AASP299I: Elementary Igbo I; Fall 2018

Course Info: Elementary Igbo I; Fall 2018; Mondays 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Room TBD

This course is being offered as part of the STIC (student-initiated courses) program and will be taught by undergraduates under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

Contact info:
Instructors:
- Chidera Nosiri: cnosiri@terpmail.umd.edu
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Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sangeetha Madhavan: smadhava@umd.edu

Office Hours: Office hours will be held as needed when scheduled in advance.

Elms site or Course webpage: TBA

Required Texts and Technology: None

Optional Materials:

a. Igbo Dictionary: Okowaokwu Igbo Umuaka: Igbo Dictionary for Children, Yvonne C Mbanefo; available on Amazon
b. Helpful websites: http://ilc.igbonet.com/, http://www.learnigbonow.com/

Pre- or co-requisites: None

Course Description:

This is the first of a two-course sequence in Elementary Igbo:

Fall, 2018: Elementary Igbo I (1 credit)
Spring, 2019: Elementary Igbo II (2 credits)

No prior knowledge of Igbo is required. We will begin the semester by first understanding the basics of Igbo language (alphabet, numbers, days of the week). We will then progress to understand greetings and proper ways of introducing oneself. Finally, we will complete the semester by introducing lessons on sentence structure and verb conjugation. It is important to understand the culture behind Igbo language, thus, we will also integrate lessons on Igbo culture throughout the semester. Through weekly lessons and activities, we hope to build your confidence when speaking Igbo and help you build community with other students on campus.

<u>**Course Goals:**</u>

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Recognize and enunciate the letters of the Igbo alphabet in order to write and pronounce basic terms in Igbo
2. Demonstrate comprehension of Igbo greetings in both written and verbal forms to formulate written and verbal responses in Igbo
3. Develop a foundational understanding of verb conjugation and its importance to sentence structure in Igbo
4. Exhibit an overall understanding and appreciation for the foundations of Igbo culture (i.e. history and traditions)

<u>**Expectations and Grading Procedures:**</u>

Title	Percentage	Description
Homework	10%	There will be 4 homework assignments to help students practice speaking and comprehension. Students are expected to submit assignments by the due date.
Participation	15%	There will be in-class engagement and students are expected to interact with the teacher and other classmates as instructed. This also includes completion of activities.
Quizzes	20%	There will be 5 quizzes to test students' knowledge and understanding of material. Each quiz is worth ___ points and will be a total of ___ questions.
Tests	25%	There will be 2 midterms to test students' mastery of course content. The midterms will cover both in-class activities and homework assignments.
Final Assessment	30%	There will be a final cumulative oral examination in Igbo. Students are expected to take the final exam on the exam date.

Grade	Percentage
A	$\geq 90\%$
B	80 - 89%

C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	≤ 59%

Communication about this course:

Communication of assignments, homework, and syllabus changes will be facilitated through Canvas. It is the responsibility of the student to check Canvas for class updates during the semester. To reach the course facilitators or faculty advisor, please use the direct email addresses provided above.

Emergency protocol: [*Note the means by which the course will be continued if the university is closed for an extended period of time.*]

If the University is closed for an extended period of time, communication will be maintained through Canvas. It is the responsibility of the student to check Canvas for class updates during such a time.

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
08/27	**UNIT ONE - THE BASICS** Lesson 1: Overview of Class || Introduction to Igbo Culture	
09/03	Lesson 2: Introduction to the Igbo Alphabet	Homework 1 Assigned: Igbo Alphabet
09/10	Lesson 3: Igbo Alphabet [Accent marks]	
09/17	Quiz 1 Igbo Alphabet Lesson 4: Igbo numbers	Homework 1 Due: 09/21 Homework 2 Assigned: Igbo Numbers
09/24	Lesson 5: Igbo numbers [Part 2]	Homework 3 Assigned: Review Sheet

