



Ka Foli School Of Percussion



Course Number: Ka Foli (101)

Semester Hours: 14 Credits Hours

Term/Year: 1st Semester 2018

Instructors: Sekou Conde, Enoch Williamson

Ka Foli School Email: info@kafolikeschool.com

Course Prerequisites: Ka Foli School Of Percussion 101

Course Description: This course will help with: History, folklore, ethics, moral concepts of traditional music, learning the importance of the djembe orchestra, proper posture, hand arrangement, solo phrasing, coordinated hand movements to facilitate flow and relaxation in playing, speed, sound intensity, traditional rhythms Mali, Guinea, Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso, Exercises/rudiments, intensive training in stamina building, breathing and stage presence. Learning of the conversations of the dundun family, various intrinsic patterns for djembe and dundun, polyrhythmic phrases for performances and learning of traditional and ballet style playing.

Course Objectives/Learning outcomes:

1. Learn history and importance of the djembe orchestra from root and original purposes of its existence.
2. Learn proper posture and hand positioning.
3. Learn exercises to excel in your skills as djembe and dundun player.
4. Stamina building, breathing and stage presence.
5. Internalize coordinated hand movements to facilitate flow in playing.

Semester Course Calendar

Saturday, January 6th 2018

- Introduction/ Lecture
- Basic rudiments
- History
- In-depth information of rhythms taught for this semester
- Introduction of 1st rhythm
- 1st weekly assignment given

Saturday, January 13th 2018

- 1st assignment due
- Continuation of basic rudiments
- Continuation of 1st rhythm
- 2nd weekly assignment given

Saturday, January 20th 2018

- 2nd assignment due
- Continuation of 1st rhythm
- 3rd assignment given

Saturday, January 27th 2018

- 3rd assignment due
- 2nd rhythm introduced
- 4th assignment given

Saturday, February 3rd 2018

- 4th assignment due
- Continuation of 2nd rhythm
- 5th assignment given

Saturday, February 10th 2018

- 5th assignment due
- 2 rhythm combination
- 6th assignment given

Saturday, February 17th 2018

- 6th assignment due
- Final Exam

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

1. Class attendance is 10% of your final grade and is mandatory since learning of traditional instruments are based on consistent practice.
2. Attendance will be taken daily. Students are expected to arrive on time for class. Fifteen minutes late for class will be considered tardy.
3. Two tardy arrivals will be considered and absence.
4. Students need to contact the instructor for any absence that involves an acceptable excuse such as an illness, emergency etc etc.
5. Students missing any class session will be held responsible for the material covered during the session.
6. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated: talking, eating, text messaging....cellular phones should be on vibrate or turned off while class is in session.
7. Students are expected to have a positive attitude and participate in every class.

MAKE-UP EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be one make-up exam, students are expected to complete their assignments and to submit them on time. Weekly assignments will be checked daily.

“INCOMPLETE” GRADE POLICY:

An “I” grade will be given only to students that have completed most of class work, but due to situations beyond their control- illness, family emergency, job situation etc etc.

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating, encouraging academic dishonesty, fabrication, plagiarism, non-original work. If an incident of such behavior the instructor will award the student with a failing grade...no exceptions.

GRADING:

Criteria for Grading:

1. Class participation – 10%
2. Weekly assignments – 30%
3. Attendance – 10%
4. Final Exam – 50%

GRADING SCALE TOTAL POINTS	FINAL GRADE
100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
BELOW 60	F

Kafolike 101 Semester 1

Rhythms

Kassa- (North Eastern region of Guinea) (Malinke people) Kassa is a harvest-dance of the Malinke-people in East Guinea. The word means granary. During harvest-time the farmers go to the fields, that are sometimes far away from the village. A camp is made for as long as needed. Some woman come to prepare the meals (and to sing). During the day the drummers play Kassa to support the workers in the field. When the harvest is completed there is a big party in the village, called Kassalodon. Another custom (according Famoudou Konaté) that is connected with this work is that a girl (the prettiest in the village) hangs her shawl on a stick at the end of the field. The worker who reached this shawl the first (while working) spends the night with the girl. This meeting is not supposed to have a sexual character, for if the girl would get pregnant, the man would be beaten in public.

Kuku – (Forest region of Guinea and Ivory Coast) (Konianke people)

Kuku is a circle dance and drum rhythm of West Africa. Traditionally, women danced Kuku to celebrate their return from fishing. It is very popular, and is today played at all kinds of celebrations such as parties and the full moon. Traditionally Kuku was performed only on djembes. One tuned high, and the other tuned lower to get the deeper sound. However, it is common to now here dundun part improvised along with the djembe parts.

MAP OF GUINEA WEST AFRICA

