

B.ED / B.A COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

100 SERIES

AKS 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE

Language as a system. Linguistics and the study of language; the main branches of linguistics including: phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics, historical and comparative linguistics and pragmatics. The relationship between linguistics and other disciplines such as history, anthropology and sociology. Language varieties: dialects, pidgins, and creoles; standard language. Bilingualism and multilingualism.

AKS 101: LANGUAGE SKILLS IN KISWAHILI I

Introduction to language as a tool for communication with particular emphasis on Kiswahili. Variation in Language usage: topic, audience and situation. Styles of writing compositions. Punctuation in writing. Identification and correction of common grammatical and stylistic mistakes in oral and written Kiswahili.

AKS 102: HISTORICAL AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN KISWAHILI

Hypotheses on the origin of the Waswahili and Kiswahili language. First written documents and early Kiswahili Literature. The spread of Kiswahili along the East African coast. Kiswahili dialects and their distribution. Factors affecting the spread, development and standardization of Kiswahili. Language policy in East Africa. Promotion and development of Kiswahili in East Africa. Kiswahili in education in East Africa and other parts of the world. Kiswahili in the print and electronic media. Major research developments in the language, literature and lexicography. New challenges and developments such as computer programming in Kiswahili; compiling electronic dictionaries; machine translation from Kiswahili to other international languages.

200 SERIES

AKS 200: PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

Basic concepts in phonetics and phonology. General aspects of articulatory phonetics; the use of IPA symbols with reference to African Languages, approaches to the classification of speech sounds. Aspects of phonological analysis: the phoneme, the syllable, phonological processes and prosodic features.

AKS 201: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LITERATURE IN KISWAHILI

Basic concepts in literature such as forms and genres, plot, themes, characterization and style as exemplified in oral and written literature. Taxonomic determinants of oral and written literature.

AKS 202: LANGUAGE SKILLS IN KISWAHILI II

Language in communication. Language of academic presentations: reports, term papers, and oral presentations. Other forms of communication such as letter writing, speech making, and interviews. General techniques of factual and fictional writing. The meaning of style in language. Translation as a communication skill.

AKS 203: INTRODUCTION TO THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TRANSLATION

Historical development of translation. Translation theory. Translation and linguistics. The meaning and process of translation in communication. Evaluation of the linguistic, sociolinguistic, comparative, stylistic and interpretive aspects of translation theory.

Approaches and actual translation of text types such as scientific, legal, literary and economic. Evaluation and importance of translation in language development.

300 SERIES

AKS 300: MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX

Morphological concepts such as morpheme, morph, allomorph and word. Affixation – prefixation, infixation and suffixation; derivational and inflectional morphology; discovery procedures in the identification of morphemes with reference to African languages. Syntactic concepts such as phrase, clause and sentence. Introduction to theories of syntax – traditionalism, structuralism, transformational grammar.

AKS 301: KISWAHILI STRUCTURE

Kiswahili phonology, morphology and syntax in the light of traditional and modern theories of grammar such as structuralism, functionalism and generativism.

AKS 302: THEORIES OF LITERARY CRITICISM

Meaning and function of a theory of literary criticism. Exposition of literary critical perspectives such as Classical, Neo-classical, Realistic and Reader-response with particular reference to Kiswahili literature.

AKS 303: CONTEMPORARY KISWAHILI NOVEL AND PLAY

Analysis of social context, themes, language use, plot and characterization in the plays and novels composed in Kiswahili. Place and role of each of these genres in the development of literature in Kiswahili.

AKS 304: TRANSLATED KISWAHILI NOVEL AND PLAY

Evaluation of translated novels and plays in the light of current translation and literary theories. Assessment of the reliability and validity of the translations and the overall aesthetic value of the translated novels and plays to Kiswahili Literature.

AKS 306: CREATIVE WRITING

General techniques and practice of creative writing in Kiswahili with reference to the novel, the play, the poem, the autobiography and the short story. Composition of an original creative work.

AKS 307: THEATRE ARTS AND DRAMA

Origin, history and development of theatre arts and drama. Theories in theatre arts and drama. Dramatic and theatrical elements in narration, recitation, ritual, dance and music. Analysis of dramatic works like books, concerts and musicals in Kiswahili. Theatre arts and drama in East Africa focusing on criticism and aesthetic appreciation of different plays.

