class, they will be further encouraged to build on this until they are comfortable using the language in front of strangers.

The course establishes a foundation that will allow students to continue their studies in Yoruba. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be eligible to begin Yoruba Level 3.

COORDINATOR INFORMATION:

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Tutor information

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LETTER TO THE STUDENT

Dear Student,

Welcome to Level 2 of the Yoruba course. We are going to have a busy and productive semester filled with exciting language and cultural activities. Throughout the semester we shall be using a variety of resources, including technology, to help you develop accurate pronunciation and understanding of the Yoruba language and culture. I look forward to working with each of you this year!

A student of Yoruba will require a longer instructional period to reach the higher proficiency levels, in comparison to the time required by a learner of a Category I language such as French or Spanish. You should plan to spend twice as much time in self-study, working on the language, as you spend in class.

Language learning can be challenging. Do not hesitate to ask for help. Together, we can work through the difficulties.

Enjoy your Yoruba language adventure!

Warm regards,
Your tutor

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Content:

The course focuses on developing student's knowledge of Yoruba words and culture. It uses situations and activities that will facilitate the students' language learning process. Below is an indicative list of communicative skills and grammar the course will cover.

The course calendar presents information on all aspects of the course in greater detail.

Communicative skills

Topics such as introductions, greetings, description of people and places, expressing likes and dislikes, knowing and describing the location of people to other things and people music and telling the time.

Grammar

- Conjunctions, questions forms, prepositions, vowels, tonal accents and sounds, nouns, pronouns, verb forms, tenses and adjectives.

Goals/aims

At the end of this course aims to enable students to:

Develop A2 level of competence in the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing);

Acquire more intermediate grammatical concepts;

Develop a competent ability to communicate in Yoruba;

- Gain more insight into aspects of Yoruba life and culture
- Perform successfully in real communicative contexts and improve their comprehension of what a Yoruba-speaking person is saying and feeling.
- Increase their Yoruba vocabulary and use terminologies in different contexts
- Complete meaningful tasks, through written forms and conversation models, and encourage written and oral production in the Yoruba language.
- Improve their oral and written comprehension of Yoruba.
- Develop their cultural awareness and nuances of the culture

General Objectives

This course intends to help students to perform at the level of the CEFR Basic User A2 and along the course objective.

The A2 user can:

- Understand phrases and high frequency vocabulary related to area of most immediate

- Understand main points in short clear simple messages and announcement personal relevance
- Read very short simple text and find predictable information in simple everyday material.
- Communicate in simple and routine tasks required simple and direct exchange of familiar topic and activities
- Describe in simple terms aspect of his/her background, immediate environment and matter in area of immediate needs

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Identify more elements of the sound and writing system and the grammar of target language;
- Recognize familiar words and phrases concerning themselves and their immediate surroundings in spoken language;
- Interact orally in a simple way to address their immediate needs or discuss familiar topics;
- Use the language to communicate while carrying out ranges of predictable and simple language tasks;
- Give basic personal information in written form;
- Write the language with the correct tonal accents;
- Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of some elements of Yoruba culture

ASSIGNMENTS

Typical assignment. Students will be required to:

- Listen and respond to some information such as giving a description of the character and attributes of family members, friends and associate as well as attributes of animals food and nonliving things
- Recall and write greetings, farewells, expectations, expressions of politeness, etc.
- Recognize and respond to greeting using simple salutations; ask and respond to simple questions; use simple sentences to describe the character of family members, friends, and self etc.
- Identify specific information such as location of someone or location of thing in relations to other things
- Revise numbers, days of the week and colors etc.
- Complete simple descriptive information such as person character, their nationality, etc.
- Write words with the correct accent
- Describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in area of immediate needs

COURSE ASSESSMENT:

Assessment for this course will take place in weeks 7 and 13. Special arrangements will be made for overseas students. Alternate arrangements for testing (with documentation) are solely at the discretion of the course Coordinator.

Students will be assessed on the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) as well as on aspects of language structure and intercultural competence.

Students must attend 75% of classes in order to be eligible for tests.

Tests will use multiple formats e.g. limited response, short answers, oral interview, essay, as appropriate to the skill/sub-skill being tested.

Assessment*	100% in course testing
Test 1*	50% of the overall mark
Test 2*	50% of the overall mark

*Listening 30%, speaking 30%, reading 20%, writing 20%

- Assessment tasks will include periodic written and oral assessment of students' performance in listening and reading comprehension, speaking and writing.
- Students are generally required to complete at least two assessment tests on the four skills, as well as on aspects of language structure and cultural awareness. The tests are done during the regular classroom sessions.
- Written tests will use multiple formats e.g. limited response, multiple choice, or short answers as appropriate to the skill/sub-skill being tested. Speaking will be tested through oral activities.

