

## LEHRVERANSTALTUNGEN DER FÄCHER

### AFRIKANISTIK DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LINGUISTICS & LITERATURES

#### TEAM

Blackburn, Brady Christian, MA, E-Mail: brady.c.blackburn@uni-bayreuth.de

Dombrowsky-Hahn, Klaudia, PD Dr. phil., Lehrkraft für Bambara, Universität, B 5b, Tel.: 0921/55-2215, E-Mail: klaudia.hahn@uni-bayreuth.de

Harvey, Andrew, Juniorprof. Dr. (African Languages and the Construction of Knowledge), Universität, GW I, Zimmer 1.31, Tel.: 0921/55-3581, E-Mail: andrew.harvey@uni-bayreuth.de

Krause, Brigitte (Sekretariat African and Afrophone Philosophies, Fächergruppe Afrikanistik), Universität, GW I, Zimmer 1.30, Tel.: 0921/55-3616, E-Mail: brigitte.krause@uni-bayreuth.de

NN, wiss. MitarbeiterIn, Universität, GWI, Zimmer 1.08, Tel. 0921/55-3558

Rettová, Alena, Prof. Dr. (African and Afrophone Philosophies), GSP, Zimmer R 01-339, Tel.: 0921/55-5104, E-Mail: alena.rettova@uni-bayreuth.de

Schmeer, Claudia (Sekretariat African Linguistics I, Literatures in African Languages), Universität, GW I, Zimmer 1.06, Tel.: 0921/55-3526, E-Mail: claudia.schmeer@uni-bayreuth.de

Sommer, Gabriele, Prof. Dr. (African Linguistics I), Universität, GW I, Zimmer 1.07, Tel.: 0921/55-3557, E-Mail: gabriele.sommer@uni-bayreuth.de

Talento, Serena, Dr. phil., wiss. Mitarbeiterin, Lehrkraft für Swahili, Universität, B 3, Zimmer 17, Tel.: 0921/55-5368, E-Mail: serena.talento@uni-bayreuth.de

Tarrant, Duncan Ian, MA, EXC-Africa multiple, Zapf 3, Zimmer 2.1.17, Tel. 0921/55-4778, E-Mail: duncan.tarrant@uni-bayreuth.de

Turner, Irina, PD Dr. phil., E-Mail: irina.turner@uni-bayreuth.de

Vierke, Clarissa, Prof. Dr. (Literatures in African Languages), Universität, GW I, Zimmer 1.10, Tel.: 0921/55-3550, E-Mail: clarissa.vierke@uni-bayreuth.de

Winkelmann, Kerstin, Dr. phil., Lehrbeauftragte, Tel.: 0921/55-3526, E-Mail: kerstin.winkelmann@uni-bayreuth.de

**During our first meeting in the summer term, which will take place on Monday, 15 April 2024 at 10.15 a.m., you will receive all the updated information about our study programmes such as BA/MA African Verbal and Visual Arts and all African languages. The room for the meeting will be announced on our website (<https://www.avva.uni-bayreuth.de/en/news>) and on our notice boards closer to the time.**

#### BA African Verbal and Visual Arts (Languages, Literatures, Media and Art)

40120

**Methods in Linguistics  
S 2 hpw, Wednesday 12-14  
BA AVVA major subject C10, minor subject C5**

**Sommer**

This seminar is the first part of a module on linguistic and literary methods. It gives an overview of structures found in the great variety of African languages, i.e. in their phonology, morphology and syntax. Depending on interests and subject background of the participants, we will also discuss topics such as linguistic diversity, globally and in Africa, and questions of language and identity. Recommended first reading: Genetti, Carol (ed.) 2019. *How languages work*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**40112**      **Methods in Media Studies**      **Andergassen**  
**Blackness in Film**  
**S 2 hpw, Wednesday 16-18**  
**BA AVVA major subject C10, minor subject C5**

The category of "Blackness" is a product of colonial strategies of Othering that reduce non-white people to an inferior stereotype. On the other hand, from the second half of the 20th century on, the representation of "Blackness" has become an important factor in the struggle for the equality of People of Color. Starting from a cultural-historical classification of the category, we will analyze filmic representations of „Blackness“, and critically discuss their production of meaning in relation to questions of racism/reinterpretation/appropriation.

**40122**      **Writing for Special Purposes**      **Rettová**  
**S 2 hpw, Tuesday 12-14**  
**BA AVVA major subject C11**

The course trains students in analysing and writing different professional and audience-oriented texts with an emphasis on useful strategies for effective argumentation. Thus, the outcome is familiarity with the basic technical writing skills necessary for an academic career, as well as in other fields of professionalization, such as journalism or public relations.

