



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

HI946 Africa and the World

Instructor:	Ghislaine Lydon	Email:	lydon@history.ucla.edu
Home Institution:	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	Office:	TBD
Office Hours:	TBD		
Term:	2 July – 2 August, 2018	Credits:	4
Classroom:	TBD	Teaching Assistant(s):	TBD
Class Hours:	Monday through Thursday, 13:10-15:10		
Discussion Session:	2 hours each week, leaded by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	66 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 3000 mins in total)		
Required Texts (w/ ISBN):	Erik Gilbert and Jonathan Reynolds, Africa in World History: From Prehistory to the Present. 3rd Edition (2012). ISBN-13: 978-0205053995		
Prerequisite:	N/A		



Course Overview

World history is intricately linked to the study of Africa, the second largest continent on the planet where the human species originated. Since the earliest times, African societies and economies have participated in the large movements of people, ideas and goods that have shaped the course of history in other parts of the world. In Ancient Egypt flourished the first civilization in world history, which influenced the development of complex societies in Europe and the Middle East. The trans-Saharan trade system would transport many African resources, such as gold, to markets of the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Then, after the Portuguese maritime inventions of the fifteenth century, the trade of other products and enslaved Africans would be the main focus of the trans-Atlantic trade complex. The nineteenth and twentieth centuries were marked by the colonization of Africa by multiple European power who sought to extract African resources directly. Today, more than ever, most developed countries depend on key resources from Africa for the purposes of consumption and industrial manufacturing. The course will introduce students broadly to the African continent’s global connections past and present.

Course Goals

Students will familiarize themselves with the history of the Africa, its geography, cultural diversity, and political. They will identify key debates within the field of African history and confront the many oversimplified myths regarding Africa and its people. By concentrating on Africa’s connections to the wider world, students will develop an understanding of some of main themes in world history. They will read and analyze multiple primary sources, written by outsiders and Africans, in order to develop important analytical skills. By the end of the course, students will have gained an understanding of the place of Africa in world history, from the earliest until more recent times. They will be able to describe the multifarious ways in which African cultures and resources have shaped the world we live in today

Grading Policy

Map Quiz	5%	This quiz will be based on the study of the modern map of Africa
Mid-term Examination	30%	This is an in-class exam which will include identifications and an essay question. A study guide will be provided a week ahead of the exam.
Term Paper	25%	Students will choose a question from a list provided and develop an essay (5-6 pages)



Grading Scale

Your letter grade will be assigned according the following scale:

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0

Related Matters

1. The use of cell phones, and similar devices is not permitted during the class without the permission of the instructor.
2. Class attendance is a primary and required form of class participation. Students will be encouraged to contribute to class discussion. Class participation grades will reflect any unexcused absences. Students who wish an absence from class to be excused must meet with the teaching assistant to establish that it was related to medical or similar academically legitimate reasons.



Course Schedule

Date	Lectures	Reading
2-Jul	Introduction. African Geography and Cultural Diversity	chap. 1
3-Jul	Human Origins	chap. 2
4-Jul	From Hunter-Gatherers to Farmers	chap. 3
5-Jul	Settlements, Metallurgy & Early Migrations	chap. 4
9-Jul	Map Quiz	chap. 5
10-Jul	World Religions in Africa	chap. 6
11-Jul	Islam Spread to North & West Africa	chap. 7
12-Jul	Muslim societies in East Africa	chap. 8
16-Jul	Mid-term Examination. This examination will cover the lectures and required readings from July 2-July 12.	
17-Jul	Slave trades in and out of Africa	chap. 9
18-Jul	West Africa's Atlantic Economies	chap. 10
19-Jul	Slave Trades in North and East Africa	chaps. 11 &12
23-Jul	Dutch Settlers in South Africa	chap. 13
24-Jul	Europe Conquest and African Resistance	chap. 14
25-Jul	Colonial Economies	chap. 15
26-Jul	Colonial Rules and Wars	chap. 16
30-Jul	Cultural and Political Changes	chap. 17
31-Jul	Rise of Independence	chap. 18
1-Aug	Africa in the World Today	chap. 19
2-Aug	Final Exam. This examination will cover the lectures and required readings since the midterm exam.	