Course Calendar

Week	Unit and Session Topics	Methodology	Evaluation and Assessment
1	Revision: Topics discussed last semester		
1 and 2	- Oro ise, - Oro oruko - Oro Aponle ati Apejuwe - Feran mi o feran - Mo ni Mi o ni - Oro asopo	Demonstrations Peer teaching Videos Powerpoint	Oral repetition Class activities In class group activities
	Introduction to Preposition		
2 and 3	- Using Preposition to describe location of things, people in relation to another in the kitchen and living room - Using prepositional words to describe location of thing, places and people in relation to another in school and market	Demonstrations Peer teaching Videos Powerpoint Use of textbook	Oral and Written in class and home activities
4 and 5	Making Expression in relation to Part of speech		
	Revision: Yoruba delicacies, Outfits and clothing's while focusing on associated Noun, Verbs and Conjunctions words - Conjunctions: Ati, tun, şugbon - Introduction to food: Cultural Highlight: learning about traditional food and describing the food using Oro aponle .	Demonstrations Peer teaching Videos PowerPoint Use of textbook	Oral and Written in class and home activities Essay writing

6	Part of Speech: Adjective		
	1. Revision on types of adjective: Numbers, colors, attributes 2. Describing the character of people using Oro Aponle	Demonstrations Peer teaching PowerPoint Use of textbook	Oral and Written in class and home activities In class group activities
7	Test 1		
8 and 9	Parts of Speech – Pronoun, Adjective Conjugating and Verbs		
	1. Describing people, animals and things while using interrogative phrase : kini wo un se, nibo ni won gbe, kini won feran, iru eyan wo ni, ise wo ni o sun	Demonstrations Videos PowerPoint Use of textbook Discussion	Oral and Written in class and home activities
Week 10-12	Expression used in the kitchen, living room and market		
	Finding things and describing them: Wiwa unkan ati sise alaye lori won 1. Word on focus will be Nibo, ibo 2. Situating yourself in space by asking for direction 3. Learning how to use interrogative words like nibo and kini	Demonstrations Peer teaching Videos PowerPoint Use of textbook	Oral and Written in class and home activities In class group activities

		Discussion	
Week 13	Test 2		

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- Written tests will use multiple formats e.g. limited response, multiple choice, or short answers as appropriate to the skill/sub-skill being tested. Speaking will be tested through oral activities.

COURSE EVALUATION

Summative evaluation will be conducted using the UWI'S SECL system. The CLL will disseminate a mid- and/or end-of-semester student feedback questionnaire.

TEACHING /LEARNING STRATEGIES

Interactive sessions: While some of the class will involve direct teaching, language classes are not lecture-type classes but sessions requiring the active participate of all learners. Classes will therefore be highly interactive with teachers using and encouraging the use of the target language.

Use of target language: A defining characteristic of a modern communication language program is the use of target language as a gateway to the study of the societies and cultures in which it is used. Students will be expected to recognize and use Yoruba in ways which are consistent with the competence of an A2mid novice learner.

Development of learner autonomy: An explicit expectation of language students is a measure of learner autonomy and responsibilities for the development of their language competence. This autonomy will be guided and developed alongside their classroom learning. At this level, for example students are encouraged to develop and apply appropriate language –learning strategies to support communication in Yoruba. Students' learning experience will usually involve exposure to various forms of language-learning technology, both in and out of class.

Collaborative work: Finally, students will be expected to work in cooperative and collaborative ways with an attitude of mutual consideration and respect towards their peers.

RESOURCES

Texts: Required

1. Colloquial Yoruba: The complete course for Beginners. Schleicher Anotnia Y.F.
2. Yoruba Work Book for Beginners: Somorin Oluwakemi

Apps

3. Yoruba101 for iPhone By Adebayo Adegbembo
4. iSabi Yoruba Plus by UnatezeSoft, LLC
5. talkasoft.yoruba_language

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Attendance policy

Student must attend 75 percent of the class in order to be eligible for test.

HOW TO STUDY FOR THIS COURSE

Attendance is compulsory for revision to be effective. Students need to work at their language learning regularly both in class and out of class to consolidate what they have learnt. Yoruba, with its different tonal accents and sounds, represents a big challenge for the beginning learner. Here are some tips for studying for this course.

- Use all the resources at your disposal – your peers, your teacher and online material to help you improve and build confidence.
- Set small achievable goals for each week of the course.
- Review your work and assess yourself on a weekly basis, so that you do not become overwhelmed by having to revise too much material at any one time.
- Remember to spend some time on all skills, giving preference to listening and speaking and then taking time to practice your tonal accents when they are introduced.
- Listen to Yoruba music and watch Yoruba films to immerse yourself in the culture and to prepare for the day when you will have enough understanding of the language to begin understanding in the target language.

GRADING SYSTEM

The following is The UWI mark scheme:

Grade	GPA	Mark%	Grade	GPA	Mark%
A+	4.3	90-100	C+	2.3	55-59
A	4.0	80-89	C	2.0	50-54
A-	3.7	75-79	F1	1.7	40-49
B+	3.3	70-74	F2	1.3	30-39
B	3.0	65-69	F3	0.0	0-29
B-	2.7	60-64			