AKS 308: HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS

Processes of language change and the principles governing historical and comparative study of language; synchronic versus diachronic linguistics. Historical research in language; writing and language; nature and types of linguistics; the languages of Kenya.

AKS 309: STYLISTICS

Various theoretical views on style and their manifestations in works of art with specific reference to literary writings in Kiswahili. Formal rules, prosodic features, and deviations from conventional uses of language such as allegory, simile and metaphor. Literary devices and the interpretation of texts in contexts.

AKS 310: DIALECTOLOGY IN KISWAHILI

Language and dialect. Language change and development of dialects. Kiswahili and history, clustering of Kiswahili dialects; demarcation and delineation of Kiswahili dialects on the basis of linguistic principles. Differences and similarities among various Kiswahili dialects.

AKS 311: PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

Meaning and nature of psycholinguistics. Psycholinguistics and other disciplines such as psychology. Nature of human language. Language acquisition; first language and brain defects and effects. Second language learning and language teaching.

AKS 312: POPULAR SONG AND EPIC IN KISWAHILI

Song as an aspect of Kiswahili poetry. Origin and development of modern Kiswahili classics such as taarab. Leading founders of Kiswahili popular song in East Africa, history and development of Kiswahili solo, choral and orchestra composition. Themes, style and language use in popular Kiswahili songs. Challenges to and factors influencing Kiswahili popular songs. Thematic and stylistic study of the Kiswahili epic. Distinctive characteristics of the epic and its artistic peculiarity. Analysis of Kiswahili epics such as Hamziya, Fumo Liyongo, Mwana Kuponu, Mkunumbi, Ngamia na Paa, Al-Inkishafi, Wadachi Kutamalaki Mrima. Comparison with other African epics.

AKS 313: CRITICS OF KISWAHILI LITERATURE

Analysis of the works of critics of Kiswahili Literature and their influence on contemporary trends in Kiswahili. Works of critics such as J. Allen, W. Hichens, J. Knappert, S. Chiragdin, A. Abdalla and M. Msokile.

AKS 314: APPLIED TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

Interpreting of source texts. Meaning, message and stylistic peculiarities of texts. Subjectivity and objectivity of the translator in interpreting the text. The craft of translation: skills and tools. Choosing appropriate target language equivalents. Practical translation of text types. Evaluating and editing translations. History and types of interpretation. Conference interpretation and translation.

AKS 315: GENDER ISSUES IN KISWAHILI LITERATURE

Portrayal of women and men in major works of Kiswahili Literature. The study of literary works by selected women writers. Gender perceptions as reflected in oral and written literature. Choice of themes, language; use, style and characterization by selected male and female writers.

AKS 316: THE SHORT STORY IN KISWAHILI LITERATURE

History of the Kiswahili short story in East Africa: structure and rules. Tales, fables, myths, legends. The contemporary short story and its types: thrillers, detectives, romantic and didactic stories. Criticism of different types of short stories. Selected authors such as Shaaban Robert, Mohamed Suleiman Mohamed and Faraji Katalambulla.

AKS 317: STANDARDIZATION OF KISWAHILI

The meaning and purpose of language standardization. Historical background. Phelps Stokes Commission's Recommendations; The 1925 Dar es Salaam Education Conference; the 1928 Mombasa Conference and the selection of the dialect of standardization. Formation of the Inter-Territorial Language Committee and its functions including translating, compiling dictionaries as well as standardizing Kiswahili terminology; opposition to standard Kiswahili. The establishment of the Dar es Salaam institute of Kiswahili Research.

AKS 318: RESEARCH METHODS

The nature and functions of research work with particular reference to Kiswahili Language and Literature. The research topic, sampling design, data collection: primary and secondary sources such as library work, interviews, questionnaires and observation. Data analysis and interpretation. Report writing, drafting, referencing, editing, proof reading and indexing.

