KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

HIST 3391: History of West Africa
Fall Semester 2016
M/W 9:30-10:45 AM
Education Classroom Facility 135

Course Director: Dr. Akanmu G. Adebayo
Phone: 470-578-6646
E-mail: aadebayo@kennesaw.edu
Office: SO 4112
Office Hours: Mon/Wed, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in SO 4112, other times by appointment

Course Description
A history of West Africa from the earliest times to the present. The course emphasizes cultural continuities and change, trade and cultural ties with North Africa, and contemporary challenges of economic development and nation building in the region. It examines important themes such as village, urban and community life; the formation of mini and mega states like Ghana, Mali and Songhai empires; the impact of trans-Saharan and trans-Atlantic trade networks; traditional religion, Islam and Christianity; European colonialism and African resistances; decolonization and development since independence.

Course Objectives
At the end of this course, students will be able to:
- Articulate major periods and events in the history of West Africa from the earliest times to the present;
- Create a chronology of West African history;
- List West African countries and ethnic groups;
- Understand the challenges of development and proffer solutions to societal problems;
- Compare and contrast development and democratization in various West African countries;
- Map conflict zones and offer solutions to many West African conflicts; and
- Describe West Africa’s resources and their roles in the economy of West Africa

Professional Courtesy Statement
Students are expected to read the course outline carefully. You are responsible for its entire content and possible revisions announced in the class. The course director may modify the syllabus at any time and notify the class accordingly. Students should expect the course director to treat them with fairness and respect, and they too should reciprocate in like manner to the instructor and to their classmates. Classroom behavior is expected to meet the highest standards in the exercise of, and respect for, individual rights. All submissions should be in Word format and submitted electronically in D2L/Brightspace. As soon as it is uploaded, Turnitin will check the paper for originality. Deadlines are observed strictly; late papers will be penalized by point reduction per day they are late. Students are reminded to read and adhere to KSU regulations regarding academic honesty (see below).
2 This syllabus is subject to change

Texts
3. Library Resources: KSU Library: http://www.kennesaw.edu/library
4. Many articles will be posted on D2L. Several will be supplementary reading while others will be required reading.

### Course Activities/Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
<td>Class roll</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>A = 90% or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2016</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>B = 80%-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>Oct. 31, 2016</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>C = 70%-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2016</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>D = 60%-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2016</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>F = 59% or lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Attendance Policy

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Attendance is required in the course. See course assessment and requirements below for more details on this attendance policy.

### Electronic Devices Policy

Please note that no electronic devices are permitted in the classroom during examinations. Your computers, phones, tablets, phablets, and other devices are to be stowed in your bags during exams.

### Makeup Exams and Late Assignments:

There are two tests plus the final exam. You are allowed to make up one test missed—i.e., either Test 1 or Test 2—at an appropriate time (see below). Late submission of your research paper will carry a penalty. See the “Research Paper” policy below.

Note: The Department will host a day for makeup exams for students with excused absences at the end of each semester. Students will need to bring an ID to the makeup exam. This is not a required makeup solution.

### Grading:

See “Course Assessments/Assignments” above.

### Grade Calculations:

See “Course Assessments/Assignments” above.

### Grading Scale

See “Course Assessments/Assignments” above. Also, note that “I” indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the
Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

**Academic Integrity Statement:**
Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also [https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct](https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct).

Violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be reported accordingly to the SCAI.

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites include:
- [http://plagiarism.org/](http://plagiarism.org/)
- [http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml)
- [http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html](http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html)

**ADA Compliance:**
Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the Student Disabilities Services website at [www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds) for more information, or call the office at 470-578-6443.
Description/Explanation of Course Activities

1. **Attendance and Participation**
   Class attendance is important in this course. A sign-up sheet will be passed every class meeting. If you don’t see one, ask. You will be responsible for ensuring you sign your name. And you will need to be in class for at least an hour to be considered present for that day. Only a “perfect” attendance (no more than three classes missed in the entire semester) will earn 5 points. Others, nothing. I sympathize with family and/or medical emergencies, job demands, and other genuine reasons for absences. However, the attendance policy simply is: you are absent whenever you are not in class. This is a form of extra credit built into the course. Those 5 points are supplemental, or bonus.

2. **Research Paper**  
   Submit via D2L/BrightSpace by 11:59 p.m. on November 16, 2016
   You have two options. Select one from the two options below. The following requirements will guide whichever option you select.
   a) The length of the research paper is minimum 1500 words and maximum 2000 words, not including notes and bibliography.
   b) All pages must be double-spaced.
   c) Use at least six sources, three of which must be books.
   d) The research project is due on November 16, 2016; 2 points will be deducted for each day your paper is late.
   e) Recall all the things you learned in your previous English classes about writing a research paper, and put the skill to use in every way possible. Consult the Writing Center for assistance regarding your writing style, grammar, citation style, etc.
   f) Use the Chicago Style in writing your paper and citations.

   Also, be aware that your research paper—whichever option you choose—will be graded on the five elements outlined below.
   a) appropriateness of sources used
   b) content: information must be substantial, exhaustive, and significant, interpretation must be original, argument must be consistent and coherent
   c) analysis: historical and contextual analysis must be skillful, coherent, and profound
   d) style, grammar, spelling, clarity of expression, beauty of language, originality of thought
   e) citing your sources and preparing your bibliography in the Chicago Style.

**Option 1: Adopt an Ethnic Group:**
Write a descriptive essay on one West African ethnic group. Select from the list below.

- Akan (or Asante or Fante)
- Bambara
- Borgu
- Dogon
- Edo (or Benin)
- Ewe
- Fon
- Fulani or Fulbe
- Hausa
- Igbo
- Mande (or Mandingo)
- Songhai
- Tiv
- Tuareg
- Wolof
- Yoruba

Make sure to include in your essay information addressing the following themes: geographical location; something you find significant (or that interests you deeply) about the ethnic group; social organization (family, kinship, religion); political and economic organization; and current and contemporary challenges facing the ethnic group.
Option 2: Adopt a Country
Choose a West African country. Research and learn all you can about that country. Tailor your research to matters related to your major, and write a paper based on that interest. Let’s say you are Education major and you adopted Ghana. Then you might consider writing a paper on “Challenges of Early Childhood Education in Ghana.” Here’s another example. Let’s say your major is International Affairs and you’ve adopted Mali. You might frame your topic around “France’s Counterterrorism Strategies in Mali.” Let the course director know if you need more examples.

3. Tests and Final Examination
Some tests will be done in class while others may be take-home. If a test is take-home, you will be required to submit via D2L. The dates of all tests are listed above. More information will be provided about each test at least one week prior to the test date.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon., 9:30-10:45 AM</th>
<th>Wed., 9:30-10:45 AM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Classroom Facility 235</td>
<td>Education Classroom Facility 235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 15 No class. Introduction to the Course. Read course outline and complete assignment on D2L. Submit assignment in Dropbox in D2L</td>
<td>Aug. 17 Geographical Location and Component Nations Davidson, ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 22 West African Prehistory Readings: Davidson, chs. 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Aug. 24 West African Peoples and Cultures Readings: Davidson, chs. 10 &amp; 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29 West African Peoples and Cultures Readings: Davidson, chs. 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Aug. 31 West African Peoples and Cultures Readings: Davidson, chs. 10 &amp; 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sept. 5 Labor Day, No Classes</strong></td>
<td>Sept. 7 Introduction to Empires of West Africa Readings: Davidson, ch. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 12 Ghana Empire Readings: Davidson, ch. 3</td>
<td>Sept. 14 Mali Empire Readings: Davidson, ch. 4</td>
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<td>Sept. 19 Songhay Empire Readings: Davidson, ch. 5</td>
<td>Sept. 21 Kanem-Bornu Empire and Hausa City States Readings: Davidson, ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sept. 26 Test 1</strong></td>
<td>Sept. 28 Oyo Empire Readings: Davidson, ch 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3 Asante Empire Readings: Davidson, ch. 15</td>
<td>Oct. 5 Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalties The Coming of Europeans Readings: Davidson, ch. 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 10 Atlantic Slave Trade Readings: Davidson, ch. 13</td>
<td>Oct. 12 Abolition of Atlantic Slave Trade Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 17 19th Century Revolutions and Wars Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, Part One, all chapters</td>
<td>Oct. 19 19th Century Revolutions and Wars Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, Part Two, all chapters</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oct. 31 Test 2</strong></td>
<td>Nov. 2 West Africa under European Rule: Introduction Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, ch. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 7 British and French Colonial Systems Compared Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, ch. 17</td>
<td>Nov. 9 Impact of Colonial Rule Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, chs. 18-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 14 Rise of Anti-Colonial Movement Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, chs. 20-21</td>
<td>Nov. 16 Anti-Colonialism in British and French Colonies Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, ch. 22</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research Paper due, D2L Dropbox, 11:59 p.m.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 21 Fall Break, No Classes</td>
<td>Nov. 23 Fall Break, No Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 28 Independence in West Africa Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, chs. 23-25</td>
<td>Nov. 30 Postcolonialism Readings: Webster &amp; Boahen, Part Six, all chapters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 5 Last Day of Classes Revision</td>
<td>Dec. 7 No Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dec. 12 Final Exam, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</strong></td>
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These required readings are to be accomplished before class. Additional readings will be posted on D2L.