**40129**      **Field of Specialization 3 / Field A: Linguistics**      **Harvey**  
**Linguistic Field Research Methods**  
**S 2 hpw, Monday 10-12**  
**BA AVVA major subject E3**

Central to linguistics is the collection and analysis of language data, but how is this data collected, prepared, and analysed? In this module, students will work in a simulated field situation with a speaker of a lesser-known African language in order to collect, organise, and analyse novel linguistic data. The main part of the course will see the class work as a team to plan and conduct elicitation sessions, manage the data and metadata generated, and conduct preliminary analyses of this data to address the general questions of the team, as well as the more specific questions of the individualised projects. Throughout, specialised support will be given in learning digital tools for field methods, working with and analysing the emerging data, and the preparation and presentation of findings to a specialised academic audience. This course is designed for those interested in pursuing documentary and descriptive fieldwork, those interested in collecting linguistic data for theoretical work, as well as those working with and evaluating previously-collected linguistic data.

**40130**      **Field of Specialization 3 / Field B: Literary Studies**      **C. Vierke**  
**Literature and Culture / Poetry and Politics**  
**S 2 hpw, Thursday 8-10**  
**BA AVVA major subject E3**

What is the relationship between literature and politics in Africa? Does literature have the power to transform social and political contexts? How much do literary texts, from slam poetry to feminist novels, shape notions of identity, gender, ethnic and racial categories and belonging? And how much does literature reflect the political context from which it emerges? The aim of the course is to provide students with various concepts to critically evaluate the complex relationship between politics and literary production. By drawing on various examples from all over the African continent, the course will discuss also the specific form literature takes, its ways of creating utopias, narrating alternatives and moving its audiences, to challenge the status quo.

**40131**      **Field of Specialization 3 / Field C: Media & Art**      **Klug**  
**Iconology and Ideology**  
**Female Artists in Modern African Art**  
**S 2 hpw, Wednesday 8-10, Iwalewahaus**  
**BA AVVA major subject E3**

This course we will identify and critique the works of multiple contemporary African artists. Students will discuss theories and methods in critically reflecting the relationship between images and ideological apparatuses, as well as artist works and lives in a socio-cultural context. Students will read and discuss texts related to these topics.

**40135**      **Advanced Seminar 1/2 / Field A: Linguistics**      **Harvey**  
**Languages and Meaning**  
**AS 2 hpw, Tuesday 8-10**  
**BA AVVA major subject E4, E5, minor subject E3**

Semantics is the study of how meaning is encoded in language. How can we learn how meaning is encoded in languages around the globe and in African languages in particular? After a first introduction into the basic concepts of the topic, we will examine meaning-making in African languages with a range of real-world examples.

**40136**      **Advanced Seminar 1/2 / Field B: Literary Studies**      **C. Vierke**  
**Literary Theories: Decolonizing the Mind**  
**AS 2 hpw, Monday, 8-10**  
**BA AVVA major subject E4, E5, minor subject E3**

The course is anchored on a critical engagement with the writings by the prominent author and literary scholar Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o and their reception as well as connections to other postcolonial theories and critical thinkers from the African continent and its diaspora. In "Decolonizing the Mind", which will be our entry point into his thinking, he critically reflects upon relations of language, (neo)colonialism and culture. As we will explore also in relation to other works,

notions of translation, the questioning of Western universal thought, the power of literary and cultural institutions, notions of orality and indigenous knowledge as well as the analysis of forms of suppression and ways of liberation offer topical prime concepts for a multifocal, informed and critical perspective on (African) literatures. We will also seek to trace some links of his thoughts in Bayreuth's African studies, since the collection of "Decolonizing the Mind" was partly conceived of in Bayreuth forty years ago. In May 2024, students will have the unique chance to engage in conversations with international scholars on the occasion the Swahili Colloquium that has been specifically dedicated to the topic.

**40137      Advanced Seminar 1/2 / Field C: Media & Art      Schramm**  
**Art, Media, and Meaning: History of Art**  
**AS 2 hpw, Friday 8-10, Iwalewahaus**  
**BA AVVA major subject E4, E5, minor subject E3, EIMAS**

Meaning in the visual arts – when Erwin Panofsky published nine essays under this title in 1955 his main interest was concentrated on the canon of European art history like the humanistic conception of men, the Gothic architecture or the Renaissance painting. In this seminar, we deal with the hermeneutical challenges of contemporary art. To this end, we question the current state of research from an African-centric perspective expanding the focus on media and performing arts.

