

**College of Micronesia-FSM  
P.O. Box 159  
Palikir Pohnpei FM. 96941**

**ED. 101 : Chuukese Orthography**  
Course Number and title

**Course Description:**

A teaching of the Chuukese standard spelling/writing system with emphasis on vernacular teaching, spelling issues, recommendations, and some basic grammatical aspects of the language. The course also aims at promoting the use of Chuukese in and out of school settings where English is a dominant medium of communication. Furthermore, it covers some issues behind full implementation of the orthography from both inside and outside of the school settings.

**COURSE PREPARED BY:**

Department of Education,  
Chuuk State

HOURS AND CREDITS:	Hours per week		No. of weeks		Total	=	Semester Credits
Lecture	6	x	7.5	x	45	=	3
Lab	-	x	-	x	-	=	-
Workshop	-	x	-	x	-	=	-
					Total		3

**PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:** Degree requirement \_\_\_\_\_  
 Degree elective \_\_\_\_\_  
 Certificate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-REQUISITE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Status  
 Native and Fluent Speaker of Chuukese

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed by Curr. Committee Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**I. Course Objectives:**

**A. General:**

- To deepen and broaden students' knowledge of the Chuukese orthography.
- To develop writing and reading skills in the Chuukese Language.
- To address the importance of a uniform spelling system and its positive influences on literacy development in both first and second language (L1, L2).
- To develop within students a broad sense of appreciation, value, and ownership of the orthography.
- To engage students into the general context of linguistic studies.
- To provide opportunities for students to examine the Chuukese grammar with in-depth scrutiny.

**B. Specific:**

- Having completed the course, the student will develop the ability and confidence (knowledge, skills, and attitude) necessary for the teaching of the orthography to be shown through their own writing abilities.
- At the end of the course, the student will be able to suggest for further spelling recommendations.
- At the end of the course, the student will be able to critically examine and/or edit his/her own or others' written works, using the standard Chuukese orthography as a guide.
- Upon completing the course, the student will be able to develop new or expound on the existing vernacular reading (teaching and learning) materials.
- At the end of the course, the student will be able to deal with the issues on public/parental preference of English only instruction by way of awareness seminars and other school-community partnership endeavors.
- Having completed the course, the student will be able to demonstrate full grasp of sound practices and skills employed in teaching Chuukese.

## **II. Text:**

### 1. Required Textbook

To be determined by the instructor(s) through recommendations of the Chuukese language expert

## **III. Reference Materials:**

Sugita, Hiroshi and Kimiuo, Kimeuo 1979. *Trukese-English Dictionary*. University of Hawai'i Press.

Cantero, CatalinoL. 1997. *Federated States of Micronesia Language Policy*. Pohnpei: FSM Department of Education.

Lynch, John. 1998. *Pacific languages*. University of Hawai'i Press.

Samples of different Chuukese written texts used in schools and in other social settings.

Selected handouts from various sources will be identified and prepared for students' use and readiness.

## **IV. Methods of Instruction:**

- Lecture
- Discussion
- Individual and group presentation
- Question and Answer (Q&A)
- Editing and/or Proof Reading Exercises
- Required Readings
- Data Collection (a field method-related exercise)

## **V. Course Content:**

- Basic History of Chuukese Language (from the historical linguistic point of view)
- Recommendations of the Chuukese Orthography Committee
  - Basic Chuukese Grammar/Syntax (Sentence Structures & Meanings)

Common Chuukese Sentence Structures  
Classifiers (Numeral Classifiers)  
Interrogative Words (Questions)  
Noun Verb Incorporation (Incorporated Objects)  
Equational Sentences Vs. Verbal Sentences  
Focus Sentences  
Prepositional Phrases Bound to Locative &  
Temporal Nouns

- Verbs and Verb Phrases
  - Intransitive & Transitive Verbs
  - Prepositional Phrases
  - Comparative & Superlative Phrases

- Basic Chuukese Morphology

Words  
Morphemes  
Allomorphs  
Free Morphemes  
Bound Morphemes  
Affixation  
Prefixes  
Suffixes (Hierarchy)

- Directional suffixes
- Subject Pronoun Suffixes
- Object Pronoun Suffixes
- The Perfective Suffix

- Types of Words
  - Simple Words
  - Complex Words
  - Compound Words

- Basic Chuukese Phonology
  - The Alphabet
  - The Consonant Chart
  - The Vowel System
  - The Glides
  - The Sound Rules

- Semantics and Lexical Borrowing
  - Issues
  - Meanings

The spelling of loan words: the conventions of writing loan words and their underlying issues.

**VI. Instructional Costs:**

None

**VII. Evaluation:**

Students are to be evaluated based upon their achievement of the course objectives via quizzes (30%), mid-term examination (30%), and a final project (40%). The final project will be cumulative in nature and will enable students to demonstrate competency by either of the two as follows: 1) designing course outlines and syllabi in teaching the orthography in the elementary level; or 2) submitting a term paper on the topics relating to the Chuukese orthography, its issues, and the recommended interventions, issues behind language teaching and learning, bilingual education issues, and the like.

**VIII. Required Course Materials:**

Textbook  
Notebook  
Vernacular written text and samples

**IX. Attendance Policy:**

The standard COM attendance policy applies.

**X. Credit by Examination:**

None