



Study Center in Gaborone, Botswana

Course name: CIEE Setswana Language and Culture Practicum
Course number: AFST 1001 BOTS
Programs offering course: Arts and Sciences; Community Public Health
Language of instruction: English and Setswana
U.S. Semester Credits: 02
Contact Hours: 30
Term: Fall 2016

Course Description

The language and culture practicum is a two-credit course that is designed specifically to enable you to have an appreciation and understanding of spoken Setswana language in your everyday interaction with the host culture. Throughout the duration of the language and culture practicum, excursions as well as other activities will also be scheduled in a bid to help you not only deepen your understanding of the host culture but to also enable you to effectively function in the cross-cultural environment. This course has two elements: language and culture. Taking initiative in both the Setswana language classes and the cultural assignments will allow students to get the most benefit from the course.

Learning Objectives

- To enable you to understand Setswana as quickly as possible;
- To teach you Setswana that you can use in your everyday life;
- To make you feel comfortable using Setswana in and out of class;
- To focus on helping you get your ideas across in Setswana;
- To help you learn about Botswana culture as you learn Setswana.

Course Prerequisites

None.

Methods of Instruction

- Oral activities
- Reading and writing
- Songs and games
- Self-guided projects

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Setswana Language:	250 points
2. Group Media Project:	100 points
3. Blog Entry:	50 points
4. Attendance and Participation: Cultural Activities:	25 points
TOTAL	425 points

Course Requirements

General

Late assignments will incur one point penalty each day that passes after the due date. Unexcused absences are not permitted. If you are going to miss a class period, inform the course instructor. Tardiness will negatively impact your participation grade.

CIEE subscribes to standard U.S. norms requiring that students exhibit the highest standards regarding academic honesty. Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment or exam will not be tolerated and may result in a student failing the course or being expelled from the program. Standards of honesty and norms governing originality of work differ significantly from country to country. We expect students to adhere to both the American norms and the local norms.

Setswana Language

Guidelines:

- You will be taught in Setswana most of the time
- You will use Setswana during class
- You will do one Botswana fact per week
- You have the liberty to guess and make mistakes during class

The overall grade for the Setswana component will be determined as follows (out of 250 points):

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| • Ability to Use Language From Previous Lessons | (25 pts) |
| • Effort to Learn and Use Setswana | (10 pts) |
| • Effort to Use Setswana Only in Class | (10 pts) |
| • Completion of Charts | (10 pts) |
| • Homework | (20 pts) |
| • Scavenger Hunt Assignment | (50 pts) |
| • Participation | (25 pts) |
| • Mid-Program Examination (Written) | (50 pts) |
| • Final Examination (Oral) | (50 pts) |

Scavenger Hunt

Please **Choose 4 of the 5 below** to be submitted via hard copy in class on **TBD**

1. Interview five (05) Batswana respondents and explain the various circumstances surrounding their names at birth. In what way have these circumstances helped or otherwise shaped that person's identity and worldview?
2. Rites of passage are integral aspects of Setswana culture. Please identify any two of these rites of passage and briefly describe their importance in Setswana culture.
3. Each Motswana belongs to a tribe with a chief/king, a totem, regiments and their respective rituals. Interview a Motswana about the details of his/her tribe such as the ones listed above and how it affects them in modern day Botswana.
4. Interview at least five (05) Batswana respondents from different vantage points to ascertain the role of African Traditional Religion (ATR) in modern day Christian Botswana. In Setswana they say 'Sangoma'-traditional healer and 'Muti'-witchcraft. Although 85% of Batswana identify as Christian, do they still hold on to aspects of ATR?
5. Collect five (05) Setswana proverbs and give the exact translation followed by its meaning.

Group Media Project

One of the missions of CIEE is to help people gain understanding of the culturally diverse world we live in. You will find that upon returning to your homes it can be challenging to communicate your experience. The main objective of this assignment is to communicate to people in America what it is like to live and study in Botswana. The project will have **a 2-5 minute video component and a 1-2 page electronic document component**. Your project will effectively communicate a topic (ex. living with a host family) to a specific audience (ex. prospective students). **You will be working in the same groups that you did in the Amazing Race.**

Email your topic to gaboroneinternship@cīee.org and learnto.speaksetswana@yahoo.com by TBD
Due date & viewing: TBD

Here is a list of topics that have been done during prior semesters. Please use these as jumping off points to choose your own topic. We do not want you to repeat unless you feel strongly that a past video did not comprehensively address a topic.

- Village Experience
- Dorm Living/Homestay
- Trip planning
- Security
- Water
- Food
- Shopping at Rail Park

The media project will be graded based on the following criteria:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Appropriate length of video | (5%) |
| • Clarity. Does the video address the topic comprehensively? | (40%) |
| • Production quality. Can we hear and see the video clearly? | (15%) |
| • Appropriate length of electronic material | (5%) |
| • Content of printed material. Is it informative? | (25%) |
| • Readability. Is the electronic material created easy to read? | (10%) |

Blog Entry

Each person is expected to do one blog entry for their program's blog. The blog is an opportunity to not only reflect on your experiences but a chance to share them with others. A sign-up sheet for your blog week will be circulated early in the semester. The blogs will be due on the Thursday of your assigned week. The topic for the blog is up to you. You may write about your overall experience or a specific event that happened to you during your time here. It needs to be 400 - 500 words in length and include 4 supporting pictures and a headshot.

