

Indiana University
SCALI Bambara Syllabus

Course section

Instructor: Boubacar Diakite, E-mail: bdiakite@indiana.edu

Office: MM 217

Office hours: Fri 3:00 – 4:00

Course description

This course is the study of Bambara language including Manding dialects (Bamanankan, Julakan, Maninkakan)

Goals and expectations

The aim of this course is to introduce students to Bamanankan alphabet, culture, and basic communication skills: speaking, reading, writing, and listening. At the end of this course students must be able to exchange basic information and to be familiar with some aspects of Bamanan culture.

Course Materials:

- (I) Baba Mamadi Janeh : Nko karan ni sebeli
- (II) Baba Mamadi Janeh : silabosona
- (III) Jose Morales: J'apprends le Bambara
- (IV) Charle Bird: An ka Bamanankan kalan

Course requirements:

- 1) Regular attendance at all classes and language labs, in compliance with the program attendance policy.
- 2) Satisfactory completion of all assignments, quizzes and homework.
- 3) Participation in class discussions and activities.
- 4) Attendance to Manding-related activities.

Grading

Grades will be computed on the following basis:

* Attendance	10%
* Homework and assignments	30%
* Participation and lab.	10%
* Quizzes and tests	20%
* Midterm and final exams	30%

Grades will be given for all categories based on the following system:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 50-69
F = 00-49

The plus (+) and minus (-) signs on the grades will be dependent on the numerical grades.

There will be **two quizzes**: one in week 2 and the other in week 6.

There will also be **two exams**: one will be held in week 4 on Wednesday July 12th; and the other final exam in Week 7 on Friday, August 4th.

The final exam is based on cumulative knowledge from beginning of term, but focusing mostly on post exam I. It will also include oral test.

WEEK 1

Monday 6/ 19th: **Introduction:**

The course
Bambara(N'ko) speaking area

Tuesday 6/ 20th: **Introduction:**

Oneself
Introductory expressions
Pronunciation:
Bambara sounds

Wednesday 6/ 21st: **Greetings and appropriate gender responses:**

Morning greetings
Afternoon greetings
Evening greetings
Night greetings
Blessings related to greetings

Thursday 6/22nd: **Pronouns**

Subject
Object
Emphatic
Pronunciation:
Bambara sounds

Friday 6/ 23rd:

Numbers
Cardinal numbers
Ordinal numbers
Decimal numbers

WEEK 2

Monday 6/ 26th: **Leave-taking**

Saying good bye
Negotiating the leave
Blessing related to leave-taking

Tuesday 6/ 27th: **School**

Classroom expressions
Names of materials
Pronunciation:
Bambara sounds

Wednesday 6/28th: **School expression**

Expressing understanding
Expressing lack of understanding
Seeking repetition

Thursday 6/ 29th: **Questioning**

Question words
Interrogative sentences
Interjections
Pronunciation:

Bambara sounds

Friday 6/ 30th: **Benedictions**
Benedictions at baptism
Benedictions at funeral
Benedictions before trip
Quiz

WEEK 3

Monday 7/ 3rd: **Talking about one's family:**
Kinship terms
Deferential terms
Calling and answering

Tuesday 7/4th: **No Class**

Wednesday 7/5th: **Kinship games**
Ninmokoniya (in law siblings)
Kaninmeya (cousinage)
Sinankunya (last name games)
Mamarenya (being grandchildren)

Thursday 7/6th: **Expressing gender, number and qualities:**
Nouns in Bambara
Gender marker
Number marker
Quality marker

Friday 7/ 7th: **activity names**
Common activities
Naming activities
Activity greetings
Subject and object

WEEK 4

Monday 7/10th: **Expressing time**
Tuma (times of day)
Expressing days and weeks
Expressing months and years

Tuesday 7/11th: **Body parts**
Human body parts
Expressing sickness
Insulting
Maledictions

Wednesday 7/12th: **REVIEW and TERM EXAM (I)**

Thursday 7/13th: **Tenses and Contractions**
Present tense
Past tense
Future tense
Contractions

Friday 7/ 14th: **Comparing and describing**
Comparative

Superlative
Relative pronouns

WEEK 5

Monday 7/17th: **Meals**
Breakfasts
Lunches
Dinners
Fruits
Drinks

Tuesday 7/18th: **Clothes and colours**
Men clothes
Women clothes
Colours
Expressing like and dislike

Wednesday 7/19th: **Describing houses and directions**

Different types of houses
Different parts of a house
Giving directions
Adverbs of location

Thursday 7/20th: **Talking about nationalities and Ages:**
Ways of saying nationalities
Names of some countries in Bamanan
Honorific terms for elders

Friday 7/21st: **Structure:**
Market
Expressing 'To want' and Possession
Bargaining
Possessive
Structure:
Kannadialan (nasal marker)

WEEK 6

Monday 7/24th: **Visits**
Inviting someone
Visiting someone
Expressing gratitude's
Saying "you're welcome"

Tuesday 7/25th: **Holidays and Ceremonies**
Holiday greetings
Ceremonial greetings
Talking to griots
So wele (praising)

Wednesday 7/26th: **Fairy tails and Songs**
Saying 'siring' and responding
Saying Nten-nten and responding
Hunter's music
Names of animals and pets

- Thursday 7/27th: **General Expressions:**
Expressing true and false
Expressing love and hatred
Before and after trip expressions
Responding to beggars
- Friday 7/28th: **General Expressions**
Managing petites
In meetings
Expressing yet, already, almost, and just
- Language Festival**

WEEK 7

- Monday 7/31st: Affixations to modify the meanings
Prefixes
Suffixes
Infixes
- Tuesday 8/1st: **Transportation**
Ground transportation
Air transportation
Sea transportation
- Wednesday 8/2nd: **Saniyali** (cleaning)
Cleaning expressions
Names of cleaning material
A movie
- Thursday 8/3rd: Household
Household chores
Household materials
- Friday 8/4th:

REVIEW
FINAL EXAM (II)