



African Studies Curriculum Spring 2018 Course List

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

201 Introduction to African Literature
Survey of African literary traditions and introduction to literary analysis.

Instructor: Matthew Brown

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

210 The African Storyteller
The oral tradition and the written word; the composition of stories, relationship between performer and audience, and transmission of tradition in various African societies. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Online Course

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

233 Global Hip-Hop and Social Justice
Can HipHop culture help produce a more just world? If so, what theory and praxis best advance this aim? These are the questions that drive this conceptual course. Our critical interrogation of the relationship between HipHop and social justice considers the culture from its U.S. Black Power era underpinnings to its disparate contemporary "glocal" manifestations. We begin by asking what is "HipHop," what is "social justice," and what is their relationship, and proceed to consider how HipHop can be an effective force for social justice and what obstacles mitigate against this potential. These discussions will develop familiarity with important concepts in Black studies and social theory such as race and colonialism, imperialism and hegemony, structure and agency, identity and strategic essentialism. Weekly readings will typically pair

writings specifically on HipHop with theory from across the humanities and social sciences including philosophy, sociology, cultural studies, and political economy. We will endeavor to consider the race/class/gender dimensions of our weekly topics. Students will acquire a broader familiarity with HipHop activism, and develop new conceptual tools and critical thinking skills.

Instructor: Damon Sajjani

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

277 Africa: Introductory Survey
African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

297 African and African American Linkages
Analysis of retention of African elements in African-American oral, written, and material culture. Social, cultural, and political issues regarding race, self-definition, and self-determination in both Africa and North America will be examined.

Instructor: Teju Olaniyan

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

300 African Literature in Translation:
Contemporary Arabic Literature and Cinema

This course is a survey of the most significant topics of contemporary Arabic literature and cinema: Arabs and the West, colonialism and postcolonialism, Discourses on nationalism, religion v. secularization, gender relations, representation of cultural otherness, and the Arab Springs. The course offers you an opportunity to enhance your understanding of global culture by exploring a diverse array of culturally expressive artifacts novels, short stories, poems, and films produced by Arab and Muslim writers and directors from the Arab world. That said, I would be cautious about understanding this course as a comprehensive "survey of Arabic literature and cinema": it is more accurately a sampling. And because these books and films, and their cultures are fairly unfamiliar, we will move slowly through them, taking time to reflect on our own process of reading.

Instructor: Nevine El-Nossery

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

300 African Literature in Translation: Arabic Fiction and Falsehood

If pulling off a great prank is a challenge, then profiting from it is an art. Literature, comics, films, and television love to showcase the challenge and the art itself that's the topic of African 300. We'll work with sources ranging from caliphates of the Middle East, to North African drama, to 21st-century animation from Africa and the Diaspora. This course asks how people conspire, beg, steal, and fool each other with creative language. How do we know who's believable? Are we as critical readers also complicit at times, despite all our analytical efforts? How do characters and literary institutions get people to believe them? What positions do we assume when reading fictional negotiations? When a scam works, or falls

apart, who's responsible -- the perpetrators, the dupes, authorities, religion, society?

Instructor: Samuel England

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

322 Second Semester Arabic
Continuation of AFRICAN 321.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

324 Fourth Semester Arabic
Continuation of AFRICA 323.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

325 Colloquial Arabic: Algerian Arabic
Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

332 Second Semester Swahili
Continuation of AFRICAN 331.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

334 Fourth Semester Swahili
Continuation of AFRICAN 333.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

372 Second Semester Yoruba
Continuation of AFRICAN 371. For beginning learners of standard Yoruba; emphasis on proficiency through speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and on communication in cultural context.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

374 Fourth Semester Yoruba
Continuation of AFRICAN 373. Intended to continue to develop and refine competence and

performance in linguistic skills that were developed in the first three semesters of Yoruba courses.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

403 Theories of African Cultural Studies

This course is a study of the many ways of understanding the entire spectrum of culture and cultural production, circulation, consumption, and meaning making in Africa. It foregrounds material and imaginative cultural forms and practices-their origins, languages, contents, forms, functions, genres, audiences-as well as how these have been conceived and theorized by practitioners and scholars in the context of Africa and the world. The course will also examine the uses to which particular meanings of culture and its forms are put, by whom, and to what purpose, and how meanings are fought over, reshaped, and reconstituted, and under what conditions those are or can be possible. This is what "theory of African cultural studies" means in its most robust and imaginative senses. We will survey the entrenched modes of both conceptual and critical apprehension of the cultural forms and practices (from Negritude to postcolonialism and postmodernism), explore their methods of reading, raise the issue of their linkages to sources in Euro-America, and assess the extent to which the unique concerns of the biography of culture in Africa (expressed by its creators and scholars) have tried to tame and refashion what are now globally shared critical tools of cultural reading.

