



## Syllabus: Apache Language and Culture I

### Course Information

Course Title: Apache Language and Culture I (online w/Zoom)

Course Prefix/Number: APA 101-4

Semester: 2025 Fall (8/18/2025 to 12/5/2025)

Class Days/Times: M/W 5:30 PM- 7:10 PM

Credit Hours: 4

### Instructor Information

Name: Monica Loas

Phone/Voice Mail: (928)322-6554

E-mail: [mloas@tocc.edu](mailto:mloas@tocc.edu) or [mloas@ftusd.org](mailto:mloas@ftusd.org)

Office location: Mount Turnbull Academy, Bylas, AZ

Office hours: 5:00 PM

### Course Description

This course emphasizes speaking, reading, and listening comprehension of the Apache language (Nde̋e Biyáti') through a variety of approaches.

### Student Learning Outcomes

This course emphasizes speaking, reading, and listening comprehension of the Apache language through a variety of approaches.

- Students will be able to derive meaning from simple sentences written in the Apache language
- Students will be able to write simple sentences and expression using proper grammar and vocabulary
- Students will be able to articulate basic expressions and needs using appropriate pronunciation
- Students will be able to demonstrate comprehension of simple questions, statements, commands and greetings
- Students will be able to identify and describe important characteristics of the Apache culture

### **Course Structure**

If you need to contact me regarding your grade or have any questions you may contact me through my email, or my home phone or cell phone number provided.

We do not have a textbook for our class; therefore, attendance is vital for note taking and participation. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get notes from one of your classmates.

During remote class sessions, live, on-camera engagement is an essential element for meeting the course's learning objectives, so students will be required to use their cameras. Regarding this requirement, if you have any concerns about keeping your camera on during class sessions, please communicate with me before the session, if possible, so we can work together to determine the appropriate approach to addressing those concerns.

I acknowledge many reasons why students may need or choose not to be on camera; these include (but are not limited to): access issues, remote classroom anxiety, privacy concerns, and distracting learning settings. If privacy or distraction are concerns, Zoom has a "Virtual Background" feature that allows you to display an image as your background during a Zoom meeting, which provides some privacy.

In some circumstances, accommodations to exempt students from on-camera participation may be available through the Disability Resources Office (DRO).

Occasionally, we may have a guest speaker pertaining to language, culture, and/or history. Weekly topics are listed in the Course outline and important dates, topics may vary from time to time, but we will be consistent. This also depends on your attendance because if you are absent, I must re-introduce a prior topic and this takes time away from others.

The syllabus is subject to change depending on the flow of the class and how well the expectations are. I am looking forward to working with you, we will have a Great time! Learning.

Ahíyí'é! Thank you!

## Course Learning Materials and Textbook Information

*No Required Textbooks*

### Supplementary Materials (not required):

- *Online Dilzhe'é Apache Dictionary*
  - <https://dilzhee.western-apache.org/>  
(a phone app is also downloadable)  
be aware that multiple dialect forms are listed
- *A Practical Grammar of the San Carlos Apache Language (2006)*
  - (a PDF version in the Link Tree below)
- *More resources:* <https://linktr.ee/ApacheLanguage>

## Policies and Expectations

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** To enable the institution to chart its own course and successfully carry out its unique mission by acquiring independent accreditation, financial self-sufficiency, and management autonomy.

## Evaluations and Grading & Assignments:

90 and above is an A  
80 - 89 is a B  
70 - 79 is a C  
60 - 69 is a D  
Under 60 is Failing

### Your grade will be determined by the following:

Expectations: Each component will constitute a part of your overall grade.

- 1.) Attendance/ Participation (25%)
- 2.) Ngēē Biyáti' & Question of the Week (25%)
- 3.) Quizzes & Assignments (25%)
- 4.) Final Exam (25%)

***Attendance Policy***

You are expected to arrive to class on time and be prepared to participate in each class period. Four unexcused absences may result in withdrawal and a "W" or "Y" will be recorded. You may request to be excused from class for religious observances and practices, for illness, for school or work-related travel or for personal or family emergency. If you will be absent, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Attendance in this course is based on active participation in live Zoom sessions. Zoom provides features to track attendance, including when students join and leave meetings. Participants in this class need to be logged in on time. Students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor about any anticipated or unavoidable absences.

