Syllabus: SOMALI 1101.02   
ELEMENTARY sOMALI i (Online)  
autumn 2018

# Course overview

## Instructor

Instructor: Jibril Ali Mohamed

Email address: Mohamed.196@osu.edu

Phone number: (614)439-3034

Classroom: Online via Carmen (weekly completion of all assignments and lessons required.)

Office hours: Mondays 11:30am-12:30pm at 100 Hagerty Hall or by appointment

## Course description

The objective of this course is to develop oral, listening, reading, and written proficiencies in elementary conversational Somali using a competency-based approach. Lexicon control will be developed to about 240 items on a 2:1:1 ratio for nominal, verbal and attributive and miscellaneous items respectively. Students are encouraged to practice what they have learned from course materials, to do all activities recommended, and to complete all required exercises and assignments throughout the course.

## GE Foreign Language Goals & Learning Outcomes:

**Goals:**

Students demonstrate skills in communication across ethnic, cultural, ideological, and national boundaries, and appreciate other cultures and patterns of thought.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students employ communicative skills (e.g. speaking, listening, reading, and/or writing) in a language other than their native language.
2. Students describe and analyze the cultural contexts and manifestations of the peoples who speak the language that they are studying.
3. Students compare and contrast the cultures and communities of the language that they are studying with their own.

## Course materials

### Required

**Text: (Do not purchase)**

**Abdullahi Abdinoor (2007). Af Soomaali aan ku hadalno (hadallo):** Let’s speak Somali: A multidimensional approach to the teaching and learning of Somali as a foreign language. Madison, WI: NALRC

Martin Orwin (1995). Colloquial Somali. New York: Routledge

## Other fees or requirements

In order to help students experience authentic Somali food, interact with native Somali speakers and practice their language skills, there will be a visit to a Somali restaurant. A meal will cost $10 - $15. Students facing financial or ride issues should discuss this with me.

## Course technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at <https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours>, and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.

* **Self-Service and Chat support:** <http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice>
* **Phone:** 614-688-HELP (4357)
* **Email:** [8help@osu.edu](mailto:8help@osu.edu)
* **TDD:** 614-688-8743

### Baseline technical skills necessary for online courses

* Basic computer and web-browsing skills, Navigating Carmen, Word (typing and editing)

### Technology skills necessary for this specific course

* CarmenConnect text, audio, and video chat
* Collaborating in CarmenWiki
* Recording a slide presentation with audio narration
* Recording, editing, and uploading video
* Video link conversation via (appear.in/jibrilmo)

### Necessary equipment

* Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
* Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed
* Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone

### Necessary software

* [Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus](https://ocio.osu.edu/blog/community/2015/08/18/free-microsoft-office-for-ohio-state-students) All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus through Microsoft’s Student Advantage program. Each student can install Office on five PCs or Macs, five tablets (Windows, iPad® and Android™) and five phones.
  + Students are able to access Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and other programs, depending on platform. Users will also receive 1 TB of OneDrive for Business storage.
  + Office 365 is installed within your BuckeyeMail account. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found <https://ocio.osu.edu/kb04733>.

**GRADING:** *See course schedule, below, for due dates*

| Assignment or category | Points |
| --- | --- |
| Midterm (Oral | 15 |
| Midterm (Written) | 15 |
| Final (Oral) | 15 |
| Final (Written | 20 |
| Contents & Discussion Posts | 20 |
| Language Outside the Classroom (LOC) Activities | 15 |
| Total | 100 |

## Assignment Descriptions

1. **Discussion Board Posts, Attendance and Participation:**

Language learning is an interactive process and students are required to attend sessions and participate in discussions. Therefore, completion of all online assignments is mandatory for all students in this course.

**Accessing contents:**

There will be a video presentation each week. Every student is expected to watch the video, take notes, practice concepts and do assignments included in the lesson.

**Logging in**: **AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**

Be sure you are logging in to the course on Carmen each week, including weeks with holidays or weeks with minimal online course activity. If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with the course instructor, via email, *as soon as possible.*

**Discussion Board Posts (All instructions are in English):** You are required to (i) make at least one original post in response to the online discussion instructions each week (ii) read comments from at least 5 students and, (iii) reply to at least 3 comments. The discussion is intended to be used by the students in the class to ask questions and practice their skills.

1. **LOC Assignment:**

Language Outside the Classroom is a requirement whereby you have to participate in a Somali activity where there is an opportunity to practice your new language skills and get firsthand experience of the culture. The instructor will arrange a trip to a Somali restaurant to practice the language of food in Somali. Every effort will be made to select a date that works for all. Discuss alternative Somali LOC activities with your instructor if you are unable to join the trip.

1. **Midterm Exam:**

There will be a written and oral exam mid-way through the semester. The midterm written exam will be a review of your progress and ability to write basic expressions in Somali. The oral section will assess your ability to comprehend and respond to simple Somali expressions.