Instructor: Ronald Radano

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

405 The Problem of Whiteness

Have you ever wondered what it really means to be white? If you're like most people, the answer is probably "no. But here is your chance! In Frantz Fanon's famous Black Skin, White Masks (1952), his chapter "Look, a Negro!" interrogated the meaning and experience of coming to know oneself as Black under the constant scrutiny of the white gaze. It is an experience concomitant with W.E.B. Du Bois's observation that under systemic racism, even well-meaning whites are constantly asking, in one way or another, "what is it like to be a problem? But, like Richard Wright's quote above, philosopher George Yancy's book, Look, a White! (2010), turns the question around, and rightly returns "the problem of whiteness to white people. After all, since white supremacy was created by white people, is it not white folks who have the greatest responsibility to eradicate it? Our class begins here. We will come together with our socially ascribed identities of Black, white, mixed and other and, with the problem properly in its place we will ask ourselves and our allies, what are we going to do with it? Critical Whiteness Studies aims to understand how whiteness is socially constructed and experienced in order to help dismantle white supremacy. Our class will break away from the standard US-centric frame, and consider how whiteness is constructed globally, with particular attention to paradigmatic cases like South Africa. Whereas disciplines such as Latino/a, African, and Asian American studies focus on race as experienced by non-whites, whiteness studies considers how race is experienced by white people. It explores how they consciously and unconsciously perpetuate institutional racism and how this not only devastates communities of color but also perpetuates the oppression of most white folks along the lines of class and gender. In this class, we will ask what an ethical white identity

entails, what it means to be #woke, and consider the journal Race Traitor's motto, "treason to whiteness is loyalty to humanity.

Instructor: Damon Sajjani

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

407 Topics in African Languages: Language, Gender, and Sexuality in African Contexts
How are gender and sexuality constrained, constructed, performed, and resisted in and through language? We will address these issues through readings and discussion of theories of language and gender, queer linguistics, and feminist discourse analysis, alongside case studies in sociocultural linguistics and linguistic anthropology from Africa, including Nigeria, South Africa, and the Swahili Coast. As a final project, students will write a funding proposal to conduct fieldwork on a topic of their choice. Students interested in language, gender, and sexuality outside of Africa are also welcome and may write the final paper in relation to any linguistic context.

Instructor: Katrina Thompson

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

409 Global Jazz and Blues Authenticities
This course will introduce students to the phenomenon of "musical blackness" as a US-based, transnational cultural form and practice. In each class (topics will vary), students will learn about how US-based, racially specified black musical forms, together with global forms also identified as "black," were constituted as part of the legacies of European colonial encounter and US imperial expansion; the categories of "traditional" music and popular style took shape and have been experienced as something part and parcel of this historical process. By giving close consideration to genre,

style, and performance practice, the course will help students to understand the many ways in which musical sound and social/political ideas are inextricably linked.

Instructor: Ronald Radano

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

436 Advanced Studies in Swahili Language – Readings
Reading, conversation and composition beyond the fourth semester level with emphasis on the literary tradition of the language and concentration on texts appropriate to the level of the student.

