



African Curriculum Fall 2017 Course List

Updated April 3, 2017

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

100 Introduction to African Cultural Expression

An introduction to current research in African cultural studies, ranging from various literary genres and uses of discourse; to diverse media including screen media, music, cartoons, and journalism; and to other forms of popular expression like soccer and drama. Through an introduction to these forms, students will also gain an overview of the diverse methods used by scholars in this field, such as textual analysis, film criticism, ethnomusicology, discourse analysis, and ethnography; and to the cultural diversity of Africa and its diasporic cultures.

Radano, Ronald

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

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.

All coursework is online. There are no meetings or official office hours. Students read stories and introductory hypertext, watch lectures featuring Harold Schueb, complete quizzes, participate in discussion forums, and compose weekly practice essays. Coursework is synchronous, meaning that, while there is a great deal of flexibility, students must meet weekly deadlines. Major assessments include a midterm essay and a final research essay.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

220 HipHop, Youth Culture, and Politics in Senegal

This course explores how HipHop, a quintessential manifestation of African American culture, is

adopted and adapted by African youth to fight for social justice and democracy in their local contexts, while at the same time constructing a diasporic African sensibility and "cultural citizenship" that transcends borders and oceans. Beginning with the history, culture, and politics of HipHop in the U.S., we compare and contrast HipHop's development in Africa with specific attention to Senegal. Students will develop a familiarity with youth culture and politics in Senegal and study the ongoing process of cross-cultural flows and hybridity.

Burchell, Damon

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

277 Africa: An 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.

Kodesh, Neil

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

300 Arab Politics

Introduction to the literature, oral or written, of a coherent cultural area of Africa, for those for whom texts in the original language are not accessible.

England, Samuel

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

321 First Semester Arabic

An important Afro-Asiatic language; description, drills, reading, speaking.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

323 Third Semester Arabic

Advanced grammar and conversational practice, reading contemporary Arabic literature and other writings.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

331 First Semester Swahili

For beginning learners of Standard Swahili; emphasis on proficiency through speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and on communication in cultural context.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

333 Third Semester Swahili

Continuation of AFRICAN 332. Four-skills approach (speaking, listening, writing, reading) centered around authentic texts, recordings, and images.

Grammar review, concerted vocabulary expansion, and intensive practice.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

335 First Semester Language of South Africa: Zulu

For beginning learners of a Southern African language; emphasis on proficiency through speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and on communication in cultural context.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

361 First Semester Hausa

For beginning learners of Hausa; emphasis on proficiency through speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and on communication in cultural context.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

370 Islam: Religion and Culture

The emergence and development of Islam; schism; theology; asceticism; speculative and popular mysticism; literatures in diverse Islamic languages.

Extended Core

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

371 First Semester Yoruba

For beginning learners of Standard Yoruba; emphasis on proficiency through speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and on communication in cultural context.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

373 Third Semester Yoruba

Advanced grammar and conversational practice. Reading contemporary Yoruba literature and other writings.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

391 First Semester Language of West Africa: Wolof

e.g. Ewe, Igbo, Mende, Twi, Yoruba: Speaking knowledge, description, structure, drills.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

405 Africa and the Internet

This course examines various mediated cultural forms such as broadcasting, news, performance, music, film, or social media created and used and across regions and countries in Africa, addressing issues such as cultural identity, nation building, constraints on expression, access, and reception, and the interaction of global and African cultural forms.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

435 African Studies in Swahili Language-Grammar

Reading, conversation and composition beyond the fourth semester level with emphasis on linguistic structure and the grammatical analysis of texts appropriate to the level of the student.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

445 Advanced Readings in Arabic

England, Samuel

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

475 Fifth Semester Yoruba

Advanced linguistic structures, literature and poetry. Introduction to Yoruba cultures in the works of Wole Soyinka.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

495 Fifth Semester, A Language of North Africa

Advanced linguistic structures and literature.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

605 African Diaspora Theories and Tropes

This course will examine key critical concepts in the cultural study of racially specified "black music" as it has developed as a global phenomenon. Typically organized as a seminar, the course will pair major theories in black cultural analysis (postcolonial criticism, diaspora theory, global capitalism, etc.) with a body of literature pertaining to a particular musical topic, geographic area, or tradition. This pairing will provide the means by which students will develop critical skills for undertaking cultural music analysis.