#### **BA Minor Subject Curators' Track**

**40113      Curatorial Project Part 2      Klug, Kuhnke**  
**P 2 hpw, Tuesday 8-10, Iwalewahaus**  
**Minor subject Curators' Track module 1 part 2**

The seminar supports students in their methodological and content-based preparation for their curatorial projects; such as finding a theme, the conceptualization, organization and reflection of them. Recent debates of curatorial art and media studies are introduced in all phases of the project. Recommended for second semester.

**40140      Realization of the Project Part 2      Klug**  
**P 2 hpw, Wednesday 10-12, Iwalewahaus**  
**Minor subject Curators' Track module 2 part 2**

The project consists of the organisation of a curatorial work based on the conceptualization of the prior module. The content of the module includes the curatorial realisation and a public presentation of the project.

**40145      Advanced Curatorial Project Part 2      Kuhnke**  
**AP 2 hpw, Wednesday 12-14, Iwalewahaus**  
**Minor subject Curators' Track module 3 Part 2**

In this seminar, we will critically engage with theories on curatorial practices, focusing and discussing the concept of the White Cube as the museum space. Furthermore, we will approach technical and methodological ideas of exhibition making as well as gaining practical insights into conceptualizations of exhibitions and displays. How can space be used and modified? Which challenges in exhibition making occur? The seminar moreover aims at discussing and exchanging curatorial experiences with a view on the most important exhibitions on art from Africa in the last twenty years.

#### **MA African Verbal and Visual Arts (Languages, Literatures, Media and Art)**

**40310      Interdisciplinary Seminar      Rettová**  
**2. Theory: Semiotics**  
**S 2 hpw, Monday 14-16**  
**MA AVVA C8, SprInK M2, M9**

Semiotics is the study of meaning-making, of signs, symbols, and meaningful communication. After giving a general introduction into the field of semiotics, the course discusses recent theoretical contributions to semiotics from different disciplinary perspectives. Through selected topics, students are encouraged to engage with various theoretical approaches to semiotics from one or more of the domains of African Verbal and Visual Arts such as linguistics, literature, art, curation, and media studies.

**40312      Languages and Meaning: Semantics      Harvey**  
**S 2 hpw, Monday 8-10**  
**MA AVVA E1.3, SprInK M2**

This seminar focuses on how speakers understand the world around them, and how this is encoded in language. Using examples from African languages, we will look at a set of rich and varied subsystems, especially in relation to how they differ from Western systems (often taken as defaults). We will also take time to consider calls for cognitive justice in the description of African languages.

**40313      Thematic Course 1: Comparative Linguistics      Sommer**  
**S 2 hpw, Thursday 14-16**  
**MA AVVA E1.4, SprInK M8.1-2, M9**

In this course we will mainly look at contact phenomena in African languages. How did contact situations come about? How did linguistic and cultural transfer take place? How do we know about earlier times? What recent phenomena are

described in the literature? We will include examples from languages participants are familiar with through their study program/s or because these languages are part of their individual linguistic repertoires. We will also look into selected recent studies on areal typology in Africa.

**40316 Literature Outreach: Institutional Contexts African-Language Periodicals** **Blackburn**  
**S 2 hpw, Tuesday 8- 10**  
**MA AVVA E2.3**

This course will explore periodical publications in African languages – newspapers, magazines, and comic books – and the institutions that create them, from government agencies to NGOs to private individuals. By looking at various publications and their English translations and by zooming in on specific time periods and ethnolinguistic contexts across the continent, students will get an idea of the range of periodicals in African languages and the various intentions behind their creation. Aside from the ever-present language question, we will explore what constitutes propaganda, where the lines between genres really lie, how far African-language serial publication can reach, and the role of popularity in a periodical's life and death.

**40317 Literature Outreach: Practical Approaches** **C. Vierke**  
**S 2 hpw, Monday 10-12**  
**MA AVVA E2.4**

This course is a practical one, where students will have the chance to work on their own projects related to literature. They will have the chance to, for instance, organize readings, roundtables or presentations; conduct interviews with authors, translators or agents in literary institutions; or to write literary reviews. In this way, they will have the chance to independently apply their previously acquired methods, approaches, and test their skills of coordination, management of events as well as of evaluation and criticism.

