

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course A.A. degree applicable course

(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Anthropology 126/Africana Studies 126
Cultures of Africa

UNIT VALUE: 3

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 48

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

PREREQUISITE: None

COREQUISITE: None

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: None

SCOPE OF COURSE:

Introduction to the indigenous peoples and cultures of Africa. Brief prehistoric and historic background of the continent. Comparative study of traditional cultures representative of the continent's diversity. Focus on social, economic, political, religious and aesthetic life, and culture change.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. identify the major geographic regions and the names and locations of the contemporary countries of Africa.
2. summarize the broad historical currents of African prehistory and history.
3. synthesize the prehistory and history of representative peoples or cultures as deduced from archaeological, historic, ethnohistoric, and ethnographic sources.
4. compare and contrast the differences in economic, social, and political organization of these cultures as determined from archaeological, ethnohistorical, and ethnographic sources.
5. compare and contrast the religious and aesthetic aspects of these cultures, including each culture's world view.
6. explain how the economics and religious beliefs and practices of these traditional societies are embedded in the cultural (especially social) context of each.
7. analyze how colonialism and the modern nation-state have affected these traditional cultures.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE :

- I. Brief Overview of Contemporary Africa
 - A. Geography of Africa
 1. Climatic zones
 2. Major physiographic features
 - B. Countries of Africa
 1. Names and locations
 2. Major ethnic groups and languages
- II. Brief Historical Overview of African Continent
 - A. Human origins
 - B. Milestones: pottery, domesticated plants and animals, metallurgy, architecture, art
 - C. Primary subsistence modes
 - D. Complex chiefdoms and states
 - E. The slave trade, colonization, and independence
- III. Traditional African Peoples or Cultures
 - A. Suggested Cultures (others may be used)
 1. The Malinke or the Yoruba of West Africa
 2. The San of Southern Africa or the Nuer of the Sudan
 3. The Igbo or the Tiv of West Africa
 4. The Lugbara of East Africa or the Abbron of West Africa
 5. The Bunyoro or Sebei of East Africa
 6. The Swazi of Southern Africa
 - B. Similarities and differences in the social, economic, and political organization of each of the cultures.
 - C. Similarities and differences in world view, religious beliefs and rituals, and aesthetic life of each culture.
 - D. The embeddedness of economic and religious life within each culture.
 - E. Effects of colonialism and the modern nation-state on these traditional cultures: on social organization, economic life, political organization, world view, religious beliefs and rituals, and aesthetics.

REQUIRED READING:

All texts will be appropriate to the course objectives. Examples include the following:

Texts on Africa:

Bohannon, Paul and Philip Curtin. *Africa and Africans*. 4th edition. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1995.

Jahn, Jahnheinz. *Muntu: African Culture and the Western World*. New York: Grove Weidenfeld, 1990.

Lawson, E. Thomas. *Religions of Africa: Traditions in Transformation*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1998.

Ramsey, Jeffress. *Africa*. 5th edition. Guilford, CT: Dushkin, 1993.

Rich, Evelyn J. and Immanuel Wallerstein. *Africa: Tradition and Change*. New York: Random House, 1972.

Scupin, Raymond. "Africa." In *Cultural Anthropology: A Global Perspective*. 2nd edition. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1995.

Ethnographies About Specific Cultures:

Alexander, Alland, Jr. *When the Spider Danced: Notes from an African Village*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1976.

Bascom, William. *The Yoruba of Southwestern Nigeria*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1969.

Beattie, John. *Bunyoro: An African Kingdom*. Fort Worth: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1960.

Bohannon, Paul. *Justice and Judgment Among the Tiv*. London: Oxford University Press for the International African Institute, 1957.

Cohen, Ronald. *The Kanuri of Borno*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1987.

Goldschmidt, Walter. *The Sebei: A Study in Adaptation*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1986.

Kuper, Hilda. *The Swazi: A South African Kingdom*. 2nd Edition. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1986.

Lee, Richard B. *The Dobe Ju'hoansi*. 2nd edition. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace, 1994.

Middleton, John. *The Lugbara of Uganda*. 2nd edition. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace, 1993.

Pritchard, E.E. Evans. *The Nuer: A Description of the Modes of Livelihood and Political Institutions of a Nilotic People*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1940.

Schaffer, Matt and Christine Cooper. *Mandinka: The Ethnography of a West African Holy Land*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1985.

Uchendu, Victor C. *The Igbo of Southeast Nigeria*. Fort Worth: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanich, 1965.

Williams, Bruce T. *Bambo Jordan: An Anthropological Narrative*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1994.

Other:

Jablow, Alta. *Gassire's Lute: A West African Epic*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1971.

Tutuola, Amos. *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*. New York: Grove Press, 1953.

SUGGESTED READING:

Gibbs, James L., Jr. (ed). *Peoples of Africa*. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1965.

Kuper, Leo and M.G. Smith (eds). *Pluralism in Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971.

REQUIRED WRITING:

Essay questions on midterms and final exam requiring several paragraphs for each response. Comparative essay paper of 8-10 pages.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Reading of about 500 pages of text, studying lecture notes, writing comparative essay paper, and preparation for exams. The comparative essay paper is on two African cultures focusing on traditional sociopolitical, economic and/or religious organization OR on how the two societies have dealt with culture change.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Two essay midterms (25% each), comparative essay on African cultures done outside class (20%), and an essay final exam (30%).

IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?

Yes No Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1

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If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s)
55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

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SIGNATURES ON FILE
