



Course Description

AFH2000 | African History and Culture | 3 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:

- Discussing the origin and evolutionary stages of the human race on the continent.
- Explaining how climatic changes in the Sahara influenced the development of early African cultures.
- Describing the religious and social characteristics of the hunting and gathering societies that emerged in Africa during the Paleolithic era.
- Examining the advances in human development and invention from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic Age in Africa.
- Comparing and contrasting early African societies with contemporary societies developing on other continents.

Learning Outcomes:

- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

Competency 2:

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

- Examining the emergence and expansion of the Egyptian and Nubian (Kush) civilizations and describing their accomplishments.
- Discuss how the migration of the Bantu peoples from West Africa influenced the development of the societies of Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Tracing the political development of African societies from kin-based communities to formal states.
- Analyzing how the relationship between the development of trade and the emergence of large states, kingdoms, and empires in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Explaining how early African civilizations influenced societies and cultures in the surrounding regions.

Learning Outcomes:

- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

Competency 3:

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

- Describing Africa's geographic features and climate zones
- Identifying the diverse groups from the Mediterranean region that colonized and settled in North Africa.
- Identifying the diverse language groups of Africa.
- Examining the range of traditional beliefs and customs on the continent.
- Describing the different social and political systems of early African societies.
- Comparing and contrasting the development of civilizations in the different regions of North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Discussing the arrival of Christianity and its establishment as the religion of the Kingdom of Axum.
- Describing how Islam influenced the political, social, economic, religious, and cultural development of sub-Saharan Africa.
- Discussing the relationship between trans-Saharan trade and the spread of Islam in the sub-Saharan region.
- Discussing the history of slavery in African and its development into a global trade.

Learning Outcomes:

- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

Competency 4:

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

- Identifying the various groups and Nations that have established themselves and the areas they settled.
- Comparing the two periods of European exploration and colonization of Africa.
- Discussing how the Atlantic Slave trade impacted the societies of West Africa.
- Identifying the factors that led to the abolition of the slave trade and slavery.
- Examining the social, economic, and political structures the colonizing nations established in Africa.
- Discussing how the imperial policies of the 15th and 19th centuries impacted African societies.
- Learning Outcomes
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

Learning Outcomes:

- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

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:

- Comparing the independence movements of the African nations during decolonization.

- Identifying the political, economic, social, and health issues faced by post–emancipation and post-colonial states.
- Examining the causes of genocides in Africa.
- Examining the role of Africa in the global economy of the 21st century.
- Comparing and contrasting the development and progress of the different African nations

Learning Outcomes

- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy