

**KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY**

**HIST 3391: History of West Africa  
Summer Semester, 2019    Mon/Wed, 2:00-4:45 PM  
Classroom Location: Social Sciences Building Room 2031**

Course Director: Dr. Akanmu G. Adebayo  
Office Location: Social Sciences Building, Room 4112  
Office Hours: Mon/Wed, 1:00-2:00 PM; other times by appointment  
Phone: (470) 578-6646  
E-mail: aadebayo@kennesaw.edu

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**Time Table: Class meets at 2:00-4:45 PM in SO 2031 on dates listed below**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>June</b>	3 First day of class	5
	10	12
	17	19
	24 Mid-term Test	27
<b>July</b>	1	3
	8	10
	15	17 Last day of class
	22 Final Exam, in class, 2-4 PM	24

What you need for success in the course:

- Attendance and participation in class discussions and group activities
- Quizzes (short answers) completed in class
- Two short papers (biography, definition of terms, etc.)

### Course Communication:

You may contact me by email to [aadebayo@kennesaw.edu](mailto:aadebayo@kennesaw.edu) or email me within D2L Brightspace. You may also reach me by phone at 470-578-6646. Allow 24 hours for me to respond to either your email message or phone call. Finally, I am available during my office hours stated above.

### Electronic Communications:

The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

### 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.

### Learning Objectives/Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

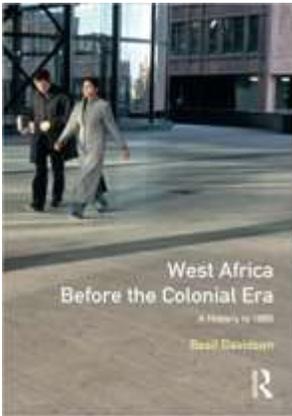
- Articulate major periods and events in the history of West Africa from the earliest times to the present;
- Create a chronology of West African history;
- List several West African leaders and articulate their biography;
- List West African countries and ethnic groups, major resources, and major landmarks;
- Define key terms in West African history;
- 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.
- Class Disruption: Classroom behavior will meet the highest standards in simple courtesies and the respect for individual rights. Refrain from disruptive behavior in class. If you know you cannot sit still for long stretches of time, please find an appropriate place to sit in the class. Once in class, stop all distracting conversations with others by phone or face-to-face. If you missed something, signal and ask me to stop to repeat the point. Turning to your neighbor to ask would disrupt both your neighbor and the class.

- Paper should be in Word format (not PDF); and submissions should be electronically in appropriate folder in D2L/Brightspace. You will lose points for not following these instructions.
- Originality: Students are reminded to read and adhere to KSU regulations regarding academic honesty. Research papers and essays written for this class should be original, not copied from some other device or recycled from an earlier course. KSU uses a program called “Turnitin” to check the originality of your paper. As soon as it is uploaded, Turnitin will check your paper for plagiarism. If a recycled paper is found, or if your paper is found to have plagiarized someone else, or if a source is not properly attributed and cited, you will score zero for the assignment and an F in the course, and be reported to SCAI for further disciplinary action.
- Deadlines are observed strictly; late papers will attract a penalty.

Textbooks/Required Reading:



Basil Davidson, *West Africa before the Colonial Era: A History to 1850*. London: Longman, 1998. ISBN-10: 058231853X; ISBN-13: 978-0582318533

Essays and supplementary readings accessible from the KSU Library and/or those placed on D2L

Attendance Policy:

KSU policy states as follows: Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. See below for the attendance policy for this course.

Electronic Devices Policy:

Please note that no electronics are permitted in the classroom during examinations. Your computer, mobile phones, and tablets must be turned off and stowed during exams.

Course Assessments/Assignments:

See below.

### Makeup Exams and Late Assignments:

Test dates are stated below. Be on time for these tests. You are allowed to make up the mid-term test and two of the pop quizzes within a week of missing them. Schedule the make-up with the course director. Assignments must be turned in as scheduled. Deadlines will be enforced. Assignments turned in late will be graded, but will be penalized at 2 points per day, including weekend. In case of inclement weather when the university is closed, tests or assignments due on that day will be rescheduled.

### Course Activities and Grading

Activities	Points obtainable	No. of times/ occasions	Total obtainable
a. Attendance (no more than 3 missed classes)			10
b. Participation in Class/Group Discussion		several	10
c. Pop Quizzes (great for being prepared for class!)	5	4	20
d. Mid-term Test (in class, June 26, 2019)		1	20
e. Two Essays (Topics Assigned)	10	2	20
f. Final Test (in class, July 22, 2:00-4:00 PM)		1	20
<b>Total</b>			<b>100</b>
<i>g. Extra credit (individualized variety of activities, added to student's total score; must be completed by or before last day of class, July 17)</i>	5	1	5

### Grade Calculations

The summer session goes very fast. Track your progress throughout the semester. Grades will be displayed on D2L. Final grade distribution will be as follows:

#### Grade Distribution

A = 90 points or higher

B = 80-89 points

C = 70-79 points

D = 60-69 points

F = 59 points or lower

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.

### KSU Academic Integrity Statement:

See <https://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php> for the KSU Code of Conduct, and see <https://scai.kennesaw.edu/students/general-info/cheating.php> for information about cheating and plagiarism.

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Codes of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. The Codes address 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>.

