

**Course Title:** Topics in Pan-Africanism  
**Course Number:** V18.9181  
**Instructor:** Michael William  
Activity Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 4  
Semester: Fall & Spring

### Course Description

This is an interdisciplinary course designed to study the Pan-African movement as a social movement with experiences in the past and the present, in Africa and the African Diaspora. With the use of mostly 'classic' texts in the study of Pan-Africanism, this course will explore the ways in which the socio-cultural, economic, and political experiences of various communities within the African World have impacted each other within the larger context of the Pan-Africanist struggle. Students interested in sociology, history, political science, economics, and cultural studies will find this course of particular interest as its subject matter will dovetail into each of these related disciplines.

The following specific areas will be covered over the span of the semester:

## **I. INTRODUCTION:**

- Week 1: *Introduction to the Sociology of Social Movements*  
READINGS: Sociology. Ian Robertson. Worth Publishers, Inc. 2005. Chpt. 20.
- Week 2: *Historical Background: Atlantic Slave Trade & Colonialism*  
READINGS: How Europe Underdeveloped Africa. Walter Rodney. Howard University Press, 1982. Chpts. III-IV.
- Week 3: *Definition and Origin of the Pan-African Movement*  
READINGS: The Pan-African Movement. Imanuel Geiss. Africana Publishing Company, 1974. Chpt. 1.

## **II. HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF PAN-AFRICANISM:**

- Week 4: *Pre-Twentieth Century Developments*  
READINGS: The Pan-African Movement. Imanuel Geiss. Africana Publishing Company, 1974. Chpt. 2-4.
- Week 5: *Early Twentieth Century Developments*  
READINGS: Africa and Unity: The Evolution of Pan-Africanism. Vincent Bakpetu Thompson. Longman, 1977, Chpts. 3-4.
- Week 6: *Post-World War Two Developments*  
READINGS: Africa and Unity: The Evolution of Pan-Africanism. Vincent Bakpetu Thompson. Longman, 1977, Chapt. 6.

### III. MAJOR FIGURES IN PAN-AFRICANISM

- Week 7: *Audio-Visual Presentations*  
Selected CDs and Videos: Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Kwame Nkrumah, Kwame Ture
- Week 8: **MIDTERM EXAM**
- Week 9: *W.E.B. DuBois, George Padmore, C.L.R. James*  
READINGS: Pan-Africanism: New Directions in Strategy. W. Ofuatye-Kodjoe, ed. University Press of America, 1986. Chpt. 2.
- Week 10: *Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Kwame Nkrumah, Kwame Ture*  
READINGS: Pan-Africanism: New Directions in Strategy. W. Ofuatye-Kodjoe, ed. University Press of America, 1986. Chpts. 3.
- Week 11: *Role of Women*  
READINGS: "Unsung Heroines of Pan-Africanism: A Preliminary Assessment," Abafazi: The Simmons College Review of Women of African Descent, Volume 3, Number 1, Fall 1992, pp. 3-9.

### IV. CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCES

- Week 12: *Ghanaian Contributions*  
READINGS: Africa Must Unite. Kwame Nkrumah. Panaf Publishers, 1990, Chpts. 1-3.
- Week 13: *African Union*  
READINGS: African Union Constitution. African Union Website
- Week 14: *Reparations, Repatriation, & Pan-African Congresses*  
READINGS: How Europe Underdeveloped Africa. Walter Rodney. Howard University Press, 1982. Chpts. V-VI.
- Week 15: *Review*  
READINGS: And Economic Textbook for Africa. Ann Seidman. Methuen. Chpts. 20-21.

#### Quizzes and Exams

There will be five unannounced quizzes and two disclosed exams, a midterm and the final. The quizzes and exams will include, primarily, essay styled questions. The purpose of the quizzes and exams will be to gauge the students' grasp of the material covered in the class lectures and in the assigned readings as well as to measure the students' ability to reflect critically on the subject matter of the course.

## Research Paper

A research paper of no less than 12 double-spaced typed pages will be required from each student. The subject matter of the research paper must address one of the sub-topics of the course as approved by the professor. All students must turn in a copy of an outline of the specific topic chosen along with a brief annotated bibliography of sources within four weeks from the beginning of the course.

## Grading

The course will consist of five quizzes, worth 15%; two exams, worth 60%; and the research paper, worth 25%. Five points (extra credit) can be earned for consistent classroom participation.

5 Quizzes (3 points each)	15 points	100 – 90 = A
2 Exams (30 points each)	60 points	89 – 80 = B
1 Research Paper	25 points	79 – 70 = C
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	100 points	59 – 0 = F
Classroom Participation	5 points	
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	105 Maximum points	