1. **Final Exam:**

The exam will be a comprehensive review of the course material. A written exam will be given at the end of the semester during exam week. The oral final exam will be in the form of class presentation in Somali using concepts learned throughout the semester. Every student is expected to demonstrate communicative skills in spoken Somali.

## Late assignments

Learners are expected to submit all assignments on or before the due dates. **It should be noted that late assignments and make-up assignments are only accepted and/or penalized at the discretion of the instructor.**

## Grading scale

93–100: A   
90–92.9: A-   
87–89.9: B+  
83–86.9: B  
80–82.9: B-   
77–79.9: C+   
73–76.9: C  
70 –72.9: C-   
67 –69.9: D+   
60 –66.9: D  
Below 60: E

## Faculty feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-HELP** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

### Grading and feedback

For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**.

### E-mail

I will reply to e-mails within **24 hours on school days**.

### Discussion board

I will check and reply to messages in the discussion boards every **48 hours on school days**.

# Attendance, participation, and discussions

## Student participation requirements

Because this is a distance-education course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of everyone's expected participation:

* **Logging in**: **AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**Be sure you are logging in to the course in Carmen each week, including weeks with holidays or weeks with minimal online course activity. You must **view the lesson video** (During most weeks you will probably log in many times.) If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with me as soon as possible.
* **Office hours and live sessions**: **OPTIONAL OR FLEXIBLE**All live, scheduled events for the course, including my office hours, are optional. For live presentations, I will provide a recording that you can watch later. If you are required to discuss an assignment with me, please contact me at the beginning of the week if you need a time outside my scheduled office hours.
* **Participating in discussion forums**: **4+ TIMES PER WEEK**You are required to (i) make at least one original post in response to the online discussion instructions [in English] each week (ii) reply to at least 3 comments and, (iii) read comments from at least 5 students. The discussion is intended to be used by the students in the class to ask questions and practice their skills.

# Other course policies

## Academic integrity policy

It is the responsibility of the Committee of the Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examination. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/info for students/csc.asp](http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/info%20for%20students/csc.asp)). Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

* The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](http://oaa.osu.edu/coam.html))
* Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity ([*Ten Suggestions*](http://oaa.osu.edu/coamtensuggestions.html))
* Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html))

## Copyright disclaimer

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

## Statement on title IX

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu)

## Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone 614- 292-3307, [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); slds.osu.edu.

### Accessibility of course technology

This online course requires use of Carmen (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

* [Carmen (Desire2Learn) accessibility](http://www.desire2learn.com/products/accessibility/)
* [Carmen (Canvas) accessibility](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061)
* Streaming audio and video
* Synchronous course tools

## Your mental health!

## As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life’s Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614- 292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273- TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

## Student Academic Services:

Students can find information on student academic services offered at the OSU Main Campus by visiting: http://advising.osu.edu/welcome.shtml.

## Other Course Policies:

For assistance with financial aid matters, tuition and fee payments, registration challenges, managing your Student Center or other issues, contact the Student Service Center: Email: [ssc@osu.edu](mailto:ssc@osu.edu) Phone: 614-292-0300 or visit [http://ssc.osu.edu](http://ssc.osu.edu/).

**Course schedule (tentative)**

| **Week** | **Dates** | **Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **8/21 – 8/25** | Introductions:   * Introduction to Somali language   Somali orthography |
| **2** | **8/26 – 9/1** | Describing people   * Introducing yourself   Masculinity and femininity in Somali |
| **3** | **9/2 – 9/8** | * Introducing other people: * Talking about family   Demonstratives |
| **4** | **9/9 – 9/15** | Talking about possessions   * Possessives |
| **5** | **9/16 – 9/22** | Time:   * Somali numbers, days of the week, months, telling time |
| **6** | **9/23 – 9/29** | * Education: Talking about your classroom * Definite articles |
| **7** | **9/30 – 10/6** | * Daily activities: Discussing daily activities * Verbs |
| **8** | **10/7 – 10/13** | The restaurant: (Eat out at a Somali Restaurant)   * Naming food: Ordering food in Somali |
| **9** | **10/14 – 10/20** | The negative:  Forming negative sentences |
| **10** | **10/21 – 10/27** | Holidays:  Narrating travel plans   * The future tense |
| **11** | **10/28 – 11/3** | Clothing:  Traditional Somali clothes   * Buying and talking about clothes |
| **12** | **11/4 – 11/10** | Housing:  • Aqal – the Somali house |
| **13** | **11/11 – 11/17** | Professions:  • Describing professions |
| **14** | **11/18 – 11/24** | Revision, Review and wrap up |
| **15** | **11/25 – 12/1** | Further Studies |
| **16** | **12/2 – 12/13** | Final Exams |

## Semester Holidays:

9/3 Labor Day; 10/11 & 12 Autumn Break; 11/12 Veterans Day; 11/21 & 22 Thanksgiving; 11/23 Columbus Day.