

Common Course Outline
AASD 111/ANTH 111
Introduction to African Civilizations
3 Semester Hours

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

AASD 111/ANTH 111 – Introduction to African Civilizations provides a survey of the African experience throughout history with a general overview of centers of African civilization from antiquity through contemporary times. The major centers covered include ancient pre-colonial societies of the entire continent of Africa, contact and trade with outside societies, enslavement and colonization and independence. The course provides introductory knowledge of the fundamental differences and cultural commonalities that African peoples share with regards to language, religion, culture, family and politics. There is an examination of the influence that African civilization has exerted on other cultures as well as the impact of cross-cultural contacts on the African Diaspora especially that of Americans of African ancestry.

3 Credits

Prerequisite: ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. demonstrate an introductory knowledge of the African experience in the areas of history, culture, and world view;
2. recognize the impact of the African continent on world civilizations;
3. identify the basic geography of the continent of Africa;
4. describe the impact of European, Asian, and American colonialism on various cultures in Africa;
5. discuss the role of African history and its relevance to contemporary issues influencing peoples of the African Diaspora, particularly African Americans;
6. distinguish the main events, persons, institutions, trends, and developments that are involved in the history of African civilization; and
7. analyze the diverse patterns and similarities of thought, values and beliefs originating in Africa that are manifested in the African Diaspora.

Major Topics

- I. Africa and the Origins of Humankind
- II. The Roots of Ancient African Cultures
- III. Northern Africa in the Wider World
- IV. Africa in the Early Islamic Age
- V. Political Culture and Economy in Early East Africa
- VI. African Systems of Belief
- VII. West Africa in the Era of the Slave Trade
- VIII. The Colonial Conquest and African Colonial Economy
- IX. African Nationalism and Transition to Independence
- X. Independent Africa

Course Requirements

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but will include the following:

1. One five-page research paper
2. At least one 15 minute class presentation
3. At least one exam/quiz that assesses geography knowledge
4. At least one mid-term exam and one final exam, each with an essay component

Other Course Information

This course is an Africana Studies core course.

Date Revised: 2/13/2017