**40318 Art and Aesthetic Practices in Africa Inclusive Aesthetics: Theories on Curating** **Schramm**  
**S 2 hpw, Tuesday 10-12, Iwalewahaus**  
**MA AVVA E3.2**

Our seminar invites you to think through concepts of inclusive aesthetics in the museum space. We will discuss the following questions: What is curation? What is aesthetics? How can curators help to create inclusive environments? What does an inclusive museum practice look like? What is the aesthetic gain for everyone involved? What does inclusive aesthetics have to do with decolonizing approaches?

The seminar includes practical exercises and visits to exhibitions which will enable you to challenge and answer the questions above. After participating in the seminar, students will be able to define „inclusive aesthetics“ and apply them to their own curatorial and/or discursive work.

**40319 History of Reception of African Modern Art** **Zemanek**  
**S 2 hpw, Tuesday 12-14, Iwalewahaus**  
**MA AVVA E3.4**

“Let another world be born” - this line from the FESTAC anthem (Walker/Euba) serves as our guide to an intellectual and aesthetic tour to important festivals, gatherings, and conferences in the history of the African decolonial struggles. We cruise from iconic musical, political, literary events such as FESTAC 77 to lesser theorised events such as Afropunk. We will investigate “temporary aesthetic collectives” in relation to concepts of future, of reception and participation and the transformative power of “moments of collective joy” (Segal); and seek conversation with contemporary festival makers

**40325 Thesis Development / Colloquium** **Greven, Sommer, C. Vierke**  
**Coll. 2 hpw, Thursday 10-12**  
**MA AVVA C10**

In this course thematic areas relevant for the development of a master thesis topic will be discussed. Participants will be offered a platform to further develop a general thesis framework and with reference to their respective area of specialization work in progress will be presented and discussed accordingly.

**40151 Research Colloquium** **Sommer**  
**Coll. 2 hpw, Tuesday 14-16**  
**MA AVVA C9**

This course is a regular colloquium in which guest scholars, staff members and students present their research topics and the result of their work. Participation in one of the research colloquia (at African Linguistics/Literatures or Iwalewahaus) is obligatory for MA students to facilitate their participation in ongoing work and to get acquainted with and accustomed to discourses of the academic community.

**40178 Current Trends in African Linguistics** **Sommer**  
**S 2 hpw, Monday 16-18**  
**MA AVVA E1.6, Swahili Studies Specialization, SprInK M6.1-2**

This course will give an overview of the current thematic, methodological, and disciplinary approaches to relevant fields of African linguistics. Students will be encouraged to further specialize in one specific academic field of African linguistics, thus enabling them to get acquainted with current approaches to research questions as well as to select and review

relevant literature within this particular domain.

**40230 Theory of Art Scherer**  
**'African Art' in a multidimensional sphere**  
**S 2 hpw, Thursday 8-10**  
**MA AVVA 3.1**

Engaging with contemporary art challenges us to face the uncertainty of a multidimensional sphere. In this sphere, art theory can offer possibilities for orientation. The seminar will therefore explore ways of engaging with contemporary art theory in and from Africa by examining what the "local" and the "global", "past" and "present", "production" or creation and perception might mean for contemporary "African art" today. Students will begin by examining the schools of thought established in modern art theory, after which the course is devoted to the students' individual approaches to further exploring contemporary art theory with particular reference to Africa.

**Additional courses open for advanced BA-students, MA students and PhD-candidates (MA AVVA, BIGSAS, IPP, SprlnK)**

**40246 Academic Writing for MA-students Scherer, NN**  
**S 2 hpw, block seminar (3 parts)**

This course trains you in academic writing at the MA level. Beyond the formal basics of citing, referencing, and getting the formalities right, we will also look at essay and thesis structure, academic writing, and structures of argumentation beyond disciplinary boundaries. This seminar is highly recommended for first year students. Advanced students who want to improve on their writing skills for their final thesis are also very welcome.

**40248 IsiXhosa – Overview NN**  
**S 2 hpw, Thursday 12-14**  
**BA/MA AVVA, SprlnK M11 (Stud. Generale)**

IsiXhosa is one of the eleven official languages of the Republic of South Africa. Where is this language spoken? What functions does it fulfil for its multilingual speakers? How does isiXhosa literature look like? And how is the language used in all domains of every-day-life as well as for special purposes (journalism, poetry, arts)? These are only some of the questions that will be dealt with in more detail in this introductory course on isiXhosa, a language used in different contexts and media as well as in BA/MA programmes at South African universities.