Attendance and Class Participation: Cultural Activities

As the purpose of this course is two-fold, for you to learn Setswana and also gain a greater appreciation for Botswana culture, there are many cultural opportunities (listed below) that we encourage you to attend over the course of the semester. Your attendance in these CIEE-structured activities comprises your grade for this course requirement.

Cross-Cultural Activities: In order for students to be able to broaden their perspectives as well as promote their cultural awareness and understanding a number of activities such as traditional dance classes will be availed throughout the duration of the course.

Excursions: In addition to the above, a number of excursions, which will incorporate the use of Setswana language, will also be a part of the language and culture practicum. Specific historical and cultural sites of interest will vary from semester to semester and will be announced at a later stage. Excursions will also enable you to have a better understanding of some of the socio-economic issues with which Botswana is currently grappling. Trips can be found in the semester schedule and are subject to last-minute change.

Volunteering: A number of organized volunteering days will be announced throughout the program to help students give back to the local community. Students are encouraged to attend as it will help you to better understand the culture and some challenges that the country is currently facing.

Village Cultural Experience: Botswana, just like any other African society, is affected by urbanization, westernization and modernization. Your stay in a village will introduce you to some spaces where you will be experiencing some traditional aspects of Botswana. These may include but are not limited to kgotla visits, cattle posts and masimo, markets, churches, etc.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1	<p>Orientation Week Amazing Race: a fun way to learn how to navigate the public transportation system in Gaborone</p>
Week 2	<p>Greetings Build on the Survival Setswana session during orientation. Use of instructional tools.</p>
Week 3	<p>Greetings & Introductions Expand your knowledge of greetings for different times of the day. Learn how to introduce yourself. Grammar: Long & short form of Setswana verbs in the present tense</p>
Week 4	<p>At The Store Review previous week's lessons. Learn alternative ways to introduce yourself and a friend. Study vocabulary related to purchasing items in a store. Grammar: Future tense</p>
Week 5	<p>Food Learn food-related vocabulary and begin to have dialogues regarding food. Practice using kinship terms and other nouns. Grammar: Noun classes and to have and not to have</p>
Week 6	<p>Transportation Broaden your vocabulary on how to get around, including local transportation and purchasing food. Grammar: Question words and question formation</p>
Week 7	<p>Putting it Together Learn how to construct sentences using established vocabulary: story and picture exercises. Grammar: Past tense</p> <p>Scavenger Hunt assignment due Media Project Topics are due CIEE Activity: Volunteer Day TBD</p>
Week 8	<p>Mid-Term Exam – Written Test Move from the concrete to the abstract and learn how to talk about hopes and ambitions.</p>

Week 9	Mid-Semester Break – No Classes
Week 10	Review & Clothes Review course content from before the mid-term exam. Go over results from mid-term exam. Learn clothes vocabulary. Practice speaking dialogues. Botswana Independence Day (holiday) Public Holiday
Week 11	At the Doctor Learn how to talk about sickness and label body parts. Grammar: Negation
Week 12	Adjectives Learn how to describe things. Increase vocabulary on adjectives. Practice asking and answering questions.
Week 13	Grand Review Last minute questions before final exam Sign up for times to take final exam next week
Week 14	Final Exam – Oral Test Take the oral test during one half-hour slot over the 3-day period. Media Projects Due Date & Viewing

Readings

Dow, Unity, and Max Essex. *Saturday is for Funerals*. Harvard University Press, 2011.

- Unity Dow is considered to be one of Botswana's leading human rights activists and legal professionals. She has authored and co-authored a string of non-fiction books with the most critically acclaimed being *Saturday is for Funerals* which is a critical observation of the HIV epidemic before and after the introduction of anti-retroviral drugs. It is coauthored by Max Essex, a renowned HIV researcher.

Dutfield, Michael. *Marriage of Inconvenience: The Persecution of Seretse & Ruth Khama*. Unwin Hyman: 1990.

- This is the story of Seretse (Botswana's first President and Chief of a major tribe) and Ruth (white English student) Khama marriage and how it rocked the political landscape of southern Africa.

First Steps in Spoken Setswana. Gaborone: Pula Press, 1978.

Head, Bessie. *When Rain Clouds Gather*. Simon & Shuster Adult Publishing Group, 1969.

- Bessie Head is considered the most influential writer in Botswana's history, Bessie, a Serowe native, has penned several popular small fiction and non-fiction books on Botswana that critically examines Botswana culture while entertaining. *When Rain Clouds Gather* is required reading in Botswana's junior high schools.

Kort, Tina. *Learning Setswana*. Gaborone: Flying Mission.

Masire, Sir Quett Ketumile Joni. *Masire: Memories of an African Democrat*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

- World renowned diplomat and Botswana's first Vice President and second President wrote an autobiography titled *Masire: Memoires of an African Democrat*. From an American perspective, this would be akin to Thomas Jefferson's memoirs. This is a must read for African history buffs or political scientists.

Otlogetswe, Thapelo. *English-Setswana Dictionary*. Gaborone: Pentagon Publishers.

Rantao, Paul Mmolotsi. *Setswana Culture and Tradition*. Gaborone: Pentagon Publishers, 2006.

- Presents the old and the new Tswana cultural and traditional practices and explains where change is occurring and where it is resisted.

Smith, Alexander McCall. *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. 1998

- This Scottish fiction writer wrote 13 novels known as the *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* (the name of the first book). These popular novels turned HBO mini-series is a fun read but more importantly has had the largest impact on how the world views Botswana.

There are plenty of books in the office so come and check them out!