Syllabus for Haitian Creole 2201, Spring 2012, UF
Silabis pou kreyòl ayisyen. Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Assistant Professor: Ben Hebblethwaite, Ph.D.
Office locations: 363 Dauer Hall
Office hours: Monday 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Contact information: hebble@ufl.edu
Tel: 352-273-3762
Class website: http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/

Equal rights statement: All activities in this class are open to all persons with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations.

Class objectives:
Our objective is to help develop your proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and listening in Haitian Creole. Our goal is to accomplish this in a classroom setting where communicative, form-focused and meaningful activities activate learning. In addition to the instruction of Haitian Creole through books, lectures and discussions, the instruction of Haitian culture, society and especially music (konpa, rasin, twoubadou, rap, raga, levanjil, vodou tradisyonèl, etc.) are an important part of the class experience. The playing and testing of Haitian Creole Scrabble is also an important activity in this class.

Special concerns:
- NO CELL PHONES; NO NEWSPAPERS; NO BEEPERS; NO GADGETS; NO SLEEPING... but please enjoy eating, drinking and speaking Creole!

Required texts:
Textbooks are available at: GTI textbooks at the Creekside Mall [3501 Southwest 2nd Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32607-2866; (352) 374-4500]

1. Jil, Dyeri and Ivwoz Jil. 2009. Sèvis Ginen: Rasin, Rityèl, Respè lan Vodou. Davie, Florida: Bookmanlit. (Order it right now at this link: click here) [$40]

Highly recommended:


Grade distribution:

(1) **25 % = Essays.** MUST BE TYPED (1 full page, double-spaced) and turned in before the end of roll call. LATE WORK ACCEPTED with a 5% “late fee assessment” if turned in after roll call and a “10% “late fee assessment” if turned in more than 1 week late. HOMEWORK IS NOT LATE IF A MEDICAL OR EMERGENCY DOCUMENT (INCLUDING PHONE NUMBER & LETTERHEAD) IS STAPLED TO THE WORK SUBMITTED. Your essays must be typed with accents. Your paper must be typed .12 font, double-spaced with 1 inch margins on all sides and a **1 page minimum and maximum** in length. Times New Roman Required. More than 1 page is not accepted. Turn in your work using a pseudonym. Points will be removed if you do not follow these guidelines!

The Final Version is the corrected version of all of your essays. You must use a dictionary to correct the misspelled words in your essays. **You must submit the graded parts and the Final Version.** You must highlight or type in **boldface type** all your corrections.

(2) **15 % = Up to 7 Quizzes.** NO MAKE UP QUIZZES. Many of these are POP-QUIZZES! Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason whatsoever but they can be excused with an appropriate note.

(3) **10 % = 2 Class Presentations.** Presentation 1 is on the reading for the day you sign up. **Presentation 2 is an “exam preparation presentation” on an assigned topic.** NO MAKE UP FOR THE PRESENTATIONS EXCEPT IF A MEDICAL OR EMERGENCY EXCUSE INCLUDING PHONE NUMBER IS SUBMITTED. You are graded on your ability to give an engaging presentation where you make regular eye-contact with the audience. You cannot simply read. You may use note cards. Graded for clarity; organization; preparation; effectiveness of your communication (are you connecting with us? are we convinced?); insight of your critique. Memorize your material; do not read off of a sheet of paper!). If you give vocabulary, **make sure you put it in a full sentence to give the word context!** You are required to create a PowerPoint presentation with images.

(4) **20 % = Participation.** Based on your punctual arrival, your attendance, on your classroom volunteerism and cooperation, on your willingness to practice Haitian Creole and on your comportment and treatment of others. If you are chronically late or absent, this will negatively
affect your participation numbers. Participation; attendance; punctuality, courtesy, attentiveness; respect for learning environment; etiquette; insights (please, no phones, no texting, no surfing on the internet, and inappropriate actions). Roll call occurs at the beginning of class. Note: if you’re not there at roll call, you’re ABSENT. Distraction by gadgets, outside homework, newspapers, etc., is considered an absence. Disruptive behavior is also considered an absence.

(5) 15% = Midterm Exam

(6) 15% = Final Exam

Total: 100%. Your grade is based on the sum total of your scores in the above 7 categories.

!!! Academic honesty/professionalism statement !!!
Last semester I had one student cheat on a Scantron quiz, two students submit falsified medical letters (yes, I call the doctor), and two disruptive students who regularly engaged in rude private conversations. All such cases are sent to the Dean of Students and result in the lowering of the violator’s grade or failure in addition to sanctions from the Dean of Students. The instructor can lower a grade as appropriate if students disregard UF policy. Thank heavens that most UF students are AWESOME!!!

http://www.voanews.com/creole/

Class code
Course expectations

LATE POLICY: LATE WORK ACCEPTED with a 5% “late fee assessment” if turned in after roll-call and a “10% “late fee assessment” if turned in after class. NO MISSED QUIZ CAN BE RE-TAKEN; HOWEVER, IF YOU SUBMIT A VALID EXCUSE NOTE, THE MISSED QUIZ WILL NOT COUNT AGAINST YOU.