***Academic Integrity:***

Violations of scholastic ethics are considered serious offenses by San Carlos Apache College. Students may consult the SCAC Student Handbook sections on student code of conduct, on scholastic ethics and on the grade appeal procedure.

All work done for this class must be your own, or the original work of your group. While you may discuss assignments with other class members, the final written project must clearly be original. You may use work from books and other materials if it is properly cited.

***Instructor Withdrawals***

Students who have missed four consecutive classes (or the equivalent), or have not submitted any assignments nor taken any quizzes by the 45th day census report, due on [date of 45th day found in Academic Calendar on SCAC website], are assumed NOT to be participating in the class and may be withdrawn at the faculty member's discretion.

***Student Withdrawals***

Students may withdraw from class at any time during the first 2/3 of the semester without instructor permission and without incurring any grade penalty. Please be sure to withdraw yourself by [withdrawal deadline date found in Academic Calendar on SCAC website] if you do not expect to complete the class; otherwise, you may receive an "F" grade.

***RESPECT:*** To provide the Nde'e an excellent higher education experience rooted in Nde'e bi'at'e.

***Equal Access Statement/Disability Accommodations***

San Carlos Apache College seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities. The College will comply with all applicable regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to ensure an equal educational opportunity. This process includes self-identifying as a student with a disability, providing supporting documentation of their disability, and being approved for services through the Disability Resources Office (DRO). It is the student's responsibility to make

known to their instructor(s) the student's specific needs within the context of each class in order to receive appropriate accommodations. We will work together in order to develop an accommodation plan specifically designed to meet the individual student's requirements.

For more information or to request academic accommodations, please contact: Anthony Osborn, TOCC Disabilities Resource Coordinator, aosborn@tocc.edu, or 520-383-0033 for additional information and assistance.

### ***Title IX***

San Carlos Apache College encourages each student to have the knowledge and skills to be an active bystander who intervenes when anyone is observed or being harassed or endangered by sexual violence. Sexual discrimination and sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and quality of life on campus and beyond. We encourage students who have experienced or witnessed any form of sexual misconduct to talk about their experience and seek the support they need.

### ***Conduct: Bias, Bullying, Discrimination and Harassment***

San Carlos Apache College faculty and staff are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive campus environment as a core value. Harassment based on age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status will not be tolerated.

***RESILIENCE:*** To rekindle the language, traditions, and culture of the Apache People

### ***Incomplete Policy***

Incomplete (I) grades are not awarded automatically. The student must request an "I" from the instructor who can choose to award an Incomplete only if all three of the following conditions are met:

1. The student must be in compliance with the attendance policy.
2. The student must have unavoidable circumstance that would prohibit the student from completing the course.
3. The student must have completed over 75% of the course requirements with at least a "C" grade.

Incompletes are not a substitute for incomplete work due to frequent absences or poor academic performance. Incomplete grades that are not made up by the end of the ninth week of the following semester will be automatically changed to an F if the agreed upon work, as stipulated on the written form signed by the instructor and the student when the I grade is awarded, is not completed.

### ***Special Withdrawals (Y) Grade***

The "Y" grade is an administrative withdrawal given at the instructor's option when no other grade is deemed appropriate. Your instructor must file a form stating the specific rationale,

with documentation, for awarding this grade. "Y" grades are discouraged since they often affect students negatively. Your instructor will not award a "Y" grade without a strong reason.

**OPENNESS:** To ensure the institution has the policies, processes, and resources required to maximize the success of every student.

## Courses Outline and Important Dates

Below is an outline of our class schedule. All tests, quizzes, and assignments are listed with their due date.

### WEEK 1: Aug. 18 (M) & 20 (W), 2025

- Introduction to Apache Language and Culture I
- Course Syllabus
- Expectations & Resources available
- Final Project at the end of the semester
- Apache Alphabet (53)
- Understanding Diacritics
- *Question of the Week 1: due 8-23-25*

### WEEK 2: Aug. 25 (M) & 27 (W), 2025

- Introduce Orthography
- Understanding Diacritics
- Greeting: Dogot'ēē Activity
- Self-introduction: gather information about yourself, including your clan maternal/paternal side of your family.
- Family tree (for personal use only)
- *Ngēē Biyáti' Week 2: due 8-30-25*

### WEEK 3: Sept. 3 (W), 2025

*No Class Holiday Labor Day September 1, 2025, College Closed*

- Read and review Dogot'ēē, understanding the Apache vocabulary and apply it.
- Discussion about Final Project: Apache Alphabet and Sound Book total of 90 pts.
- Introduction: Buildings in the Community: Dagotahyú and discussion.
- Introduction: Types of rooms in a house and discussion.
- *Question of the Week 3: due 9-6-25*

### WEEK 4: Sept. 8 (M) & 10 (W), 2025

- Introduction: Apache Clanship and discussion.
- Video: "Importance of Apache Clan(s) Identity" by Camp Verde Apache Elder V. Randall, discussion about the video.
- Apache Kinship System: matrilineal, patrilineal, clanship and the structure.

- Apache names for maternal/paternal side of the family, importance of understanding how to use it appropriately.
- **Quiz** on Buildings in the Community “Gotahyú” & Types of room in a house
- *Nǫ̀dēē Biyáti’ Week 4: due 9-13-25*

#### WEEK 5: Sept. 17 (M) & 19 (W), 2025

- Introduction: Parts of the Body (Human Anatomy)
- Garfield & Odie: to help identify and label the parts of the body.
- Open discussion: about the body, cremation, organ donor, and related topics.
- **Assignment:** Select an animal of your choice, identify and label the animal. (15 pts.)
- *Question of the Week 5: due 9-20-25*

#### WEEK 6: Sept. 22 (M) & 24 (W), 2025

- Introduction: Nature (weather, landform and water form)
- Introduction: Ánolini (Colors) same, similar, share the same word & differences
- Read: “Brown Bear, Brown Bear” by Bill Martin Jr. read Apache translation.
- Apache Creation Story, Bylas Apache people: by F. Stanley Sr.
  - o [https://youtu.be/k5ZmdaUOsdI?si=6GdZmMjyB\\_aXBxTW](https://youtu.be/k5ZmdaUOsdI?si=6GdZmMjyB_aXBxTW)
- Video critique: insights, thoughts, ideas, new information and how did it make you feel? Discussion
- **Assignment:** illustrate and label a landscape using some of the new words learned.
- *Nǫ̀dēē Biyáti’ Week 6: due 9-27-25*

#### \*\*\* Spring Break No Classes September 29- October 3, 2025 \*\*\*

#### WEEK 7: Oct. 6 (M) & 8 (W), 2025

- Introduction: Feelings & Emotions
- Phrases and sentences about Feelings & Emotions
- Introduction: Harvest “Nest’án” fruits, vegetables and acorn.
- Read a story about “Chích’il” Acorn
- **Quiz** on Nature
- *Question of the Week 7: due 10-11-25*

#### WEEK 8: Oct. 13 (M) & 15 (W), 2025

- Introduction: Verb is a word that indicates a physical action, a mental action, or a state of being.
- Action verb horse (singular), horses (plural), and a bird (singular).
- Introduction: Numbers & Counting “Hóshtad” in Apache.
- Read, count, recite numbers 1-10, 1-20, 1-100, Math worksheet (+/-)
- White Mountain Apache Creation Story: by R. Riley
  - o <https://youtu.be/4PBEaDKXIBE?si=f8setrumKXLILP2h>
- **Quiz** on Feelings & Emotions
- *Nǫ̀dēē Biyáti’ Week 8: due 10-18-25*