10/01	**Exam 1: Lessons 1 - 5 [Alphabet & Numbers]**	Homework 3 Due
10/08	**UNIT TWO - SENTENCE STRUCTURE** Lesson 6: Greetings (Part I)	Homework 4 Assigned: "Greetings, Part I & II"
10/15	Lesson 7: Greetings (Part II)	
10/22	Quiz 4 Greetings Lesson 8: Introduction to Sentence Structure (Part I - Personal Pronouns & Possessions)	Homework 4 Due Homework 5 Assigned: "Sentence Structure Parts I & II"
10/29	Lesson 9: Introduction to Sentence Structure (Part II - Present Tense & Imperative)	
11/05	Quiz 5 Pronouns, Possessions & Present Tense Lesson 10: Introduction to Sentence Structure, (Part III - Infinitives)	Homework 5 Due Homework 6 Assigned: "Sentence Structure, Parts III & IV"
11/12	Lesson 11: Introduction to Sentence Structure, (Part IV - Simple Adjectives)	
11/19	**Thanksgiving Break - No Class**	(Any day before break via Elms): Homework 6 Due (Any day before break via Elms): Homework 7 Assigned: "Midterm II Review Sheet"
11/26	**Exam 2: Lessons 6 - 11 [Greetings & Sentence Structure]**	Homework 7 Due
12/03	Lesson 12: Review Day	

12/12	Final Exams Begin	Final Project Due

If for any reason if a student cannot take the final exam on the announced date, it is the student's responsibility to ask for a rescheduling of the exam. If the student does not initiate this communication, they must complete the final exam on the indicated date.

1. **<u>Course Procedures and Policies</u>:**

[*The official university 'one-stop' spot for checking Undergraduate policies can be found at* <u>http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html</u>. *Your syllabus for an Undergraduate course should contain a link to that page. ARHU recommends that, besides including this link, you also list the main provisions of your course policies on the syllabus according to the below bulletins and that you specifically draw attention to them on the first day of class. <u>Think of your syllabus as a contract between you and your students regarding expectations. It can help you to avoid misunderstandings or potential grievances</u>. A more extensive explanation of Undergraduate policies can be found at* <u>http://www.ugst.umd.edu/documents/CourseRelatedPolicies.pdf</u> .]

<u>Attendance and Absences</u>: [<u>V-100(G) University of Maryland Policy on Excused Absence</u>. *Absences from courses in which in-class participation forms a significant part of the work of the course, such as lab or discussion courses, shall be handled by instructors in accordance with the general policies of their academic units. Please make sure you understand the policy of your unit as you determine an attendance statement for your syllabus. You might include language such as this: "Students are expected to attend classes regularly. Consistent attendance offers students the most effective opportunity to gain command of course concepts and materials. Events that justify an excused absence include: religious observances; mandatory military obligation; documented illness of the student or of an immediate family member; participation in university activities at the request of university authorities; and compelling circumstances beyond the student's control (e.g., death in the family, required court appearance). Absences stemming from work duties other than military obligation (e.g., unexpected changes in shift assignments) and traffic/transit problems do not typically qualify for excused absence.*

Students claiming an excused absence must notify the course instructor in a timely manner and provide appropriate documentation. The notification should be provided either prior to the absence or as soon afterwards as possible. In the case of religious observances, athletic events, and planned absences known at the beginning of the semester, the student must inform the instructor during the schedule adjustment period. All other absences must be reported as soon as is practical. The student must provide appropriate documentation of the absence. The documentation must be provided in writing to the instructor by the means specified in this syllabus." Please feel free to insert your language in the syllabus here.]

Because consistent attendance leads to a better understanding of concepts and the language, students are expected to attend classes regularly. Events that justify an excused absence include: religious observances; mandatory military obligation; documented illness of the student or of an immediate family member; participation in university activities at the request of university

authorities; and compelling circumstances beyond the student's control (e.g., death in the family, required court appearance). Absences stemming from work duties other than military obligation (e.g., unexpected changes in shift assignments) and traffic/transit problems do not qualify for excused absence.

Students that claim excused absence(s) of religious observances, military obligations, or athletic events must make these known to the instructors at the beginning of the course. All other absences must be reported as soon as possible and appropriate documentation must be submitted to the instructors.

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 elect 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 an 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

Attendance will not be taken during the final exam review.

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.

http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/III-100A.pdf
http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/Default.aspx

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.

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:
[http://www.president.umd.edu/administration/policies/section-vi-general-administration/vi-160a-0. You may consider using the following text from the Faculty Handbook:

> 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:
[https://www.president.umd.edu/sites/president.umd.edu/files/documents/policies/III-900A.pdf
Feel free to compose your own statement, such as
"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."]

[Finally, remember to list any other policies relevant to your course, e.g., e*xpectations for students' use of electronic devices, laptops, eating and drinking during class, etc. NB: If you want a 'no laptops' rule it is suggested that you put in a proviso for students with learning disabilities who may need to rely on that medium for note-taking.]*
For information on elms, counseling, health, learning workshops, tutoring, writing help, student rights in undergrad courses, questions about graduation or add/drop/withdraw, please see
http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html

*** This syllabus is subject to change during the semester if necessary