Attendance/comportment policy
Students are expected to attend class every period. There are no unexcused absences. Athletes must be excused by the athletics department. Unexcused absences and tardiness result in a lowering of the participation grade. Missing class can seriously affect a student’s ability to perform in other categories of the syllabus (such as missed quizzes or incurred late penalties).

If a student is absent and the absence is excusable, he or she is expected to contact the instructor with the reason for his or her absence. Medical treatment or a personal or family crisis are acceptable grounds for an excused absence: a note including a contact phone number and legible letterhead is required. Please, no falsified notes!

Leaving in the middle of class to go to the bathroom or answer a phone is not acceptable. UF assumes you can organize your biological and social functions before or after class! If you do leave in the middle of class, you will be considered absent for the day, resulting in the lowering of your grade.
Engaging in distracted forms of behavior like **texting, emailing, reading the newspaper or chatting inappropriately with other students** is not acceptable. If you do engage in such behavior, you will be considered **absent** for the day, resulting in the lowering of your grade.

If you consistently disregard UF policy, the instructor reserves the right to ask you to leave the class, to make an appointment with the Dean of Students, and to engage in a conflict resolution procedure. (see the Dean of Students’ language about this: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/resolution/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/resolution/)).

**New in 2012: Get e-published in our new peer-reviewed electronic journal**

**The Journal of the Vodou Archive**  
[http://www.dloc.com/vodou](http://www.dloc.com/vodou)  
Editor-in-chief: Benjamin Hebblethwaite

Publishing in academia is highly competitive. *The Journal of the Vodou Archive* will only include the best essays: only the top 10 essays will be invited for e-publication in the Journal of the Vodou Archive.

Essays will be selected on the basis of the strength of the writing, insightfulness, creativity and scholarship, organization and style, and the depth of the research and their use of sources.

**Working together communicatively**

Since this class takes a communicative approach to the instruction of Haitian Creole, finding the right balance between listening, reading, taking notes and talking with your partners is an important part of working together. In order to maximize on the variety of in-class partners, students **should expect to work with different partners. You will be frequently asked to pair with a new person.** Refusal to work with other students counts as an absence. The communicative approach assumes that each student will provide instructional input and feedback to her or his fellow classmates. **You are a student-professor and collaborator.**

**Guidelines for the essays. Write an in-depth publishable Haitian Creole essay**

You must turn in your essays with a pseudonym so that you remain anonymous. This is called “blind peer review” in professional academic evaluation. Nothing about your pseudonym should indicate who you are. If you make allusions to your identity, points will be deducted.

Discuss how the reading for the day is important or relevant to humans in general and Haitians in particular. Pick apart the ideas, presentation, the plot and characters; unveil what the authors are trying to say. Pursue an argument, develop constructive criticism. Discuss ideas, style, technique, approach, perspective, themes, dimensions and geometry of the texts. Talk about what universal messages are in the text. Criticize weaknesses in the books. Praise strengths. Avoid writing in the first person, e.g. “Mwen panse...” “M kwè” except in your
concluding remarks. Avoid direct citations. **Put the authors words into your own words; but do cite the source of the idea.**

Your paper will be graded based on the originality of the ideas, on the clarity and concision of your writing and editing and the adherence to the requirements. You want to show that you have carefully read the books and have added your unique interpretation of events, individuals, ideas and phenomena. Aim to write a scholarly paper in which you strive to produce an objective and accurate analysis of your topic. **Avoid advancing personal ideological/religious preferences and try to take an empirical approach where the facts are considered.** There is no judgment of “goodness” or “badness” in academic writing on religion. Instead, we are interested in empirical/factual representations and analyses that are based on evidence. You may certainly draw your own inferences (a conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning) but avoid **judging** the religion. You may compare Vodou, Judaism or Christianity with other religions but avoid doing so in order to advance a personal religious conviction. That style belongs in houses of worship not State Universities!

You must write your essay using STANDARD HAITIAN CREOLE spelling as found in the works we read. NON-STANDARD SPELLING RESULTS IN A LOWERING OF YOUR GRADE. See Valdman’s (2007) dictionary (at Smathers Latin American Library “Counter K”).