400 SERIES

AKS 400: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Sociolinguistic theories. Language variation in society; monolingualism, bilingualism, multilingualism and diglossia. Language in contact. Code-mixing, code-switching, interference and borrowing. Language maintenance, language shift and language death. Language planning and language policy. Standard language and the process of standardization. The historical background of the sociolinguistic situation in Kenya and East Africa.

AKS 401: SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING

Major approaches to the study of Second Language Learning and their application to the Learning of Kiswahili as a second language. Contrastive Analysis, Error Analysis, Interlanguage and Universal Grammar. Research techniques in the investigation of Second Language Learning such as data elicitation, data quantification and analysis.

AKS 402: KISWAHILI POETRY

Analysis of thematic, formal and linguistic features of classical and contemporary Kiswahili poetry in the light of theories of literary criticism. A comparison of stylistic and linguistic properties of both traditional and modern poetry. Works of outstanding Kiswahili poets such as Ahmad Nassir, Mwana Kupona, Muyaka bin Haji, Amri Abedi, Shaaban Robert, Fumo Liyongo, M. Mnyampala, Abdilatif Abdalla and S. A. Mohamed.

AKS 403: ORAL LITERATURE IN KISWAHILI

Theory of Oral Literature in Kiswahili. Relationship between Kiswahili Oral and Written Literature. Function of Oral Literature. Techniques in oral literature research and their problems. Genres of Kiswahili Oral Literature such as proverbs, riddles and narratives. Oral literature in a changing society.

AKS 406: LANGUAGE CULTURE AND ETHNOGRAPHY

General theories in language and culture. Ethnography and other social sciences such as sociology, anthropology, psychology and ethnography; the speech community; communication and social structure. Analysis of communicative event, attitudes towards communicative performance, acquisition of communicative performance, varieties of language, ethnomethodologies in language use and analysis.

AKS 407: THEATRE ARTS AND DRAMA PROJECT (2 units)

Theory and practice of writing (creating), directing, stage management, costume design, acting techniques and productions of Kiswahili Plays. Reciting, singing, dancing and dramatizing. Analysis of the aesthetic values and performances in Kiswahili.

AKS 408: APPLIED PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

General trends in phonetic theory and analysis. Fundamental assumptions and principles of generative grammar in general and generative phonology in particular. Application of phonological facts to language – related disciplines such as pedagogy – literary analysis, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics and speech therapy.

AKS 409: ORTHOGRAPHY AND LEXICOGRAPHY

General principles and theories of orthography and lexicography in languages. Problems of orthography and lexicography in Kiswahili language and other African languages. Current issues and challenges in the coinage of words in Kiswahili.

AKS 410: SEMANTICS

Theory and analysis of meaning. Language as a system of communication. The concept of meaning as an interdisciplinary component of language; the scope, assumptions and goals of semantics. Approaches to the analysis of meaning; lexical versus prepositional meaning; sense relations versus meaning properties and semantic change.

AKS 411: CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

A general survey of the existing literature for African children covering all the literary genres with particular emphasis on children’s literature in Kiswahili. Key elements in the design of children’s literature including plots, themes, characterization and style. A project on a selected aspect of children’s literature in Kiswahili.

AKS 412: DISSERTATION (2 Units)

Outstanding students in Kiswahili may be permitted to write a short research dissertation. The topics for the dissertation, the format of presentation and the supervisors will be chosen with the approval of the department. The dissertation will be written in two semesters and will be equivalent to 2 (two) units.

AKS 413: COMPARATIVE LITERATURE IN KISWAHILI

A comparison of works of Literature written in Kiswahili with those written in other parts of the world with a view to elucidating the particular and universals both thematically and stylistically.

AKS 414: TEXTUAL AND DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

Textual analysis as a linguistic discipline. Techniques of discourse analysis and their development; the use of linguistic devices in the interpretation of oral and written texts. Study of speech making and interpretation. Verbal versus written texts from the standpoint of language use.

AKS 417: LANGUAGE POLICY AND LANGUAGE PLANNING

The state of multilingualism in developing countries. Language allocation. The selection of National, Official and Regional languages and its implications. Acceptance and rejection of National and Official Language. Theory of language policy and language planning.

Language planning process. Status planning and corpus planning with specific reference to Kiswahili and other African Languages in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.