

History of Global Societies: Modern Africa

Last Updated: Fri, 12/19/2025

Course prefix: HTS

Course number: 3065

Section: B

CRN

34982

Instructor first name: Georgia

Instructor last name: Brunner

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

Africa is the second-largest continent in both size and population. Its diversity has produced rich artistic traditions, world leaders, and important intellectual contributions. Simultaneously, Africa faces many challenges, from political instability to poverty to diseases like malaria and Ebola.

This course invites students to examine some of the significant changes that have shaped contemporary Africa. We will begin with the final decades of the slave trade. We will then explore European imperialism and colonization, patterns of economic, social, and cultural change, independence, and Africa in a global age. This course will enable students to engage with a range of sources and approaches to the African past. Through primary documents, secondary analyses, and engagements with art and literature, we will explore Africa's past and present.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning

Outcomes:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social or geographic relationships develop, persist or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion