

Department of African Languages and Literature
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1414 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706
Tele: 608/262-2487
<http://vanhise.lss.wisc.edu/~all/>

SWAHILI

Swahili

- Swahili is one of major languages of Africa, spoken by over 50 million people, from Zanzibar in the Indian Ocean to Congo in Central Africa, from Somalia in the north to Mozambique in the south. The cultural heritage of Swahili plays an important role in the African Diaspora. (Did you know that the word “Kwanzaa” is from Swahili?)

Why Study Swahili?

- Students in these courses tend to be adventurous, independent-minded, and socially conscious.
- Employers and graduate schools highly value the skills acquired through the study of less commonly taught languages.
- Prepare yourself for a career in government or work with an international Non Governmental Organization (NGO).
- Be different!

Why Study Swahili at UW-Madison?

- UW-Madison has the only Department of African Languages and Literature in the United States.
- The classes are small – about 25 students in First Semester to 3-8 in the Advanced Swahili. You make friends, and get a lot of individual attention from your instructor.
- Some courses have rich multimedia interactive online materials created by instructors.
- To celebrate the end of each semester there is an all-Swahili party with skits, food and music.
- UW-Madison has the National African Language Resource Center, which specializes in the teaching of African languages.
- UW-Madison has a federally supported African Studies Program with some sixty faculty who offer Africa-related courses in many disciplines, e.g. history, anthropology, political science, art history, comparative literature, music, dance, etc.
- Students who took Swahili have taught in the N.Y.C. public school system, New Orleans school system, joined Peace Corps, opened a travel agency, joined government agencies, gone to Graduate School, Law School, Medical School, become a Whole Foods regional buyer (wine and cheese), a UW-Madison administrator, etc.

FALL COURSES

331 First Semester Swahili
333 Third Semester Swahili
435 Advanced Studies in Swahili

SPRING COURSES

332 Second Semester Swahili
334 Fourth Semester Swahili
436 Advanced Studies in Swahili

Contact

Enrollment and advising questions: Professor Magdalena Hauner, hauner@wisc.edu, tel. 263-2445

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