Throughout the semester, students will be encouraged to think about the long histories and theories of cultural production and practices in global Africa, the local/global provenance of forms and styles, and the contexts of their local, national, and global circulation and consumption.

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

609 The Phonograph Record and Invention of 'World Music'

This course will examine key critical concepts in the cultural study of racially specified "black music" as it has developed as a global phenomenon. Typically organized as a seminar, the course will pair major theories in black cultural analysis (postcolonial criticism, diaspora theory, global capitalism, etc.) with a body of literature pertaining to a particular musical topic, geographic area, or tradition. This pairing will provide the means by which students will develop critical skills for undertaking cultural music analysis.

Throughout the semester, students will be encouraged to think about the long histories and theories of cultural production and practices in global Africa, the local/global provenance of forms and styles, and the contexts of their local, national, and global circulation and consumption.

Radano, Ronald

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

670 Theories and Methods of Learning a Less Commonly Taught Language

This course is both theoretical and practical. Through reading, discussion, and research, students will explore theories of second language acquisition (SLA) and relate them to self-instructional methods. Each student will test and/or modify one or more theories/methods by putting these self-instructional methods into practice in order to learn a less commonly taught language (LCTL). Students will share their findings in writing and during class discussions, and write a final paper assessing their learning outcomes. This course is intended for those with prior experience in the study of African languages, or advanced study of other foreign languages.

Daly Thompson, Katrina

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

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.

Daly Thompson, Katrina

Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

700 Reading and Writing African Cultural Studies
This is a course on academic writing, designed to guide graduate students toward a full understanding of the craft of marshaling evidence to support an argument in the humanities, particularly African cultural studies. It covers the norms and expectations that inhere in academic writing as well as the mechanics of producing original scholarship.

Fair, Jo Ellen
Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

703 Topics in Teaching African Languages
Theories and teaching methodologies for second language acquisition plus practical classroom techniques for teaching and directing programs in African languages.

Daly Thompson, Katrina
Core Course

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

905 African Political Thought
This seminar examines various mediated cultural forms such as broadcasting, news, performance, music, film, or social media created and used and across regions and countries in Africa, addressing issues such as cultural identity, nation building, constraints on expression, access, and reception, and the interaction of global and African cultural forms.

Schatzberg, Michael
Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

220 HipHop, Youth Culture, and Politics in Senegal
This course explores how HipHop, a quintessential manifestation of African American culture, is adopted and adapted by African youth to fight for social justice and democracy in their local contexts, while at the same time constructing a diasporic African sensibility and "cultural citizenship" that transcends borders and oceans. Beginning with the history, culture, and politics of HipHop in the U.S., we compare and contrast

HipHop's development in Africa with specific attention to Senegal. Students will develop a familiarity with youth culture and politics in Senegal and study the ongoing process of cross-cultural flows and hybridity.

Burchell, Damon
Core Course

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES

241 Introduction to African Art and Architecture
This course examines the rich heritage of African arts and architecture as they shape and have been shaped by the histories and cultural values (social, political, religious, philosophical, and aesthetic) of African peoples, both past and present, on the continent where humanity began. It includes an historical overview of selected artistic traditions from different parts of the continent from 26,000 BCE to the 21st century and thematic/cultural case studies: artists and aesthetics; textiles, decorative, and personal/body arts; architecture; and individual artists.

Drewal, Henry
Core Course

AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

477 Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa
Composition, organization, and techniques of agricultural production; economic change and development of agriculture, economic policies, special problems of developing African agriculture.

