The Minor in Sub-Saharan African Languages

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Sub-Saharan African Languages Minor

The minor in Sub-Saharan African Languages is designed for students who are interested in developing proficiency in any one of the languages for which there is faculty expertise, as a complement to their disciplinary major. Available African Languages include: Bamana, Lingala, Swahili, Wolof and Zulu. Completion of the minor requires at least 18 hours.

The minor is an interdisciplinary one, and students who complete the required courses will have the opportunity to engage with African linguistics, politics, culture and art.

Requirements (18 credit hours):

Language Requirement (6 credit hours)
At least 4 credit hours of advanced African Language courses beyond the second year courses, chosen in consultation with the minor advisor. Only one African Language can be chosen to fulfill this requirement.

African Linguistics (6 credit hours)
Six credit hours of Linguistics courses, including one introductory course and 3 hours at the 300 or 400 level in African Linguistics. Choose from the following:

General introductory courses:
LING 100: Intro to Language Science
LING 400: Intro to Linguistic Structure

African Linguistics courses
LING 412: Language in Africa: Culture/Society
LING 420: Introduction to African Linguistics
Or a similar course at the 300 or 400 level approved by the advisor

African Studies (6 credit hours)
Courses must be selected in consultation with the advisor. One course must be from the list of approved introductory courses, and one from the list of approved courses at the 300 or 400 level. Note that many courses on this list require a prerequisite such as AFST222 or HIST110.

Introductory Courses. Choose from the following:

AFST 210: Introduction to Modern African Literature
AFST 222: Introduction to Modern Africa
AFST 243: Pan-Africanism
AFST 267: Memoirs of Africa
ANTH 266: African Film and Society
HIST 110: History of Africa
HIST 211: History of East and Southern Africa

Advanced Courses
Choose from the following:

ACE 454: Economic Development, Tropical Africa
AFST: 410: Modern African Fiction
AFST 484: African Urbanization
ANTH 448: The Prehistory of Africa
ANTH 467: Cultures of Africa
ANTH 468: Religions of Africa
GEOG 455: Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa
HIST 410: Decolonization in Africa
HIST 411: 20th Century Africa Intellectual History
PS 341: Government and Politics in Africa
Or a similar course at the 300 or 400 level approved by the advisor.