

**Department of Modern Languages  
North Dakota State University**

Dakota Language I  
LANG 199  
Fall Semester 2011

Dr. Clifford Canku		207A Morrill Hall
Location: 262 Barry Hall	3:30-4:45 PM	Tuesday & Thursday
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Tuesdays and Thursdays	Open door policy or by appointment	

**Course Description:** An introduction to the Dakota language; essential grammar, pronunciation, and high-frequency vocabulary to develop conversational proficiency; 3 credits

**Objectives:** Student will learn the basic concepts necessary to provide a foundation for conversational ability in the Dakota language. Participants will acquire a basic understanding of the Dakota sound system, essential grammatical points, and the vocabulary of familiar topics, in order to be able to use numbers, colors, etc. and to describe family, food, and surroundings.

**Required Texts:** Beginning Dakota Language, Nicolette Knudson et al.  
English-Dakota Dictionary, John P. Williamson

**Grading Scale:** 100% -90% =A; 80%-89 =B; 70%-79 =C; 60%-69 =D; less than 60% =F

**The final semester grade will be determined as follows:**

Exams = 40% (20% each , final & mid-term)

Participation = 25% Homework & Quizzes = 25% Presentations = 10%

**Classroom Attendance Policy:**

In case of illness please contact your instructor before the class meets. Unexcused absences will lower your *participation* grade, as will habitual lateness. A final grade of "A "for participation may not include more than 2 unexcused absences; B, no more than 4 unexcused absences; C, no more than 6 unexcused absences; D, no more than 8 unexcused absences.

Please speak to your instructor or the Department of Modern Languages as soon as possible if you need special accommodations in this course.

All participants in this course are expected to conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner, consistent with NDSU Senate Policy, Section 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct see <http://www.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm>

Schedule:

**Class meeting**

1. Introductions, course orientation, expectations. Students given Dakota names.
2. Lesson 1; practice names
3. Dakota alphabet
4. Lesson 2: Dakota alphabet and sound system

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6. Lesson 3: Dakota terminology for people/family
7. Lesson 4: Dakota gutturals and phonology
8. Quiz Beginning Dakota conversations
9. Lesson 5: Numbers and colors in sentences
10. Dakota terminology
11. Lesson 6: Simple verb conjugations
12. Verb conjugations, continued
13. Lesson 7: First syllable verb conjugations
14. Review verb conjugations for exam
15. Mid-term exam (Lessons 1-7); oral presentation of sentences
16. Lesson 8: Adjective rules and application
17. Lesson 9: Second syllable verbs
18. Lesson 10: Second syllable verbs, continued
19. Use of "unk" verbs
20. Lesson 11: Dakota pronouns
21. Review, Catch-up day
22. Quiz. Pronouns
23. Subjective and personal pronouns
24. Lesson 12: Nouns and Verbs
25. Lesson 13: Dakota foods
26. Review
27. Student oral presentations
28. Presentations continued
29. Presentations, continued
30. Reviewi
31. Potluck & Rewards Day

Final exam:

Dakota Students congratulations and thanks for taking Dakota language from your humble instructor.

Dr. Clifford Canku