

**University of Ghana**  
**Department of History**  
**Sample Spring Courses**

**HIST 302      Ghana in the 19th and the 20th Centuries**

This course traces the history of Ghana in considerable detail, the many influences to which Ghana was exposed throughout its existence, before, as well as after its independence; Christian missions, education and social change; the growth of British colonial power and jurisdiction and Ghanaian reactions; Anglo-Asante wars; the era of the “Scramble” for Africa; Ghana under British rule: Social, political and economic developments under colonialism; the rise of nationalism between 1900 and 1945; the impact of World War II; the struggle for Independence; Ghana since 1957: Kwame Nkrumah; the period of coups; 1966 to 1981 and the Second, Third and Fourth Republics.

**HIST 304      History of Europe: 1789 to 1945**

An in-depth study of political development of Modern Europe; the French Revolution, Napoleon and Europe; Vienna settlement and the Congress system; the revolutions of 1830 and 1848; the “Eastern Question” in the 19th century; international alignments of 1870-1914; the first World War; Versailles settlement and its consequences; the Russian revolutions; communist and Nazi dictatorships and from the League of Nations to the United Nations.

**HIST 306      Islam and Christianity in Africa**

In this course an attempt is made to strike a balance of the influences of the two great monotheistic religions on Africa. Topics treated in the course include early Christianity in North and North-Eastern Africa; Islam and the conquest of North Africa; Islam and Christianity in Ethiopia; Islamic expansion in West and East Africa; growth of Islamic influence through Sufi Orders; the influence of Christian Pietism i.e., Evangelical revival and the Missionary movements; Islam and reform in the 19th Century: Mahdism in the Sudan, Muslim society; imposition of European (colonial) rule; church and the growth of nationalism; Ethiopianism; self rule; church-independence and church and state in post-colonial Africa.

**HIST 308      History of Africa up to 1800**

The course treats in considerable detail a wide variety of subjects, including the East African and Indian Ocean trade; trade and politics in the Zambezi valley; the trans-Saharan trade; the Sudanic states and the Moroccan invasion; developments in the Mahgreb during Ottoman rule; religion and conflict in Ethiopia; interlacustrine cluster of states: Iwo, Bacwezi, Bunyoro and Buganda; Luba and Lunda states; pre-European trade and society in Southern Africa; San and Khoikhoi; Nguni and Sotho chiefdoms; Dutch settlements; Boer dispersion and Khoisan resistance; the roots of the “native problem” and prelude to the Mfecane and the Great Trek.

**HIST 312 Economic History of West Africa: 1890 to 1960**

This course deals with interpretations of colonialism and imperialism; the economic aspects of the partition of West Africa; respective roles of economic and non-economic and of peripheral and metropolitan influences; early colonial economy, 1890-1930; role of colonial administration and of foreign capital; causes and mechanics of the cash-crop “revolution”, including the role of indigenous enterprise, change and continuity in the social organization of colonial life; rural indebtedness, the expansion of migrant wage labour; position of women slaves; chiefs, traders and educated elites; the economic context of political independence; depression and conflict in colonial economy, 1930-40; economic decolonisation or transition to neo-colonialism, 1940-60 and the expansion of Government intervention in West African economies, 1910-60.

**HIST 314 The History of Western Medicine in Ghana**

This course describes the pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial systems of healthcare. It describes the laying of the foundations of Western Medical practice and the further development of the system since the country became politically independent. It emphasises the changes that medical policy has undergone since the late 19th Century, the reasons and impact of these changes, the contributions of individual employees (Ghanaian and expatriate) to the present structure of the Medical services, and the establishment of the Ghana Medical School. The course shall describe how several major diseases have been eradicated or tamed with reasons which explain successes and failures. There shall be considerably less emphasis on disease causation and medical terminology.

**HIST 316 Women in History**

This course takes a global approach to Women’s History, moving chronologically from the ancient to the modern period. The scope of the course necessitates selections from various time periods and geographical and national areas. These selections have been chosen to reveal critical aspects of Women’s lives in History. The course is divided into four parts. The first part is a general introduction to the emergence of Women’s studies. The second part looks at Women in the Ancient World. The third part examines Women in the Middle Ages with respect to their role in the prevailing economic, political and social orders. The fourth part focuses on Women in the Modern World with some emphasis on the African Woman.

**HIST 402 Modern Trends in Intellectual History**

This course looks at Intellectual History since the Enlightenment and focuses attention on the enlightened philosophes; the adherents of the Idealist School of thought: Hegel, Kant, Fichte and Schelling and the proponents of the theories of evolution, social and political change: Mazzini, Darwin, Engels and Marx

**HIST 404 History of Science & Technology since the Industrial Revolution**

This course looks at the development of science and technology since the Industrial and communications revolutions. It deals with Victorian England; the new sciences, new forces and new attitudes; science, technology and business; the challenge of the 20th century; super science and technology and the age of waste and destruction.

**HIST 406 History of Political Thought since St. Augustine**

This course looks at political thought since St Augustine. It covers political theory of the Italian Renaissance; 17th and 18th Century expositions of social contract theory; French and English constitutional ideas in the century of 1770-1870 and the main European political theories on the 20th Century.

**HIST 408 Colonial rule and African Response: Nationalism and Independence**

This course deals with African reaction to colonial rule 1914-1945: Political Economic and Social Grievances; Proto – Nationalism and Nationalism; the impact of pan-Islamism, World War II and Pan –Africanism; decolonization and African Unity.

**HIST 414 History Modern Russia & United States of America: 1860-1939**

This course deals with the emancipation of serfs in Russia and of slaves in the United States of America; methods of securing political, economic and social rights after emancipation; economic and industrial development in Russia and the United States of America from 1870-1914; territorial expansions of Russia and the United States of America; Russia and United States of America in the first World War; isolationism of Russia and the United States of America from 1920 to 1939.

**HIST 418 Aspects of world History since 1945**

This course deals with the emergence of the Super Powers; the Cold War; the spread of Soviet influence and American reactions; North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; the Warsaw Pact; the Eastern Bloc; the Nuclear arms race; the German problem; developments in Asia: Civil war and communist victory in China; Tibet, the communist uprising in Malaya; Korean War (1950-3); the French withdrawal from the 1954 settlement in Indo-China; South East Asia Treaty Organisation (to the 1970s); Vietnam War; divided Vietnam 1954-76; the Middle East: Foundation of Israel in 1948; the Palestine problem, Arab League 1947; the Baghdad Pact 1955; the Suez Crisis of 1956; the Non-Aligned movement; the rise of nationalism in Asia and Africa and its consequences; reconstruction of Japan after 1946; groupings in Africa: the Monrovia and Casablanca powers (1961); the Organisation of African Unity, 1963; East African Community, 1967; Economic Community of West African States, 1976; Apartheid and World reaction, the United Nations since 1950 and the Commonwealth of Nations.