**KSA 3110 KISWAHILI AND COMPARATIVE BANTU LINGUISTICS**

**CU 4 CH 60**

**Course Objectives**

1. To introduce students to the notions of language relatedness, contrasts and   
 convergences.

2. To give students enhanced awareness of the classifications of African languages in   
 general and Bantu languages in particular.

3. To acquaint students with the practical skills of comparing and contrasting languages  
 in general and Bantu languages in particular.

**Course Description**

The course is mainly an examination of the processes of language description, classification, and comparison/contrast. Attempts by various linguists to describe, classify, compare/contrast Bantu languages at different levels will be examined. Emphasis will be placed on internal and comparative methods and their application, and also on related issues as they relate to Kiswahili and other African languages, especially the Bantu languages.

## Course Outline

Methods of linguistics reconstruction:

Internal

Comparative

Reconstruction of linguistic systems:

Proto-language and linguistic reality

Phonological reconstruction

Morphological reconstruction

Syntactic reconstruction

Semantic reconstruction

Borrowing

Convergence

Glottochronology

Language classification:

Areal classification

Typological classification

Genealogical classification

Bantu linguistic reconstruction and classification:

Bantu comparative historical phonology

Bantu comparative historical morphology

Bantu comparative historical syntax

Bantu comparative historical semantics

Aspects of Kiswahili comparative historical grammar and classification

**Mode of Delivery**

* Lectures
* Group Discussion
* Role Play

**Mode of Assessment**

* Course work and Oral presentations will contribute 30%
* Final Examination will constitute 70%

**References**

Anttila, R. 1972: *Introduction to Historical and Comparative Linguistics.* London:   
 Macmillan.

Guthrie, M. 1967-71: *Comparative Bantu* 4 vols. Farnborough(Hants): Gregg   
 International Publishers.

Ladefoged, Peter, Ruth Glick & Clive Criper. 1971*: Language in Uganda* Nairobi:   
 Oxford University Press

Nurse, D. and T.J. Hinnebusch. 1993: *Swahili and Sabaki: A Linguistic History.* Berkeley: University of California Press.

Whiteley, W.H. (ed) 1974): *Language in Kenya.* Nairobi: Kenya