
ANTH 320 (LEC01)
Ethnographic Overview of Africa
GFC Hours 3-0
Fall 2023

Instructor: Tsegay Gebrelibanos
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Lecture Location: ST 139
Lecture :T,TH Hours: 3:30-4:45

Office Hours: T,Th, 5-7pm

Teaching Asst.: Alika Nerius
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Prerequisite(s): Anth 203

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an Ethnographic overview of the peoples of Africa and historical analysis of their incorporation within the contemporary nation states. The ethnographic survey will consider the major themes that characterize Africa's overall social, political, economic, and historical developments through carefully selected and crafted ethnographic accounts and themes. Among others, the broader themes that characterize African peoples as well as cases of ethnographic accounts of the various African regions will be covered through brief lectures, student assignments and classroom presentations. Some themes will also be delivered not only through bi-weekly lectures but also through student presentations and classroom activities. The Instructor and Teaching Assistance (TA) will facilitate the course by engaging students through interactive learning. Details of the course contents are presented in a table format on the last section of this course outline. This course may not be repeated for credit. However, there is one course prerequisite to take this course and that is, Anthropology 203.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. This course provides students with an examination of ethnographic survey of African peoples, their history and culture beyond mere assumptions and stereotypes that the media, films, novels and travelers have projected on Africa. This is an undergraduate course generally focuses on defining and understanding African society, culture and political economy. It also gives good insights on Africa's cultural interactions with the global community at different eras, mainly during such historical developments as the transatlantic slave trade, colonization

and globalization. The course aims at fostering a more nuanced understanding of how these common assumptions have shaped the social, political, cultural and economic life of Africa and of Africans.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and briefly describe the geographic, climatic zones, languages and cultural history of Africa
2. Critically explain the concepts and action of colonialism, decolonization and the Nation state in Africa
3. Describe and analyze indigenous socio-political organization, modernity versus tradition and the incorporation of Africans into the nation-state
4. Explain the underlying links between the Transatlantic slave trade and Colonialism as well as their impacts on African culture, social life, history, identity and modern nation states
5. Discuss the diverse forms of states and the historical context of Africa's incorporation to the extractive colonials
6. Participate actively on group debate on the Nation state as a triumph versus Nation as a tragedy
7. Compare and contrast Globalization with regard to Africa's interaction with the West and with that of China in 21st century
8. Acquire and develop practical skills in data analysis, report writing, presentation, and critical thinking in the field of African Anthropology and History.

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

There is no required text for this course. The references below are divided into two categories. Category A are good references that can help students to acquire a comprehensive understanding of Africa's ethnographic overview and the historical incorporation of Africans to the nation state at one or other sections of the Course. Category B relate to specific topics. Readings will be posted on D2L

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT:

A word processor or other basic software is needed for assignments and access to the Internet.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

1. Midterm 1 (15%) October 5
2. Midterm 2 (30%) November 9
3. Individual term paper 1 (5-7 pages) (15%)- Due date on October 17.
4. Individual term paper2 (5-7 pages)-(15%)-Due date on December 5.
5. Individual Class room participation (10%). It includes reading assignments and Book reviews. Various dates
6. Final exam will be **home take examination** (15%). It comprises of 10% for the paper and 5% for the outline. Exam to be handed out on Dec 5th and due December 18th
the 1st mid-term and 2nd mid-term examinations are composed of short answer and essays

-Assignments must be uploaded to D2L by midnight on the due date. Late submissions will be penalized by a 10% grade reduction per day.

1. **Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>
2. **Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%	F	< 50%

3. **There will be no extra credit available in the class. Students are not required to pass any of the course components in order to pass the course as a whole.**

Missed Course Work

In the event of an emergency, students who missed examinations and /or who failed to submit assignments on time should consult the instructor (tsegay.gebrelibanos@ucalgary.ca) preferably before the missed test or paper submission. Missed examinations/tests cannot be made up without the approval of the instructor. Exams may only be deferred in the case of serious illness or medical emergency, religious observance, or domestic affliction. For the details of U Calgary rules on this see:

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-exams>). Students who miss a test/exam have up to **48 hours** to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour grace period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam, and will receive a mark of zero on the exam or assignment. Makeup tests/exams may differ significantly in format and/or content) from the regularly scheduled test/exam. Deferred midterms will be essay style. Once approved by the instructor, a makeup test/exam must be written within **two weeks** of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. The instructor in consultation with and the approval of the department can also take the option of transferring the weight of missed exam to remaining exams.

Note that Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for meeting their exemption/special appeal requests. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their specific situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits their situation is at the discretion of the student. However, note that falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very

seriously and may result in “disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy” of the University of Calgary. NOTE: This last paragraph is a direct quote from the University Calendar.

