**KSA 3209 KISWAHILI LEXICOGRAPHY CU 4 CH 60**

**Course Objectives**

1. To give an overview of the study of Lexicography.

2. To impart the skills of analyzing and differentiating the various traditions of   
 lexicographical practices, highlighting the merits and demerits of each approach.

3. To explore the principles of dictionary-making, focusing on the essential steps   
 involved; meaning description; the nature of a typical dictionary entry; as well as the   
 parameters of classifying dictionaries.

**Course Description**

The course outlines the theory and practice of lexicography with a view to stimulating the interest of the students in dictionary using, teaching and making. It will cover some theoretical aspects of dictionary-making, the history of the Kiswahili dictionary and the principles and methods of writing a dictionary.

## Course Outline

Definition of the basic lexicographic concepts:

Lexicography

Dictionary

Vocabulary

History of Lexicography:

The Akkadian and Creek Lexicography

The British lexicography 8th – 20th Century

The Kiswahili lexicography 19th – 20th Century

Lexicography and other branches of Linguistics; the contribution of linguistics to

dictionary-making:

Phonetics and Phonology

Semantics

Syntax

Lexicology

Etymology

Theoretical aspects of lexicography:

Dictionary typology

Information categories entered in a dictionary

Lexicographical meta-language

Methods of writing a dictionary:

Collection of lexemes

Selection and presentation of the lexemes

Construction of the entries

Description and presentation meaning:

Kinds of meaning of lexemes

Principles of defining entry words

Methods of ordering sense in an entry

Dictionary using skills

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. describe the different approaches to lexicographical practices
2. explain the essential steps of a dictionary making process
3. evaluate the perimeters used in the classification of dictionaries

**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**

Cowie, A. (ed) 1987: *The Dictionary and the Language Learner.* Tibingen: Max

Niemeyer Verlag

Hartman, R.R.K. (ed) 1983: *Lexicography: Principles and Practices.* London:Academic   
 Press

Ilson, R. (ed) 1985: *Dictionaries, Lexicography and Language Learning.* Oxford:

Pergamon Press.

Jackson, H. 1988: *Words and their meanings.* London: Longman

Kiango, John Ngogwe. 2000: *Bantu Lexicograsphy: A Critical Survey of the Principles  
 and Process of Constructing Dictionary Entries.* ILCAA: Tokyo University.

Landau, S. 1984: *Dictionaries: The Art&Craft of Lexicography.* New York: Charles  
 Scribner’s Sons.

Mdee, J.S. 1997: *Nadharia na Historia ya Leksikografia.* Dar-es-Salaam: TUKI

Mdee,J.S. 1995: *Misingi ya Utungaji wa Kamusi.* Dar-es-Salaam: TUKI

Zgusta, L. 1971: *Manual of Lexicography.* The Hague, Paris: Mouton

Zgusta, K. (ed) 1992: *Theory and Method in Lexicography.* Columbia: Hornbeam Press.

**Journals**

*International Journal of Lexicography*

*Dictionaries:*  Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America.