

SWAHILI YORUBA ZULU

**PROGRAM IN AFRICAN LANGUAGES
ANNUAL SKITS**

LUCE HALL, COMMON ROOM

**APRIL 20, 2026
6PM - 8PM**



View program

Yale MACMILLAN CENTER
Council on African Studies

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTIONS:

KIARIE WA'NJOGU

Director, Program in African Languages

WELCOME:

CAJETAN IHEKA

Chair, Council on African Studies

PROGRAM OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES FACULTY

ISIZULU

NANDIPA SIPENGAME

KISWAHILI

KIARIE WA'NJOGU

VERONICA WAWERU

YORUBA

OLUSEYE ADESOLA

FLTAS

COSMAS COSMAS (KISWAHILI)

FOLUKE AKINYEMI (YORUBA)

ADVANCED/TOPICS IN YORUBA LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Èrè Ìwà (The Price of Integrity)

Owokunle works as an officer in the Nigerian police force. Having resolved to be upright public servant, he is appalled by the bribery that his colleagues Wale and Modupe engage in. When he chooses to speak up to his colleagues and report them to Mrs. Rose, their boss, Owokunle is lambasted and fired from his workplace. When Owokunle returns home to tell his loving wife, Eri, about his misfortune, she joyfully announces that they are pregnant with triplets. However, with no job to provide for the children, the joy of the news quickly fades. An unexpected reconnection with an old friend named Segun presents Owokunle with a pivotal decision: to join Segun/Jaguar's kidnapping syndicate and make a fortune or to maintain his morals and hope that God will provide in the future? What will Owokunle choose to do? How will Eri respond? What will win in the end?

CAST:

BALOGUN, ZEINAB ... ÈRÍ
BRITTO, OLUTOLA ŞĘGUN/JAGUAR
FADEYIBI, WALE WÁLÉ
KARIMI, MODUPE MODÚPE
NASH, JOSEPH ỌLỌPÀÁ
OJO, ESTHER NARRATOR AND MRS. ROSE
OMOLADE, DEMILADE OWÓKÚNLÉ

INTERMEDIATE ZULU (SHARED COURSE INITIATIVE)

Ulimi lwesiZulu Ngaphandle Kwekilasi (The Zulu Language Beyond the Classroom)

Film directed, edited, produced and acted by: Ben. Morganroth (Bhekithemba) This film follows a Yale student as he takes his intermediate isiZulu beyond the classroom and into everyday life. He begins in Yale's dining halls, using simple interactions to practice what he's learned in a real setting. From there, he heads to a nearby grocery store, working through ordinary moments that feel new when approached in another language. A visit to the Yale Art Gallery offers a quieter shift, where he takes time to observe and engage with the space in a different way, letting language shape how he experiences what's around him. Back outside, he explores his favorite clothing store around campus, a place that stands out for its style and personality. He also visits a lesser-known spot for music lovers, a hidden gem that reflects the city's character and adds another layer to the experience. Throughout the film, he approaches other Yale students, greeting them and pulling them into short, unscripted moments. Some are hesitant, others are excited, but each interaction shows how language can change the way people connect. The film focuses on the process; working through mistakes, gaining confidence, and seeing what it means to use a language in real life rather than just studying it in the classroom.

BEGINNING KISWAHILI

Darasa la Kiswahili (Kiswahili class)

Rita Students in a Swahili class are delightfully surprised when their teacher tells them they'll be going on a two-week trip to Tanzania—fully funded by the university. But, as is often the case with international travel, not everything goes as planned. Follow the students and teacher of this class as they navigate through various challenges, ranging from a missing suitcase upon arriving at the airport to an upset stomach following their first meal. Along the way, they visit a variety of different locations, putting into use their knowledge of Swahili language and culture by ordering food, bartering at the market, talking to a local farmer, and identifying animals on a safari.

CAST:

NEVINSELLER AT THE MARKET

DUT.....SICK STUDENT

JIAYANG.....STUDENT

ELI.....TEACHER

AMELIA.....FARMER

ABYDOCTOR

AINA.....WAITRESS

INTERMEDIATE YORÙBÁ

Aṙewà Òbìnrin (Fine Babe)

It's Temitope's and Sola's wedding day. The families are happy, and everyone is celebrating. Musketeer Meta, Temitope's favorite band, has been invited to perform. Everything is going well until it comes out that Temitope has been dating the lead singer, too.

