

AASP 299T Introduction to Twi  
TAs: Clydelle Agyei and Maame Spong  
Instructor Supervising: Dr. Kintiba  
Office: Taliaferro Hall 1119B  
E-mails: Maame Spong [asapong@terpmail.umd.edu](mailto:asapong@terpmail.umd.edu)  
Clydelle Agyei [cagyei@terpmail.umd.edu](mailto:cagyei@terpmail.umd.edu)  
Dr. Kintiba: [gkintiba@umd.edu](mailto:gkintiba@umd.edu)

Fall 2018  
Cr.:  
Telephone: 301-405-4470  
Class Hours: W 3:00 pm-4:15pm  
Classroom Location: SQH 1107

## **Elementary Twi Syllabus – 2018 to 2019**

### **Course Info:**

Elementary Twi; Fall 2018; Wednesdays 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm

### **Contact Info:**

Clydelle Agyei

- Office Hours: Fridays 11:00 am-12:00 pm or by appointment
- Email: [agyeiclydelle@gmail.com](mailto:agyeiclydelle@gmail.com)

Ama Spong

- Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm or by appointment
- Email: [asapong@terpmail.umd.edu](mailto:asapong@terpmail.umd.edu)

### **Elms site or Course webpage:**

<https://elms.umd.edu>

### **Required Texts and Technology:**

- Optional Text:
  - Asante Twi-English/English-Asante Twi Dictionary & Phrasebook; available on Amazon  
[https://www.amazon.com/Asante-Twi-English-English-Asante-Dictionary-Phrasebook/dp/0781813298/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1528694506&sr=8-1&keyword=s=twi+dictionary](https://www.amazon.com/Asante-Twi-English-English-Asante-Dictionary-Phrasebook/dp/0781813298/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1528694506&sr=8-1&keyword=s=twi+dictionary)
- Helpful Websites:
  - <https://www.memrise.com/courses/english/?q=twi>
- Helpful Phone Applications:
  - Twi Phrasebook
  - Twi Primer

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Course Description:**

*Akwaaba (Welcome)!* This is a language course designed to provide basic communicative competence in oral Twi for beginners. We will begin by introducing students to the Ghanaian culture. As we advance through the course, you will notice that we place less emphasis on formal grammatical instruction and more emphasis on everyday speech. This is because we want to prepare you for everyday conversation with family and friends. Through weekly lessons and activities, we hope to build your confidence when speaking Twi and also help you build a community with other students on campus.

**Course Goals:**

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Have a clear understanding of Ghanaian culture and the basics of Twi
2. Be able to express their thoughts, ideas and opinions in a respectable manner
3. Clearly identify and explain some social structures in Twi

**Expectations and Grading Procedures:**

- Expectations
  - We will start each class with a lecture, incorporating opportunities for you to practice oral speech and listening comprehension, and commence each class by going over any questions you might have. If a homework is assigned for the next class, we will briefly explain the homework sheet for you to complete and turn in on the posted due date. No homework will be accepted late.
- Grading

Title	Percentage	Description
Homework	10%	There will be 9 homework assignments to help students practice speaking and comprehension.
Participation	15%	In-class engagement and completion of activities
Quizzes	20%	There will be 7 quizzes to test students' knowledge and understanding of material.
Tests	25%	There will be 2 midterms total, one after each unit, to test students' mastery of course content.

Final Assessment	30%	There will be a final oral examination in Twi.
------------------	-----	--

Grade	Percentage
A	$\geq 90\%$
B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	$\leq 59\%$

### ***Midterm Exam (s)***

These exams will NOT be cumulative and will include material from lecture and class assignments.

### ***Final Exam***

The final exam WILL BE cumulative and will include material from lecture as well class assignments. The exam will an oral exam focused on the market place. Students are expected to use vocabulary and information which they have accumulated throughout the semester.

### ***Quizzes***

Throughout the semester there will be 7 quizzes. A quiz will be assigned after every lesson. Each quiz will be on the key materials covered the previous lecture. The quizzes will consist of 5 questions and will assess whether you understood the material.

### **Communication about this course:**

Outside of class our main source of communication will be through email. Each student bears the responsibility of regularly checking the email which is connected to their elms account. Failure to receive information sent via email will not constitute as an excuse for missing both deadlines and announcements.

### **Emergency protocol:**

In the event that the University is closed for an emergency or extended period of time, the instructor will communicate to students regarding schedule adjustments, including rescheduling of examinations and assignments due to inclement weather and campus emergencies.