Foltz, Jeremy
Core Course

AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

731 Frontiers in Development Economics 2
Theory and evidence on growth and development in emerging economies, with primary focus on globalization, trade, labor markets and human capital. We use open-economy general equilibrium models to examine welfare implications of global shocks and domestic economic policies.

Foltz, Jeremy
Extended Core

ANTHROPOLOGY

100 General Anthropology

General understanding of humans in relation to cultures, evolutionary development and racial diversity, capacities for society, and the development of the world's major cultures.

Wendland, Claire

Extended Core

ANTHROPOLOGY

231 Introduction to Social Medicine

This interdisciplinary course will provide students with analytical tools for the critical examination of the social, cultural, political and economic determinants of health conditions and medical practice. We will pay special attention to how these factors determine how patients and providers experience and ideate disease and treatment, and how they respond to specific health care policies. The course will make emphasis on the important role that conditions of structural violence and inequality play as determinants of health conditions in a globalized world.

Gomez, Pablo

Extended Core

ANTHROPOLOGY

477 Anthropology, Environment, and Development

Identifies and examines cultural and environmental factors which should be taken into account in planning effective development. Case studies of development programs in less developed countries. Possible contributions of anthropologists and environmental scientists in planning, implementing, and evaluating development programs.

Stambach, Amy

Extended Core

ANTHROPOLOGY

490 Anthropology of Biomedicine

Discussion and preparation of reports on specific topics indicated by changing title of seminar.

Wendland, Claire

Extended Core

ANTHROPOLOGY

909 Research Methods and Research Designs in Cultural Anthropology

Reviewing the current state of anthropological studies of globalization and examining various approaches taken to the subject. Focusing on works that conceptualize and theorize the transnational culture and ethnographies that represent and explore its multiplicity and complexity.

Lepowsky, Maria

Extended Core

ART HISTORY

241 Introduction to African Art and Architecture

This course examines the rich heritage of African arts and architecture as they shape and have been shaped by the histories and cultural values (social, political, religious, philosophical, and aesthetic) of African peoples, both past and present, on the continent where humanity began. It includes an historical overview of selected artistic traditions from different parts of the continent from 26,000 BCE to the 21st century and thematic/cultural case studies: artists and aesthetics; textiles, decorative, and personal/body arts; architecture; and individual artists.

Drewal, Henry

Core Course

ART HISTORY

506 African Masquerades: Whirling Spirits

The course is a curatorial/exhibition course where students research, plan, and help to curate an exhibition of Egungun masquerades that honor ancestors among the Yoruba people of West Africa. The theme is the honoring of ancestors/funerary arts in Africa and the African Diaspora and examines the multi-sensorial contexts of such matters. It will have a community engagement element involving African, African American, and Afro-Latino youth in school projects related to the exhibit.

Drewal, Henry

Core Course

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY

630 Sociology of Developing Countries/Third World

Review of problems and prospects of so-called "developing societies." Includes theory of economic/social development, political economic organizations of "developing" societies, history of colonialism/imperialism, attempts to industrialize and results of those attempts.

Seidman, Gay

Extended Core

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

375 Globalizing Education

An ad hoc seminar for the exploration of new frontiers in curriculum and instruction.

Hawkins, Margaret

Extended Core

EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES

150 Education for Social Change

Educational controversies in social contexts. An examination of fundamental dilemmas concerning the nature and purpose of educational systems in the U.S.

Kendall, Nancy

Extended Core

EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES

340 Comparative Education

Selected systems of education (Western and non-Western) within the respective socio-cultural and political contexts, and an introduction to comparative methodology.

Bartlett, Lesley

Extended Core

ENGLISH

473 African Literature

This course will follow a theme or question in literature that crosses national boundaries, inviting students to think about forces of imperialism and globalization. Specific focus will vary.

Olaniyan, Tejumola

Core Course

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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.