CAST:

ADEBOMOJO, OYIN ỌMỌWÙMÍ
ADESINA, SHUKRAAT ỌLÁMIDÉ
ALABI, HAERAT ỌDÚNAYỌ ALAGA TO POSH
BAKRIN, ZAHRA KÍKĚLỌMỌ TÈMÍTỌPE
JONES, SABINA MAHONEY AYỌQLÁ .. JÙMỌKĘ
KOLAWOLE, ADEOLUWA ŞOLÁ (ỌKỌ)
MORKA, ANGELA ÀÑJOLÁ FÚNMILÁYỌ
NAFIU, IYANU FỌLÁ
OLADOJA, ABDUR-RAHMAN FĘLÁ
SALU, GBEMIGA FOLÚ
UDEMEZUE, ONYINYECHUKWU .. SIMISQLÁ

ADVANCED KISWAHILI

Maisha ya Ndoa (Married Life)

Maisha ya Ndoa follows the lives of two women, Rita and Lily, who are close friends from different cultural backgrounds. As they move through key stages of adult life including meeting partners, engagement, marriage, childbearing, relationship challenges and conflict resolution, the play highlights how culture shapes their experiences and decisions.

CAST:

RITA.....GHANAIAN WOMAN LILY'S FRIEND FROM COLLEGE

LILYAMERICAN WOMAN, RITA'S FRIEND FROM COLLEGE

BEGINNING YORÙBÁ

E Bẹ̀ Fèrè (Pop the Balloon)

Synopsis:

Inspired by the popular YouTube dating show Pop the Balloon, where one contestant stands in front of a group holding balloons. Instead of dating, the contestant answers questions to test their compatibility with their potential matches. If someone disagrees with an answer or loses interest, they pop their balloon and briefly explain why. As the rounds continue, fewer balloons remain, creating a mix of humor, suspense, and entertainment.

CAST:

ADE-OYETAYO, ADETOLA DÉTỌLÁ
ADEKEYE, ADEDOTUN ADÉDỌTUN
JACKSON, JAMAR ỌLỌLÁDÉ
KONIGBAGBE, DAMI DÁMÌ
MATHIEU, TORI AJÍBỌLÁ (OBÌNRIN TUNTUN)
NEGASSA, HAWWERAA ABÍỌLÁ
NZEKWE, CHIDUBEM ADÉDAYỌ
OBASA, NAOMI M.C. ŞEUN
OBASADE, LOLA LỌLÁ
OGUNYEMI, DANIEL ŞEGUN
OPEYEMI, TUNKANMI TÚNKÀNMI
SOWEMIMO, KEHINDE Kẹ̀HÌNDE
WAUCAMPT, ALICIA ADÉYEWÁ

TOPICS IN KISWAHILI LITERATURE

Mstahiki Meya

Experiencing economic turmoil due to government mismanagement, the city of Cheneo is suffering from an acute shortage of food, clean water, and medicine. In the hospital, we see a doctor, the brother of the mayor, struggling to support his patients due to these shortages. When the doctor confronts the mayor about fulfilling his promises to the city, his brother pushes him away. The mayor cares more about maintaining appearances to impress foreign politicians than meeting his people's needs. When a councilman speaks out against him, the mayor removes him from office. The situation in the city worsens, culminating in a strike that leads to the mayor's assassination. In his dying moments, the mayor realizes that he is a victim of his own pride and power. The council members decide to replace the mayor with the councilman who had opposed him.

CAST:

PAUL..... NURSE

OWEN.....DOCTOR

TY.....PATIENT 1

BRUNO.....PATIENT 2

PAUL.....COUNCILMAN 1

TY.....COUNCILMAN 2

BRUNO.....MAYOR

OWEN.....OPPOSITION COUNCILMAN

OWEN.....STRIKE LEADER

BEGINNING ISIZULU

Uhambo Oluncane, Izifundo Ezinkulu (A Small Journey with Big Lessons)

In a small village in KwaZulu-Natal, a curious and talkative young girl named Nomalanga is sent on an important errand by her mother, uMama. Carrying a basket filled with carefully prepared remedies, she sets off on a journey to visit her ailing grandmother in a neighboring town. Along the way, Nomalanga's love for conversation leads her into an unexpected encounter with a mysterious stranger who takes a keen interest in her destination. What begins as an innocent exchange soon sets off a chain of events that quietly alters the course of her journey. When Nomalanga finally arrives, something feels unfamiliar, yet she cannot quite place why.

Guided by her curiosity, and perhaps a little too much trust, she leans into the moment, asking questions that reveal more than she realizes. This isiZulu reimagining of a classic tale that explores the power of voice, curiosity, and instinct. Through Nomalanga's journey, the story gently reminds us that not every question needs an answer, and not every answer can be trusted.

CAST:

NEWMAN , ASHLEY (NANDI).....NOMALANGA

KAZEMBE, PHIL (SIBUSISO).....IMPISI

(TEACHER ASSISTS).....UMAMA