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

445 Readings in Advanced Arabic Texts: Politics in Arabic Literature and Film
This Arabic seminar explores creative techniques for understanding politics. Most readings and discussions will be in Arabic, and will deal with the relationship between cultural status (e.g., education level, social grouping, and literacy) and political power. Our focus will be on late modernity, although many of the sources we study will deal with "Classical" Arabic ideals such as turath (cultural heritage), kalam (speculative theology), and fiqh (jurisprudence). This course is open to students who have completed three years of Arabic study, pending instructor's approval. Instructor: Samuel England

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

605 Advanced Topics in African Cultural Studies: Sound & Afro-Modernity: Digitizing Body/Soul/Nation
This course examines sound and technology as tools of cultural invention and identity in

contemporary African life. How do music and its mediums construct national belonging in Africa and the diaspora? What are the embodied senses of these? Post humanism, new media and globalization are examined against competing theories of modernity through the writings of Achille Mbembe, Yvonne Daniels, Alexander Weheliye and others. Music subcultures in which dance elements are essential are theorized as mediums for Black social and technological modernity. We also examine digital production and media distribution techniques for sound cultures including, pop music, podcasts, radio, and online mediums such as Spotify and YouTube. Literature primarily comes from African Studies, New Media Studies, technology and sound studies, with special attention to street dance cultures and 'neotraditional' dance practices in Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, and USA (Chicago/NY/Atlanta/Bay Area).

Students are expected to write 1 paper (2 papers graduate), and develop 1 sound-based multimedia project. Active class participation, short quizzes and weekly reading responses also make up a significant portion of the final grade.

Instructor: Reginold Royston

Core Course

AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

671 Multilanguage Seminar

Through weekly meetings, students discuss their use of self-instructional methods to learn a less commonly taught language (LCTL), get feedback on individualized syllabi and assessment plans, and present progress reports orally and in writing. Homework includes continuous self-instruction in the chosen LCTL including reading, writing, oral, and listening skills; work with a conversation partner; and cultural knowledge.

Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

231 Introduction to Afro-American History
Survey from the African beginnings to the present day. Focus on slave trade and slavery; major black figures of the past; social, economic, and political trends within the black community.

Instructor: Christy Clark-Pujara

Extended Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

242 Introduction to Afro-American Art
Historical survey of Afro-American art. Beginning with the African heritage and concluding with creativity of the 1970's, it examines the evolution of Afro-American art. Attention to the aesthetic sensibilities of diverse styles as well as the social significance of Black art within the art arena.

Instructor: Anthony Devon Black

Extended Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

277 Africa: Introductory Survey
African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

297 African and African American Linkages
Analysis of retention of African elements in African-American oral, written, and material culture. Social, cultural, and political issues regarding race, self-definition, and self-determination in both Africa and North America will be examined.

Instructor: Teju Olaniyan

Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

318 Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas

The influence of traditional West African dance/music heritage in historical, artistic, social contexts in the development of new hybrid forms of music/dance created by cross-pollination of cultures of Africans, Europeans and indigenous peoples in the New World.

Instructor: Christopher Walker

Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

367 Art and Visual Culture: Women of the African Diaspora and Africa

This course focuses on the art and visual culture by/or pertaining to women throughout the African Diaspora and Africa. Though the focus is on 10th century art by black women, it will go into visual culture (art objects, photographs, images, dress, and culturally-coded representation) concerning black women historically.

Instructor: Johanna Almiron

Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

679 Visual Culture, Gender and Critical Race Theory

Examines tensions between visual and verbal representations that variably construct and negotiate power relations in racialized human experience.

Instructor: Johanna Almiron

Extended Core Course

AGRONOMY

377 Cropping Systems of the Tropics

Crops and cropping systems of the tropics. The environmental requirements of the major crops, their botany, and how they fit into local farming systems will be emphasized. For students with broad interests in tropical agriculture and food production.

Instructor: Valentin Picasso Risso

Extended Core Course

ANTHROPOLOGY

277 Africa: Introductory Survey

African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

ART HISTORY

242 Introduction to Afro-American Art
Historical survey of Afro-American art.

Beginning with the African heritage and concluding with creativity of the 1970's, it examines the evolution of Afro-American art. Attention to the aesthetic sensibilities of diverse styles as well as the social significance of Black art within the art arena.

Instructor: Anthony Devon Black

Extended Core Course

ART HISTORY

479 Art and History in Africa

Using a "streaming" model of art history & history proposed by the late Professor Jan Vansina, this class will explore the various ancient rivers of art & visual culture in West Africa – Nok, Igbo Ukwu, Ife, Owo, Benin, Jenne, Kanem-Bornu, and especially the enigmatic Lower Niger Bronze Complex – during an era

(2800 BP – 500 BP) of major city-states, kingdoms, and empires. We will assess the visual, oral, and cultural evidence for sources, convergences, diffusions, and independent inventions as we attempt to re-construct the richness and diversity of artistic traditions in this region.