Naughton, Lisa

Extended Core

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

540 Sociology of International Development, Environment, and Sustainability

Sociological analysis of relationships among economic growth, environmental sustainability and social justice in the developing world. Considers frameworks for understanding poverty, hunger, educational and technological inequality, and the impact of globalization on prospects for socially and ecologically sustainable development.

Garoon, Josh

Extended Core

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.

Naughton, Lisa

Extended Core

HISTORY

105 Introduction to the History of Africa

Major historic and current problems in African life, as seen by Africans

Callaci, Emily

Core Course

HISTORY

201 The Historian's Craft

Students conduct original historical research and convey the results to others. Through engagement with archival materials, undergraduates become historical detectives; they practice defining important historical questions, collecting and analyzing evidence, presenting original conclusions, and contributing to ongoing discussions. Students confer individually with and receive feedback from instructors to improve their skills of historical analysis and communication in both written and spoken formats. Requirements include at least 30 pages of writing - including drafts - and two or more formal oral presentations, each totaling at least five minutes. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be prepared to undertake historical research and writing in a variety of courses, including the HIST 600 capstone seminar.

Bernault, Florence

Extended Core

HISTORY

205 The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500

Development of society and culture in the Middle East and North Africa from the emergence of Islam (7th century) to early modern times.

Chamberlain, Michael

Extended Core

HISTORY

225 Explorations in Third World History

Topics vary reflecting the interests, expertise, and innovating intention of the instructor.

Chamberlain, Michael

Extended Core

HISTORY

861 Seminar – The History of Africa

Research studies in aspects of African history with emphasis on field research techniques and interpretation of non-archival data.

Kodesh, Neil

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.

Madureira, Luis

Extended Core

MEDICAL HISTORY AND BIOETHICS

231 Introduction to Social Medicine

This interdisciplinary course will provide students with analytical tools for the critical examination of the social, cultural, political and economic determinants of health conditions and medical practice. We will pay special attention to how these factors determine how patients and providers experience and ideate disease and treatment, and how they respond to specific health care policies. The course will make emphasis on the important role that conditions of structural violence and inequality play as determinants of health conditions in a globalized world.

Gomez, Pablo

Extended Core

MEDICAL HISTORY AND BIOETHICS

919 Commodities and Disease in Global History

Three seminars analyzing the scientific and social aspects of the development of modern medicine in Europe and America; one seminar exclusively on public health.

Greg Mitman

Extended Core

POLITICAL SCIENCE

455 African International Relations

Inter-state conflict and cooperation in Africa. Topics include Pan-Africanism, African Union, and regional integration; the international dimensions of regional crises; relations with great powers and with international financial institutions; and the role of non-state actors in international politics.

Schatzberg, Michael

Core Course

PORTUGUESE

221 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.
Madureira, Luis
Extended Core

SOCIOLOGY

170 Population Problems
Social, economic, and political problems affected by birth and death rates, population size and distribution, voluntary and forced migration. World ecology, limits to growth, economic development, international conflict, environmental quality, metropolitan expansion, segregation by age, race, and wealth. Policies affecting reproduction, nuptiality, morbidity, mortality, migration.
Grant, Monica
Extended Core

SOCIOLOGY

277 Africa: An 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.
Kodesh, Neil
Core Course

SOCIOLOGY

540 Sociology of International Development, Environment, and Sustainability
Sociological analysis of relationships among economic growth, environmental sustainability and social justice in the developing world. Considers frameworks for understanding poverty, hunger, educational and technological inequality, and the impact of globalization on prospects for socially and ecologically sustainable development.
Garoon, Josh
Extended Core

SOCIOLOGY

630 Sociology of Developing Countries/Third World
Review of problems and prospects of so-called "developing societies." Includes theory of economic/social development, political economic organizations of "developing" societies, history of colonialism/imperialism, attempts to industrialize and results of those attempts.
Seidman, Gay
Extended Core