



Course Description

AFH2000 | African History and Culture | 3.00 credits

The student will learn a historical survey of the development of African society, its culture, and institutions, with emphasis on the 13th century to the present.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of pre-historic Africa by:

1. discussing the origin and evolutionary stages of the human race on the continent.
2. explaining how climatic changes in the Sahara influenced the development of early African cultures.
3. describing the religious and social characteristics of the hunting and gathering societies that emerged in Africa during the Paleolithic era.
4. examining the advances in human development and invention from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic Age in Africa.
5. comparing and contrasting early African societies with contemporary societies developing on other continents.

Competency 2: The student will be able to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the achievements of ancient Africa by:

1. examining the emergence and expansion of the Egyptian and Nubian (Kush) civilizations and describing their accomplishments.
2. discussing how the migration of the Bantu peoples from West Africa influenced the development of the societies of Sub-Saharan Africa.
3. tracing the political development of African societies from kin-based communities to formal states.
4. analyzing the relationship between trade development and the emergence of large states, kingdoms, and empires in Sub-Saharan Africa.
5. explaining how early African civilizations influenced societies and cultures in the surrounding regions.

Competency 3: The student will gain an understanding of the factors that contributed to the early development of African culture and society by:

1. describing Africa's geographic features and climate zones.
2. identifying the diverse groups from the Mediterranean region that colonized and settled in North Africa.
3. identifying the diverse language groups of Africa.
4. examining the range of traditional beliefs and customs on the continent.
5. describing the different social and political systems of early African societies.
6. comparing and contrasting the development of civilizations in the different regions of North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.
7. discussing the arrival of Christianity and its establishment as the religion of the Kingdom of Axum.
8. describing how Islam influenced the political, social, economic, religious, and cultural development of sub-Saharan Africa.
9. discussing the relationship between trans-Saharan trade and the spread of Islam in the sub-Saharan region.
10. discussing the history of slavery in Africa and its development into a global trade.

Competency 4: The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the diverse groups that settled and conquered the African continent by:

1. identifying the various groups and nations that have established themselves and the areas they settled.
2. comparing the two periods of European exploration and colonization of Africa.
3. discussing how the Atlantic Slave trade impacted the societies of West Africa.
4. identifying the factors that led to the abolition of the slave trade and slavery.
5. examining the social, economic, and political structures of the colonizing nations established in Africa.

6. discussing how the imperial policies of the 15th and 19th centuries impacted African societies.

Competency 5: The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the growth of African nationalism and the process of decolonization and national development after 1945 by:

1. comparing the independence movements of the African nations during decolonization.
2. identifying the political, economic, social, and health issues faced by post-emancipation and post-colonial states.
3. examining the causes of genocides in Africa.
4. examining the role of Africa in the global economy of the 21st century.
5. comparing and contrasting the development and progress of the different African nations.

Learning Outcomes:

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information