**40211 Formatting Thesis (BA, MA, PhD) and other scholarly papers with Word Winkelmann**  
**S 1 hpw, block seminar, room and time upon agreement**

The course consists of two parts, which can be attended independently.

1. Basics: general layout options, creating and modifying styles, creating and using templates (two 120-minute sessions)
2. Formatting longer papers and books: styles; pagination; headers; automatic numbering; lists of tables, figures etc. (three 120-minute sessions).

**40184 Iwalewahaus Colloquium Greven**  
**Coll. 2 hpw, Wednesday 10-12, Iwalewahaus**  
**MA AVVA E3.6**

In the Iwalewahaus Colloquium, the research activities of students at Iwalewahaus are introduced and discussed. While also taking into account methodological and content aspects, the course offers insights into the broad spectrum of research activities in the domain of Art and Curatorial Studies.

**40225 Workshop for Doctoral Students in African Languages C. Vierke**  
**S 2 hpw, Tuesday 8-10**

The aim of this course is to provide doctoral students in African Language Literatures a communicative platform to discuss the outline of their work, their challenges and ideas. Doctoral students will learn from each other and will be accompanied to further develop their research question as well as to structure their thesis writing and research. Further emphasis will be put on the writing process.

### Language courses

**SAB03 Bambara 3 Grundkurs 3 / Language 1/2: Intermediate Course Dombrowsky-Hahn**  
**E 4 hpw, Monday 16-18; Tuesday 12-14**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprlnK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C3; MA AVVA C3**

Anyone who has acquired proficiency in Bambara (or Bamanankan) will easily be able to get along in other Manding varieties such as Jula, Maninka and Mandinka. Apart from in Mali, Eastern Senegal, Gambia, Burkina Faso, and the Ivory Coast, there are many speakers of Manding varieties in those parts of Europe where diasporas from these countries are living. The language courses 1 – 4 introduce students to the structure of Bambara and exercise their active

language skills. These skills include listening comprehension, speaking, writing, reading, and grammar. The aim is to develop an appropriate level of language proficiency to meaningfully participate in everyday conversations.

Learn more about the Bambara courses at the University of Bayreuth at <http://kdombrowsky.de>

**SAB04**      **Bambara 4 Grundkurs 4 / Language 1/2: Advanced Course**      **Dombrowsky-**  
**E 4 hpw, block seminar, room and time upon agreement**      **Hahn**  
**KUGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprInK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C4; MA AVVA C4**

**SAB05**      **Bambara Aufbaukurs / Language in Application**      **Dombrowsky-**  
**báaradaw – professions and workplaces**      **Hahn**  
**Requirement: Completion Bambara 4 G 4 (Advanced Course)**  
**E 1 hpw, Monday 12-13**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MASprInK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C7; MA AVVA**

In this course we will study different professions and workplaces in Mali, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Senegal. The topic will be introduced based on different types of Bambara texts and in different media (film, broadcast, blog). Among others, we will discuss the difficult social situation of young maids working in cities.

**SAW033**      **Wolof 3 Grundkurs 3 / Language 1/2: Intermediate Course**      **Diene**  
**E 4 hpw, Wednesday 8-10, Friday 10-12**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprInK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C3; MA AVVA C3**

Continuation of the lessons of Wolof 2 Grundkurs 2 (Language1/2: Basic course)

Wolof is a language spoken primarily in Senegal, The Gambia, and Mauritania, which belongs to the Niger-Congo linguistic phylum. This intermediary course is the third of four levels which can be taken within two semesters. Alongside skills in reading, writing, and conversation, students will also receive a detailed explanation of the language's structure. Transmission of extended knowledge such as social and cultural aspects will be integrated into the material used. The aim is to develop an appropriate level of language proficiency to meaningfully participate in everyday conversations.

**SAW04**      **Wolof 4 Grundkurs 4 / Language 1/2: Advanced Course**      **Diene**  
**E 4 hpw, block seminar, room and time upon agreement**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprInK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C4; MA AVVA C4**

Continuation of the lessons of Wolof 3 Grundkurs 3 (Language 1/2: Intermediate course).

**SAW05**      **Wolof Aufbaukurs / Language in Application**      **Diene**  
**Introduction into Wolof Language and Culture**  
**E 1 hpw, Friday 12-13**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprInK M11, Global History, BA und**  
**MA AVVA**

Wolof is a language spoken primarily in Senegal, The Gambia, and Mauritania, which belongs to the Niger-Congo linguistic phylum. As a starting point, the seminar offers an introduction into the phonology, morphology and syntax of the language. Further, the course aims at providing students with basic knowledge concerning the cultural context of the language.