NOTE: Should a request to defer term work exceed the end of the term, a Deferral of Term Work form must be completed and submitted to the Office of the Registrar. The deferral will be recorded on the student record. Deferrals are granted at the discretion of the Dean or designate and are normally granted for 30 days beyond the last day of the term. Should circumstances warrant, the maximum time that may be granted for a deferral of term work is one additional term? Approved extensions must be sent to the Office of the Registrar. Application information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/student-forms>

6. Deferral of the registrar-scheduled final exam requires Registrar approval
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-exams>

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

For the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, layers of identities stood as valued inputs of public strength to be embraced than liabilities. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

COURSE POLICIES

This course requires active student participation in assignments, class room discussions and examinations. Using phone during class presentations is not welcome. The aim of the course among others is to encourage experiential learning. Recording lectures are not allowed. The lecturer and TA will make sure major reading materials (references) are put in place within the library.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other

than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

This course is due to be conducted along regular bi-weekly schedule. Classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-4:45pm. This time may only be subject to modifications if class availabilities or other pressing issues may force it. Due dates for tests/exams and major assignments are already explained on section Assignments, Examinations and Assessments above. If at all there may be any minor adjustments, it could be announced on the D21 web. Regular Fall Session ANTH 320 Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 3:30pm-4:45 pm

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)
TU Sep 5	1. UNDERSTANDING AFRICAN NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE
	2. THE AFRICAN ANTIQUITY: DOMESTICATION, SETTLEMENT AND INNOVATIONS

TU Sep 12	3. THE PEOPLING OF AFRICA: A GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORIC INTERPRETATION
TH Sep 14	4. LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL IMAGES OF AFRICA 4.1. AFRICAN LANGUAGE FAMILIES AND SOCIO-HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS 4.2. CULTURE, CUSTOM AND INDIGENOUS INSTITUTIONS Student Activities and Presentations (# 6 students, 10 minutes each)
TU Sep 19	4.3. CULTURE, CUSTOM AND IDENTITY Student Activities and Presentations(# 6 students, 10 minutes each)
TH Sep 21	4.4. ETHNOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARIES: CASES of ANTRHOPOLGISTS FIELD WORKS Student Activities and Presentations (# 6 students, 10 minutes each)
TU Sep 26	5. ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE PEOPLES AND REGIONS OF AFRICA 5.1. ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF NORTHERN AFRICAN REGION 5.2. ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF WESTERN AFRICAN REGION
TH Sep 28	5.3. ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION 5.4. ETHNOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF EASTERN AFRICAN REGION
TU Oct 3	Student Activities and Presentations(#15 students, 10 minutes each)
TH Oct 5	Mid-term Examination 1 (15%),
TU Oct 10	6. A SURVEY OF THE CIVILIZATION AND STATES TO 19th CENTURY 6.1. AFRICAN STATES IN ANTIQUITY: CASES OF EGYPT, YOURUBA, KUSH, AKSUM, GREAT ZIMBABWE
TH Oct 12	6.2. THE TRANS-SAHARAN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT OF STATES: GHANA, MALI, SONGAHAY
TU Oct 17	Student Activities and Presentations(#15 students, 10 minutes each) Submission of 1 st Term paper (15%)
TH Oct 19	6.3. SLAVERY INSTITUTION, DOMESTIC LABOUR AND TRANS-ATLANTIC TRADE
TU Oct 24	6.4. MISSIONARIES, CHIEFS AND EXPLORERS ON THE EVE OF SCRAMBLE
TH Oct 26	7. ARTICULATION OF THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION ON AFRICAN CONTEXT: KINSHIP, TRIBUTARY CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM
TU Oct 31	Student Activities and Presentations (#10 students, 10 minutes each)

TH Nov 2	8. HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF AFRICA'S INCORPORATION: THE EXTRACTIVE COLONIAL STATE ANTI-COLONIAL COSMOPOLITANISM	
TU Nov 7	9. PHASES AND WAVES OF DECOLONIZATION	
TH Nov 9	Mid Term Examination 2 /30%/	
Nov 12-18	Term Break, No Classes	
TU Nov 21	10. SOCIO-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION: BANDS, TRIBES AND ETHNIC GROUPS IN 21ST CENTURY AFRICA -Reading assignment and students presentations about clans, tribes and ethnic groups (#7 students, 8 minutes each)	
TH Nov 23	12. IMPACTS OF THE COLD WAR ON AFRICA 13. ALTERNATIVE STATE STRUCTURES IN AFRICA 13.1. THE INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENTALIST STATE 13.2. THE NEO-LIBERAL STATE 13.3. STILL STATES	
TU Nov 28	14. NATION-STATE AS TRIUMPH VERSUS NATION-STATE AS TRAGEDY Student Activities and Presentations (#8 students, 10 minutes each)	
TH Nov 30	15. AFRICA, THE WEST AND THE ORIENTAL: CONCLUSIVE BRIEFINGS ON GLOBALIZATION, ENGAGEMENTS AND SETBACKS	
TU Dec 5	Second Individual Term Paper due date Final Semester Examination (15%) handed out December 5 th due December 18 th	

IMPORTANT DATES

M Sept 4	Labour Day, No Classes
T Sept 5	Start of Classes
R Sept 14	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty
F Sept 15	Last day to add or swap a course
F Sept 22	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
S Sept 30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day
M Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day, No Classes.
M Nov 13	Remembrance Day Observance
Nov 12-18	Reading Break. No classes.

W Dec 6	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.
Dec 9-20	Fall Final Exam Period.
Dec 25-31	Holiday Observance, University Closed.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>