



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

September 7, 2011

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2011-2012

Mr. David E. Shipley, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - Dr. T. Dean Pringle

Arts and Sciences - Dr. Roxanne Eberle (Arts)

Dr. Rodney Mauricio (Sciences)

Business - Dr. William D. Lastrapes

Ecology - Dr. James W. Porter

Education - Dr. William G. Wraga

Environment and Design - Mr. David Spooner

Family and Consumer Sciences - Dr. Jan M. Hathcote

Forestry and Natural Resources - Dr. Sarah F. Covert

Journalism and Mass Communication - Dr. Alison F. Alexander

Law – No representative

Pharmacy - Dr. Keith N. Herist

Public and International Affairs - Dr. Jerome S. Legge

Public Health – Dr. Marsha C. Black

Social Work - Dr. Stacey R. Kolomer

Veterinary Medicine - Dr. K. Paige Carmichael

Graduate School - Dr. Tracie E. Costantino

Undergraduate Student Representative – Mr. Marshall Moser

Graduate Student Representative – Mr. Zachary Watne

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new prefix: HAUS, Hausa, will be an agenda item for the September 14, 2011, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Jere W. Morehead
Dr. Laura D. Jolly



The University of Georgia

Department of Religion
Fax 706-542-6724
www.uga.edu/religion

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Peabody Hall
Athens, Georgia 30602-1625
Telephone 706-542-5356

4 August 2011

Dear Dean Ruppensburg,

I would like to request a new class prefix: HAUS for HAUSA 1001-1002 and 2003-2004, Elementary and Intermediate Hausa Language and Culture. The linguistic component of the class will cover the fundamentals of grammar, pronunciation, reading, composition, and conversation of Hausa. The cultural component will focus primarily on the literature, religion, art, and music of Hausa speakers.

At the end of spring semester, Dean Fallows apprised me of the problems involved in offering classes in lesser-taught languages for which only one TA was available, with no possibility of faculty being able to teach the language in question if the TA dropped out. He suggested that we could offer it as "Hausa Language and Culture," which would allow sufficient flexibility for the course content to emphasize culture as well as language, as necessary. Several full-time faculty members are qualified to teach such a course. With such a title, the class could still be taught by UGA faculty if the FLTA had to withdraw for some reason. Also, it is my understanding that with such a title, the class would not fulfill foreign language requirements. Nevertheless, it can be used toward fulfilling requirements of the African Studies certificate and Arabic major.

I would particularly like this prefix because I have received a Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) grant (from the Fulbright program-Institute for International Education) to bring a Hausa teacher to UGA in order to teach it for 2011-12. It is important for UGA to teach Hausa since it is considered by the federal government to be a language that is important for national security, having roughly 65 million speakers. Mainly spoken in northern Nigeria, the Republic of Niger, northern Cameroon, and Ghana, it is also used as a trade language in West Africa and parts of north and equatorial Africa. In addition, there are also significant Hausa-speaking diasporic communities. If UGA offers Hausa it will become one of twelve universities in the U.S. to do so (and the only one in the Southern U.S.), joining institutions such as University of Pennsylvania, UCLA, University of Wisconsin, Indiana University, and Michigan State University.

Federal Fulbright funding will pay the complete salary, living expenses, and travel costs of a native speaker of Hausa in order to teach two courses each per semester for one year. Fulbright also supplies the teacher, who is fluent in both his native language and English and is also skilled in methods of modern spoken-language teaching. The teacher then must return to his or her country after one year. Fortunately, since the program is tied to national security, there is a strong probability that the funding for the program will continue. In addition, we have been given assurances that we will be "grandfathered" into the program. Hence, although we need to reapply to the program each year, we will have relative security that each year we will be granted funding for a new teacher.

Although I will be the primary supervisor, I will be assisted by Dr. Ojo, Traore, and Aderibigbe, who all agreed that Hausa should be housed in the Department of Religion because of my familiarity with the FLTA program, its importance as a language of African Muslims, and because of the presence of Dr. Aderibigbe in Religion.

In spite of the strong likelihood of continued federal funding for this and other FLTA positions, I see these as only a stepping stone to gaining major long-term federal funding for instructorships in these languages. Such long-term federal funding will be able to provide the foundation for language programs that will be very useful for students in many disciplines across the campus, which will be especially important if UGA is to gain a solid reputation as a first tier research institution whose scope is truly global.

Regards,


Dr. Alan Godlas

Associate Professor

Approval:

Dr. Sandy D. Martin

Department Head