**SAS03-1**      **Swahili 3a Grundkurs 3 / Language 1/2: Intermediate Course**      **Talento**  
**E 4 hpw, Wednesday 10-12; Monday 12-14**  
**KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprInK M11, Global History**  
**BA AVVA major subject C3; MA AVVA C3**

Swahili is a Bantu language. It is among the ten most widely spoken languages in the world and among the most widely used African languages south of the Sahara with an estimated population of over 200 million speakers. Swahili is a national and official language in Tanzania and Kenya, one of the official languages in Rwanda, one of the four national languages of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and it is also used in other countries including Uganda, Burundi, northern Mozambique, Somalia, and the Comoro Islands.

The Swahili course is structured in four basic levels - Grundkurse 1-4 - which can be taken within two semesters. The classes are addressed to learners who want to acquire language competence for daily communication in eastern Africa, as well as to anyone who may wish to study Swahili linguistics and literature. Therefore, alongside skills in reading (kusoma), writing (kuandika), listening (kusikiliza) and speaking (kuzungumza) Swahili, students will also receive a detailed explanation of the language's grammatical structure. In the course, learners are also trained to develop an awareness of the diversity of social customs in the Swahili speaking worlds. (Note that Swahili 1-4 a and 1-4 b are two identical parallel courses – students may only enrol in one).

<b>SAS03-2</b>	<b>Swahili 3b Grundkurs 3 / Language 1/2: Intermediate Course</b> E 4 hpw, Wednesday 12-14; Monday 10-12 KuGeA, GEFA, NF Sprachen, MA SprlnKM11, Global History BA AVVA major subject C3; MA AVVA C3	<b>Talento</b>
<b>SAS04-1</b>	<b>Swahili 4a Grundkurs 4 / Language 1/2: Advanced Course</b> E 4 hpw, block seminar, room and time upon agreement KuGeA, GEFA; NF Sprachen, MA SprlnK M11, Global History BA AVVA major subject C4; MA AVVA C4	<b>NN</b>
<b>SAS04-2</b>	<b>Swahili 4b Grundkurs 4 / Language 1/2: Advanced Course</b> E 4 hpw, block seminar, room and time upon agreement KuGeA, GEFA; NF Sprachen, MA SprlnK M11, Global History BA AVVA major subject C4; MA AVVA C4	<b>NN</b>
<b>SAS05</b>	<b>Swahili Aufbaukurs (A1) / Language in Application</b> <b>Dunia za Waswahili – Swahili Worlds</b> <b>Requirement: Completion Swahili 4 G 4 (Advanced Course)</b> E 1 hpw, Wednesday 14-15 KuGeA, GEFA, Nf Sprachen, MA SprlnK M 11, Global History BA AVVA major subject B7; MA AVVA	<b>Talento</b>

The course explores aspects of Swahili culture relating to language, history, literature, music and popular culture. It aims at enhancing the comprehension of Swahili and deepening language competence through exercises in reading, translating, listening to Swahili texts, and watching video material. Main sources will range from TV programs, radio broadcasting, literary texts, newspaper articles, and songs. The module serves as a language laboratory in which students can practice their knowledge in Swahili, know various genres of texts and improve their competence in different communicative situations.

Prerequisite: Completion of Swahili G4.

<b>08711</b>	<b>isiXhosa</b> <b>Online Language Course (G2 Basic, during summer term)</b> BA AVVA major subject C6 and minor subject C6; MA AVVA C6	<b>Sommer, NN</b>
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IsiXhosa is one of the 11 official languages of South Africa. This online language course introduces you to the language and its use. The course is divided in two parts and provides initial and basic isiXhosa language skills in grammar, vocabulary, cultural background, and conversation. Both courses are offered in cooperation with the Anthropology Department of LMU Munich and with the African Languages Department at the University of Fort Hare (South Africa). Successful completion of isiXhosa 1 is required.

The second course (G 2) is offered twice; students can either choose to start in February (during the term break) or in April (during the regular summer semester).

Please register for the courses on cmlife (UBT) and at the Bavarian Virtual University ([www.vhb.org](http://www.vhb.org)).

Requirements for G 2: Completion of isiXhosa G1 Initial Course (Units 1-10) during winter term and – as in course 1 – regular, self-driven processing and learning of lecturing units and tasks is required.

Credits: Final written exam (G2 Basic, Units 1-20) (UBT/LMU 5 ECTS) or completion of all units (LMU).