Instructor: Henry Drewal

Core Course

DANCE

118 African Dance

Technique and practice of several basic African dance forms with study of their musical, historical and cultural contexts.

Instructor: Maya Kadakia

Core Course

DANCE

318 Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas

The influence of traditional West African dance/music heritage in historical, artistic, social contexts in the development of new hybrid forms of music/dance created by cross-pollination of cultures of Africans, Europeans and indigenous peoples in the New World.

Instructor: Christopher Walker

Core Course

ECONOMICS

474 Economic Problems of Developing Areas

Analyzes aggregate growth, income distribution and poverty in lower income economies. Uses microeconomics of imperfect labor, capital and insurance markets to explore why some individuals advance economically as their economies grow and others fall behind. Considers implications of aggregate and micro analysis for national and international economic policy.

Instructor: Paul Dower

Extended Core Course

EDUCATIONAL POLICY

806 Gender Issues in International Educational Policy

Exploration and analysis of recent debates related to gender issues in international educational policy, including the intersection of education and demographic processes, the play of history and culture, and the social construction of gender.

Instructor: Nancy Kendall

Extended Core Course

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - GAYLORD NELSON INSTITUTE

339 Environmental Conservation

Examines major environmental conservation approaches in the U.S. and developing countries and how they are influenced by sociopolitical factors, cultural values and scientific understandings of nature. Historical and contemporary cases are explored with emphasis on biodiversity and climate change issues.

Instructor:

Extended Core Course

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - GAYLORD NELSON INSTITUTE

400 Conserving Biodiversity

This online course will cover theory, advanced research, and the professional practice of conservation of biodiversity in interdisciplinary, international perspective. The course will be divided into approximately 50% biodiversity science and 50% human dimensions of biodiversity conservation, fully integrated with each other in readings, hands-on online simulations, peer-to-peer discussions, and writing assignments. Within lectures, students will learn about biodiversity science; human activities that threaten biodiversity;

conservation project planning; conservation interventions against habitat loss, species exploitation, invasive species, and pollution; human values, attitudes, and activities as they affect controversial endangered species; and approaches to conservation research and monitoring. Furthermore, students will learn to plan conservation interventions systematically with optimal participation of stakeholders and using adaptive management practices. This course includes online, asynchronous discussions with peers and instructors to address advanced topics. Wolf recovery in Wisconsin is featured prominently as a conservation challenge.

Instructor: Adrian Treves, Online Course

Extended Core Course

FOLKLORE PROGRAM

103 Introduction to Music Cultures of the World
Music in various parts of the non-Western world (Africa, Middle East, India, Southeast Asia, East Asia).

Instructor: Matthew Richardson

Extended Core Course

FOLKLORE PROGRAM

210 The African Storyteller
The oral tradition and the written word; the composition of stories, relationship between performer and audience, and transmission of tradition in various African societies. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Online Course

Core Course

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

320 Topics in Gender, Women, and Society: The Female Body in the World
Investigation of some specific topic in gender and women's studies related to gender, women and society. Subject differs each semester.

Instructor: Katherine Anne Phelps

Extended Core Course

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

535 Women's Global Health and Human Rights
This course takes a human rights approach to provide an overview of health issues within the context of women's life cycles –childhood, adolescence, reproductive years, and aging in a global context.

Instructor: Araceli Alonso

Core Course

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

679 Visual Culture, Gender and Critical Race Theory
Examines tensions between visual and verbal representations that variably construct and negotiate power relations in racialized human experience.

Instructor: Johanna Almiron

Extended Core Course

GEOGRAPHY

277 Africa: Introductory Survey
African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

GEOGRAPHY

339 Environmental Conservation
Examines major environmental conservation approaches in the U.S. and developing countries and how they are influenced by sociopolitical factors, cultural values and scientific understandings of nature. Historical and

contemporary cases are explored with emphasis on biodiversity and climate change issues.

Instructor:

Extended Core Course

HISTORY

277 Africa: Introductory Survey

African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure.

Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

HISTORY

283 Intermediate Honors Seminar: Healing and Science in Africa

Instructor: Neil Kodesh

Core Course

HISTORY

297 African and African American Linkages

Analysis of retention of African elements in African-American oral, written, and material culture. Social, cultural, and political issues regarding race, self-definition, and self-determination in both Africa and North America will be examined.

Instructor: Teju Olaniyan

Core Course

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

434 The Politics of Human Rights

Examines the origins and development of human rights in international politics. The course discusses what human rights are, international human rights movements, the international search for justice after mass

crimes, and international humanitarian intervention.

Instructor: Scott Straus

Extended Core Course

JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

620 International Communication

Historical, political, economic and cultural trends in global mass communication systems.

Instructor: Lindsay Palmer

Extended Core Course

LANGUAGES AND CULTURES OF ASIA

322 Second Semester Arabic

Continuation of AFRICAN 321.

Instructor: Katrina Thompson

Core Course

LANGUAGES AND CULTURES OF ASIA

324 Fourth Semester Arabic

Continuation of AFRICA 323.

Instructors: Katrina Thompson and Mustafa Mustafa

Core Course

LANGUAGES AND CULTURES OF ASIA

445 Readings in Advanced Arabic Texts: Politics in Arabic Literature and Film

Selection from Quranic and post-Quranic Arabic texts to meet the needs of the students.

Instructor: Samuel England

Core Course

LITERATURE In TRANSLATION

226 Introduction to Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literature

Introduction to the cultural and literary practices of the Portuguese-speaking world. Readings include novels, short stories, and poetry from Portugal, Brazil, and Lusophone Africa. All readings and lectures in English.

Instructor: Ellen W. Sapega

Extended Core Course

MUSIC

103 Introduction to Music Cultures of the World
Music in various parts of the non-Western world (Africa, Middle East, India, Southeast Asia, East Asia).

Instructor: Matthew Richardson

Extended Core Course

MUSIC

318 Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas
The influence of traditional West African dance/music heritage in historical, artistic, social contexts in the development of new hybrid forms of music/dance created by cross-pollination of cultures of Africans, Europeans and indigenous peoples in the New World.

Instructor: Christopher Walker

Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

277 Africa: Introductory Survey
African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure. Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

297 African and African American Linkages
Analysis of retention of African elements in African-American oral, written, and material culture. Social, cultural, and political issues regarding race, self-definition, and self-determination in both Africa and North America will be examined.

Instructor: Teju Olaniyan

Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

329 African Politics

The course examines key themes in African politics, including colonial legacies, the state, conflict, the role of ethnicity, gender and other identities, economic challenges; problems of democratization, the politics of foreign aid, and Africa's engagements with the world.

Instructor: Aili Tripp

Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

434 The Politics of Human Rights

Examines the origins and development of human rights in international politics. The course discusses what human rights are, international human rights movements, the international search for justice after mass crimes, and international humanitarian intervention.

Instructor: Scott Straus

Extended Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

438 Comparative Political Culture

In addition to political culture as conventionally defined, this course examines alternative political realities and the different understandings of politics that flow from them. It explores in detail the intersections between the realms of politics and culture in various selected regions of the world.

Instructor: Michael Schatzburg

Extended Core Course

POLITICAL SCIENCE

635 Comparative Politics of Sport

Covers the political economy, political culture, and the politics of identity (nationalism, race,

ethnicity, social class, religion, and gender) that is usually associated with sport at both the highest and lowest levels of competition.

Instructor: Michael Schatzburg

Extended Core Course

PORTUGUESE (SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE)

226 Introduction to Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literature

Introduction to the cultural and literary practices of the Portuguese-speaking world. Readings include novels, short stories, and poetry from Portugal, Brazil, and Lusophone Africa. All readings and lectures in English.

Instructor: Ellen W. Sapega

Extended Core Course

SOCIOLOGY

277 Africa: Introductory Survey

African society and culture, polity and economy in multidisciplinary perspectives from prehistory and ancient kingdoms through the colonial period to contemporary developments, including modern nationalism, economic development and changing social structure.

Open to Freshmen.

Instructor: Jo Ellen Fair

Core Course