

Intensive Language Study: Luganda

LUGA 1003 (3 Credits / 45 hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:
Uganda: Global Development Studies

PLEASE NOTE: This syllabus represents a recent semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.

Course Description

The primary role of Luganda language training is to provide students with the principal tools needed for entry into Uganda's many cultures and language communities. Given its location in Kampala, where Luganda dominates, the Development Studies program focuses on Luganda as the primary local *lingua franca* to best facilitate interactions and cross-cultural communication. The course is organized by a language coordinator and taught by staff of teachers, themselves native speakers experienced in teaching Luganda as a foreign language and with an emphasis on cross-cultural communication. Language learning consists of 45 hours of formal instruction. Luganda study is reinforced through the homestay experience and various participatory and interactive assignments. The language instruction may also include simulations and field trips to supplement classroom learning.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- speak, understand, read, and write basic Luganda, enabling students to handle daily tasks and interactions with others (culturally appropriate greetings, introductions, market interactions, relating everyday experiences, asking directions, etc.);
- function independently in Uganda through knowledge of a primary local language;
- use the language confidently and effectively in everyday situations;
- demonstrate knowledge of Ugandan cultural practices, including a familiarity with culturally appropriate behavior associated with language use in a variety of contexts.

Course Requirements

Readings

Students are responsible for the timely reading of materials assigned for each session.

Required Texts

The language instructors will provide students with reading materials and assignments handouts throughout the Luganda course. In addition, students should plan to obtain a Luganda/English dictionary for their personal use in Uganda.

Field Exercises and Language Role Play

Through field assignments and interactive scenarios, students enrich their classroom learning experience and their ability to function in real life language situations, assimilate everyday life issues, and immerse themselves in the host culture. Field assignments may be done both individually and in groups. Field exercises may include visits to the following places:

- Markets: to practice bargaining skills and maximize interactions with Ugandans
- Cafés and restaurants: to rehearse ordering food and drink in situ
- Museums, cultural sites and monuments: to learn about historical sites and local areas of importance

PLEASE NOTE: COURSE CONTENTS, LECTURERS AND READINGS MAY BE MODIFIED AS NEEDED. SHOULD ANY CHANGE OF CLASS TOPICS OR LECTURERS BE NECESSARY, STUDENTS WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED.

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Grades are assigned by the Academic Director, in consultation with the language instructors, and are based on evaluation of performance on written and oral presentations during the semester and efforts to communicate in Luganda outside the classroom during the break time. The language grade also reflects the instructor's evaluation of student written homework, quiz given during the class, participation and attendance (including tardiness, absences, and active engagement in class).

Course assignments:

Attendance & Participation:	25%
Oral Presentations:	30%
Written homework:	25%
Quizzes:	20%

Attendance & Participation: 25%

Class attendance is mandatory and absences are penalized by reducing the language grade, except in cases of documented illness, whereby the student is expected to provide a medical certificate. Two unjustified late arrivals will be counted as one absence. Participation requires active engagement – you are expected to express yourself, ask questions, discuss readings, role play, interact, and use Luganda in and outside class (i.e., on excursions, interacting with Development Studies Seminar faculty, in homestays). Assigned readings must be read in advance of the lesson to: 1. familiarize you with the specific vocabulary and content of the class, so you are able to follow it more easily and 2. provide the necessary background to participate in class discussions and expand vocabulary

Oral presentations: 30%

Two oral presentations are scheduled during the program. The choice of subject is decided by each student. Each presentation is limited to 20 minutes maximum. Students may choose to present individually or in small groups of no more than three participants. Oral presentations enable students to perform and engage in creative activities.

Written homework: 25%

Language teachers will provide specific information as to the written homework assignments. An assignment on the family tree will be included in this written homework.

Quizzes: 20 %

Four quizzes are scheduled to prepare students for both the written and situational observations at site visits. The quizzes review previously covered issues related to grammar, vocabulary, expressions, conversations, listening, reading and writing.

Grading Scale: The grading scale for all classes is as follows:

94-100%	A	74-76%	C
90-93%	A-	70-73%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
84-86%	B	64-66%	D
77-79%	C+	Below 64	F

Grading Criteria

An “A” grade for an assignment entails superior (not just “very good”) performance in terms of structure and organization of assignments, analysis, logical argumentation and consistency, and the provision of factual, numerical and/or historical evidence. In terms of Class Participation, an “A” grade refers to full attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all Academic Seminar lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior. The level, frequency, and quality of the students’ participation will be monitored and taken into account.

Student Expectations

Class Participation

Participation in class refers to attendance, punctuality, discussion, field trips, attentive listening and active engagement in homestay discussions particularly on the family tree assignment feedback. It also means polite and respectful behavior.

Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process. Also, refer to the specific information available in the Student Handbook and the Program Dossier given to you at Orientation.

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at disabilityservices@sit.edu for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.