**WEEK 9: Oct. 20 (M) & 22 (W), 2025**

- Introduction: to “Diyádé” (Clothing)
- Practice using clothing and color words in a sentence
- Practice using pronouns: Shī, Nih, and Bī
- **Assignment:** Diyádé worksheet, identify and label pictures.
- *Question of the Week 9: due 10-25-24*

**WEEK 10: Oct. 27 (M) & 29 (W), 2025**

- Introduction: Animals
- Discussion: superstition, taboos, stories about how animals came to be.
- Types of animals: farm animals, mountain animals, and those that live among the rocks
- Write simple sentences about animals, look at the structure: What is the literal order in writing a simple sentence in Apache.
- *Ngēē Biyáti’ Week 10: due 11-1-25*

**WEEK 11: Nov. 3 (M) & 5 (W), 2025**

- Introduction: Transportation
- Read the words, practice and repetition.
- Write simple sentences about transportation, look at the structure: what is the literal order in writing a simple sentence in Apache.
- **Quiz** on Animals
- *Question of the Week 11: due 11-8-25*

**WEEK 12: Nov. 10 (M) & 12 (W), 2025**

- Introduction: to Apache Stories & Songs
- Apache’s as storytellers
- Possible Guest Speaker/Speakers
- **Assignment:** Sharing a Story (personal or a family story pass down from generation to generation)
- *Ngēē Biyáti’ Week 12: due 11-15-25*

**WEEK 13: Nov. 17 (M) & 19 (W), 2025**

- Review Final Projects and update on the progress.
- Introduction: Classificatory Verbs “Handling Verbs”
- Apache Consonant Activity
- *Question of the Week 13: due 11-22-25*

**WEEK 14: Nov. 24 (M) & 26 (W), 2025**

*No Class Holiday Thanksgiving Day November 28, 2024, College Closed*

- Progress of Final Project: Apache Alphabet and Sounds Book
- Answer questions, concerns and concerns about final project.

- Introduction: Pledge of Allegiance & This Land is Your Land (song) in Apache
- *Ngēē Biyáti' Week 14: no assignment*

**WEEK 15: Dec. 1 (M) & 3 (W), 2025**

- Review Final Project of the Apache Alphabet and Sounds Book
- Winter vocabulary words: read, review and reteach.
- Allocate some time toward completing the final project.

**\*\*\* December 8-11, 2025 – FINAL EXAM WEEK \*\*\***

- *Apache Alphabet and Sound Book DUE*

***Faculty/Student Communication***

A faculty member will respond to a student's communication within 24 hours of receiving the communication excluding weekends and college closures. If a course is online a faculty will login their Canvas classroom a minimum of three times per week spread evenly throughout the week and respond to any discussion posts and check on student progress in the course.

***Course Feedback:***

All assignments will be graded and returned to the students promptly, typically within a week after the assignment is closed for handing in. Email and phone messages will be returned within 24 hours. A student or the instructor may request a student conference at any time during the semester. Quarterly grade reports will be provided to each student, either in person, by email or via the electronic system of Canvas.

***WISDOM:*** To achieve educational excellence through competitive and relevant academic programs as well as innovative teaching methods appropriate for different learning styles.

**SCAC General Education Learning Outcomes*****Apache Wisdom***

Learning from the teachings carried on from Apache elders and other community leaders, students will appreciate their unique history, language, and culture as a source of strength for their personal, family, academic, and career aspirations.

***Critical Thinking***

Approach critical issues, problems, or questions using creativity and deductive reasoning, evaluating evidence, acknowledging diverse perspectives and contexts, and synthesizing one's own viewpoint into ongoing conversations and debates.

***Communication***

Effectively express ideas orally and in writing. Good communication includes understanding one's audience, organizing one's thoughts, acknowledging and

integrating outside sources, using the most recent technology, and following the accepted writing and citation conventions of the particular discipline.

***Environmental Literacy***

Students will understand their connection to social, cultural, physical, and global environments. Students will consider and evaluate strategies for cultural, community and global sustainability.

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.