### **Course Schedule:**

**Week 1- 08/29 - Introduction to Course**

- **Overview of Class**
- Introduction to Twi Culture
- Names of the Week

**Week 2- 09/05**

- **Lesson 2: Introduction to the Twi Alphabet & Numbers**
- Homework 1 Assigned: Twi Alphabet & Numbers

**Week 3 - 09/12**

- **Lesson 3: Twi Greetings**
- Homework 1 Due: 09/12
- Homework 2 Assigned: Twi Greetings
- Quiz 1: Material covered in lesson 2 (Twi Alphabet & Numbers)

**Week 4 - 09/19**

- **Lesson 4: Manners**
- Homework 2 Due: 09/19
- Homework 3 Assigned: Twi Manners
- Quiz 2: Lesson 3, Greetings

**Week 5 - 09/26**

- **Lesson 5: Family Structure [Part 1]**
- Homework 3 Due: 09/26
- Homework 4 Assigned: Family Structure [Part 1]
- Quiz 3: Lesson 4, Manners

**Week 6 - 10/03**

- **Unit 1 Test: Lessons 1-5** (Alphabet, Numbers, Greetings, Manners, Family Structure [Part 1])
- Homework 4 Due: 10/03

**Week 7- 10/10**

- **Lesson 6: Family Structure [Part 2]**
- Homework 5 Assigned: Family Structure [Part 2]

**Week 8 - 10/17**

- **Lesson 7: Community [Part 1]**
- Homework 5 Due: 10/17
- Homework 6 Assigned: Community [Part 1]
- Quiz 4: Lesson 6, Family Structure [Part 2]

**Week 9 - 10/24**

- **Lesson 8: Community [Part 2]**

- Homework 6 Due: 10/24
- Homework 7 Assigned: Community [Part 2]
- Quiz 5: Lesson 7, Community [Part 1]

#### **Week 10 - 10/31**

- **Lesson 9: Market [Part 1]**
- Homework 7 Due: 10/31
- Homework 8 Assigned: Market [Part 1]
- Quiz 6: Lesson 8, Community [Part 2]

#### **Week 11 - 11/07**

- **Unit 2 Test:** Lessons 6-9 (Family Structure [Part 2], Community, Marketplace [Part 1])
- Homework 8 Due: 11/07

#### **Week 12- 11/14**

- **Lesson 10: Market [Part 2]**

#### **Week 13- 11/19-11/23**

- **No Class (Thanksgiving Recess)**

#### **Week 14 - 11/28**

- **Lesson 11: Review**
- Homework 9 Assigned: Review Work
- Quiz 7: Lesson 10, Marketplace [Part 2]

#### **Week 15 - 12/05**

- **Lesson 12: Review**
- Homework 9 Due: 12/05

#### **Week 16 - 12/12**

- **Final Exam Day**
- Oral Examination with Two Teachers

#### **Course Procedures and Policies:**

It is expected of every student to arrive in a timely and ready to learn. In addition, students should be attentive and participate in class, limit the use of cellphones and laptops unless instructed by the instructor and prevent the use of offensive language or distracting behaviors including eating and holding personal conversations.

A general course policy can be found here: <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>.

### **Attendance and Absences:**

Missed Classes: Students can miss up to two classes before participation points are deducted from their grade. TWO UNEXCUSED ABSENCES. With prior arrangements, the instructor may choose to provide notes to students who cannot attend class for acceptable reasons (Religious observance, University related absences, etc.). Otherwise, students are responsible for obtaining class notes and assignments.

Missed Exams: Only in cases deemed acceptable by the instructor, will missed quizzes be offered again as make-up. Missing exam without a University Accepted excuse and correct documentation will result in a grade of zero on that exam (final exam)

Religious Observance: Please inform the instructor of religious observances that will preclude you from attending a lecture or exam

### **Academic integrity:**

The University has a nationally recognized Honor Code, administered by the Student Honor Council. The Student Honor Council proposed and the University Senate approved an Honor Pledge. The University of Maryland Honor Pledge reads:

*I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.*

Unless you are specifically advised to the contrary, the Pledge statement should be *handwritten* and signed on the front cover of all papers, projects, or other academic assignments submitted for evaluation in this course. Students who fail to write and sign the Pledge will be asked to confer with the instructor.

### **Accessibility and Disability Support:**

(<https://www.counseling.umd.edu/ads/>). Students with a documented disability should inform the instructors within the add-drop period if academic accommodations will be needed. NB: You are expected to meet with your instructor in person to provide them with a copy of the *Accommodations Letter* and to obtain your instructor's signature on the *Acknowledgement of Student Request* form. You and your instructor will plan together how accommodations will be

implemented throughout the semester. To obtain the required Accommodation Letter, please contact Disability Support Service (DSS) at 301-314-7682 or [dussup@umd.edu](mailto:dussup@umd.edu).

**Copyright notice:**

Class lectures and other materials are copyrighted. They may not be reproduced for anything other than personal use without written permission from the instructor. Copyright infringements may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Academic accommodations for students who experience sexual misconduct:**

The University of Maryland is committed to providing support and resources, including academic accommodations, for students who experience sexual or relationship violence as defined by the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy. To report an incident and/or obtain an academic accommodation, contact the Office of Civil Rights and Sexual Misconduct at 301-405-1142. If you wish to speak confidentially, contact Campus Advocates Respond and Educate (CARE) to Stop Violence at 301-741-3555. As 'responsible university employees' faculty are required to report any disclosure of sexual misconduct, i.e., they may not hold such disclosures in confidence. For more information: <http://www.umd.edu/ocrsm/>

**Diversity:**

"The University of Maryland values the diversity of its student body. Along with the University, I am committed to providing a classroom atmosphere that encourages the equitable participation of all students regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Potential devaluation of students in the classroom that can occur by reference to demeaning stereotypes of any group and/or overlooking the contributions of a particular group to the topic under discussion is inappropriate."