INTL190
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - SENIOR SEMINAR
Language Policy and Language Planning in Africa

545507
HSS1128B
T, Th 11-12:20
Instructor: Sharon Rose
Contact: rose@ling.ucsd.edu / 4-1156 (e-mail preferable)
Office: 5334 McGill Hall
Office Hours: T Th 1:30-2:30

The senior seminar has two main goals: i) to introduce you to the topic of language policy and language planning as it applies to Africa, and ii) to develop your research and writing skills within the context of an intimate classroom setting.

Language policy and language planning are two closely related topics that deal with the selection and promotion of certain languages for particular uses within a society.

Language planning is the systematic attempt to change the ways in which language is used within a society.

Language policy is the formal implementation of language planning by governments or other institutions.

Africa is an exciting region in which to study and test language planning, since it poses enormous linguistic, political, economic and educational challenges. Africa is multilingual, politically tumultuous and economically underdeveloped. African countries still wrestle with colonial history, no more so than with language use. Emerging African democracies are reconsidering language use and implementing national and regional policy changes, which far-reaching ramifications for education, political stability and ethnic relations.

A seminar involves reading of related papers and class discussion. All students are expected to attend regularly and participate in discussion based on the readings assigned for each class. Each student will lead discussion of one paper during the first eight weeks. Readings will help students form a research topic for their final presentation and paper. The last two weeks of class have no readings and are devoted to student presentations of their ‘in progress’ final papers.
Course Requirements:

1. **Class attendance and participation** in discussion of readings.
   Lead discussion of one paper.
   15% of final grade

2. **Presentations of research papers** will take place during Week 9 and Week 10.
   Attendance and feedback on each other’s presentations is expected.
   15% of final grade

3. **Written research paper** on an approved topic. 70% of final grade.
   Papers should examine aspects of language planning/policy in Africa.
   Paper can focus on a particular country or region, and may investigate a topic such as education, ethnic conflict or connection between development and language policy. Please come and see me to discuss your ideas before week 5.

   Description of research paper topic is due at end of Week 5
   Outline of research paper is due at end of Week 8

Readings:

Readings can be found in PDF format at e-reserves, the UCSD library service:
http://reserves.ucsd.edu/eres/

The following book is on reserve at the SSH Geisel library:

Edinburgh University.

Chapter 2 is required reading in Week 7, but the other three chapters are recommended background reading.
**INTL190**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - SENIOR SEMINAR**

Readings for Language Policy and Language Planning in Africa

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 0</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 22</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Language planning</td>
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<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>Linguistic profile of Africa</td>
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<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Colonial history – the use of European languages</td>
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<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>Language policy/language planning in Africa</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>Minority language rights and language death</td>
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Oct. 13  Globalization

Week 4  Oct. 18 Ethnicity, identity and language

Oct. 20  Case study: Ethiopia

Week 5  Oct. 25 Political systems and language policy

Oct. 27  Case study: Morocco/Algeria
Week 6  
Nov. 1  Education  

Nov. 3  Standardization  

Week 7  
Nov. 8  Case study: Kiswahili (Kenya/Tanzania)  

Nov. 10  Development  

Week 8  
Nov. 15  Case study: South Africa  

Nov. 17  Case study: South Africa  
Due: outline of research paper  

Week 9  
Nov. 22  Paper topic presentations  
Nov. 24  Thanksgiving holiday

Week 10  
Nov. 29  Paper topic presentations  
Dec. 1  Paper topic presentations

Exam week  
Final paper due Thursday, Dec. 8 by 4pm