The paper must use **12 Times New Roman font and be double spaced with 1 inch columns on all sides.** You are expected to use a dictionary, especially one of those recommended in this syllabus. You may also ask a native speaker to look over your work and offer suggestions. HOWEVER, you must be able to translate every word in your essay into English **without** a dictionary.

You must do your own work. UF cannot accept plagiarists. If you plagiarize, you will fail.

**IMPORTANT:** The FINAL VERSION is the corrected version of your all your essays. **You must turn the final version in stapled with the corrected versions. You must also highlight or boldface all of your corrections. Failure to do so will result in the lowering of your final draft grade.**

- Essays must be typed and double-spaced with 1 inch margins.
- A paper version must be submitted in person. I DO NOT ACCEPT E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS.
- Times New Roman .12 font must be used with appropriate accents (handwritten accents are not accepted).
- In order to type accents in Microsoft Word, follow these guidelines with your computer keyboard:

1) **For è:** Push Ctrl + ` at the same time (` is the key with ~ on top), let go and next push e and this produces è
2) **For ô:** Push Ctrl + ` at the same time, let go and next push o and this produces ô
3) **For à:** Push Ctrl + ` at the same time, let go and next push a and this produces à
Citations from outside sources (printed or electronic) are strongly recommended and should be accompanied by appropriate bibliographical references. Example:

**Book:**
Author. Year of publication. *Title of book*. City of publisher: Publisher.

**Article in journal, magazine, etc.:**
Author. Year of publication. Title of article. *Name of source*, Issue of publication, pages numbers.

**Class web site**
A web site is presently available to students. Under the section “Class Notes” you will find all class notes available in a PDF file. Links to Haitian Creole internet radio programs, a Haitian Creole comic, a translation of Martin Luther King, Jr., and more are available. Students are urged to make use of the supplemental material. Reviewing class notes can be excellent exam review. Point your browser to:

http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/

**Academic Honesty Guidelines**
Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines include but are not limited to:

**Cheating.** The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes copying graded homework assignments from another student; working with another individual(s) on graded assignments or homework; looking or attempting to look at notes, a text, or another student's paper during an exam.

**Plagiarism.** The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is oral or written (including electronic), published or unpublished. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on written materials or in oral presentations; submitting work produced by an on-line translation service or the translation feature of an on-line dictionary as your own.

**Misrepresentation.** Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.

**Bribery, Conspiracy, Fabrication.** For details see below.

**The UF Honor Code states:**
"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

On all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied:
"On my honor I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action according to the judicial process.

For more details go to: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.htm

**Students with disabilities**

Students with disabilities must register with the Dean of Students office. Contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at:

P202 Peabody Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611-5055
Phone (352) 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD)

For stress, emotional and psychological support, please contact the Counseling Center at:

301 Peabody Hall
Phone (352) 392-1575
Or: www.counsel.ufl.edu

If you need this syllabus in an alternate format, please speak to Ben.
Haitian Creole 2201, Ben Hebblethwaite, hebble@ufl.edu  
Spring, 2012, schedule & assignments.  
Web site: [http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/](http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/)

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**SPRING BREAK, MARCH 3-11**
### SPRING BREAK MARCH 5-12

| Monday, March 19 | Mak 1-6;  
| Wednesday, March 21 | Mak 7-10;  
| Friday, March 23 | Mak 11-16;  

**ESSAY 5** (Ki leson n ap tire nan Danyèl? Ki kalite moun Danyèl te ye? Kisa ou te aprann sou tan lontan nan istwa sa a?)

| Tuesday, April 2 | SG 186-204;  
| Wednesday, April 3 | SG 204-220;  
| Friday, April 5 | SG 220-230;  

**ESSAY 6** (Ki moun ki te Jezi? Ki mesaj yo li genyen? Kisa ki etone w? Kisa w te aprann nan *Mak*)

| Monday, April 9 | SG 304-319;  
| Wednesday, April 11 | SG 319-328;  
| Friday, April 13 | SG 339-348;  

**ESSAY 7** (Ki enpòtans relijyon Kongo a genyen an Ayiti? Kijan l diferan ak relijyon Rada a? Ki eleman Kongo ki genyen nan Vodou ayisyen?)

| Monday, April 16 | SG 348-357;  
| Wednesday, April 18 | SG 358-373;  
| Friday, April 20 | FINAL EXAM PREPARATION PRESENTATIONS  
1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  

**ESSAY 8** (Poukisa anpil moun pèsekite Vodou? Kote sa sòti? Ki solisyon ki posib?)

| Monday, April 23 | FINAL EXAM PREPARATION PRESENTATIONS  
1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  

**FINAL EXAM;** Final draft of your 8 essays due: corrected, improved and changes **bold-faced**.

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*Sa w pa konnen pi gran pase w.*