Academic integrity is important and students should maintain this at all times. It begins with ensuring originality in your assignments and research papers. When you submit materials via D2L, Turnitin will scan the essay for originality. If your essay fails this test, the instructor will report you to SCAI. For more information about plagiarism and to avoid it, see the links below

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

<https://wts.indiana.edu/writing-guides/pdf/plagiarism.pdf>

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 Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University's Department of Student Success 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. For more information please visit their website, [sss.kennesaw.edu/sds](http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds).

Contact information is as follows:

SDS Email: [sds@kennesaw.edu](mailto:sds@kennesaw.edu)

Primary number for Kennesaw campus: [470-578-2666](tel:470-578-2666)

Primary number for Marietta campus: [678-915-7244](tel:678-915-7244)

## Other Important Information about this Course

### Design of the Course

This course is designed around accumulation of points by each student, and there will be a variety of opportunities to earn those points throughout the summer session. Those opportunities are listed and discussed below.

- a. **Class Attendance:** This is a face-to-face course and requires class attendance. If this will be a problem, please let me know. At every class meeting, students will be able to sign the class roll. If you don't see the roll, ask. You will be responsible for ensuring you sign your name. Only a "perfect" attendance will earn the 10 points. Others, nothing. Repeat: there is no partial for attendance. If you are not in class, you are absent; if you are absent for more than three classes, you will not earn any points for attendance. "Perfect attendance" is defined as no more than three classes missed in the entire summer semester. Yes, I'm being repetitive here deliberately. Every student's reason for absence is important and credible, so the attendance policy that is applied across the board is "you're absent whenever you're not in class for its duration," regardless of the reason. It is all 10 points or nothing.
- b. **Participation in Class/Group Discussion:** We will have many group activities and discussions in class, including debates. These activities are designed to increase your learning, and you will be rewarded for active engagement in them. One to two points will be earned per session based on the quality of your engagement. The maximum that may be accumulated in the semester is ten (10) points.
- c. **Pop Quizzes:** This exercise rewards students for being prepared for class. A simple test (matching, short essays, definition of terms, etc.) will be given on the required reading for class for that day. The quiz will be graded. Each quiz will be worth 5 points. There will be four pop quizzes in the duration of the summer class.
- d. **Mid-Term Test:** This will be completed in class. Instructor will provide details and study guide.
- e. **Two Essay Tests:** One of the learning outcomes in the course is the students' ability to write and articulate information about West African history. Two short papers will be assigned at the beginning of the course (see below). Select one topic from each list. The maximum length of the papers will be 250 to 300 words—really short. Each paper will be worth 10 points. Other instructions and rubric for the papers will be provided by the course director and posted on D2L.
- f. **Final Test:** This will be on the final themes/topics covered in the class, notably West Africa since 1900. Instructions and study guide will be provided a week before the final.
- g. **Extra Credit [optional]:** It must be completed on or before the last day of class. Speak with course director about this

**HIST 3391 Summer 2019 Class Schedule**

<b>Monday, 2:00-4:45 PM</b>	<b>Wednesday, 2:00-4:45 PM</b>
June 3 a. General introduction to the course b. West Africa: Geography, Environment, Peoples Readings: Davidson, Chapter 1	June 5 States and Empires of the Savannah Readings: Davidson, Chapters 2-5
June 10 More States and Empires of the Savannah Readings: Davidson, Chapters 6-7	June 12 Empires of the Rain Forest Readings: Davidson, Chapter 8
June 17 ( <b>First Paper Due at 11:59 PM</b> ) Review & Discussion: Empires and States in West Africa Readings: Davidson, Chapters 2-8	June 19 Culture and Institutions Readings: a. Davidson, Chapters 9-11 b. Articles on D2L
June 24 Coming of the Europeans and the Atlantic Slave Trade Readings: Davidson, Chapters 12-13	June 26 ( <b>Mid-Term Test</b> ) Islamic Jihads in West Africa in the 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Readings: Articles in D2L
July 1 Abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade Readings: a. Davidson, Chapters 14-16 b. Articles on D2L	July 3 European Scramble, Partition, and Conquest Readings: Articles in D2L
July 8 ( <b>Second Paper Due at 11:59 PM</b> ) European Colonial Rule in West Africa Readings: Articles in D2L	July 10 Women in Africa Readings: Articles in D2L
July 15 Nationalist Movement and Decolonization Readings: Articles in D2L	July 17 The Postcolonial Era Readings: Articles in D2L
July 22, 2:00-4:00 PM ( <b>Final Test</b> )	

Notes:

- a. Expect pop quizzes anytime, especially on Wednesdays.
- b. Class/group discussion will occur very frequently throughout the semester—there will be many occasions; everyone will have the opportunity to earn the full ten points.
- c. You will submit your short papers by 11:59 PM on the Monday due date indicated above. Allow at least a week for your weekend papers to be graded.
- d. Monitor your Grades in D2L for accurate information on your scores.

## ESSAY WRITING RUBRIC

(This rubric is based on 10-point maximum grade)

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D-F</b>
<b>Thesis statement</b> [2 points]	Thesis is clear and well developed. The thesis identifies the question and evaluates the relevance of the issue addressed in the essay prompt.	Thesis is partially developed, but only superficially addresses the significance of the issue in the essay prompt.	Thesis is underdeveloped and does not directly address the significance or relevance of the essay prompt.	Thesis merely paraphrases the essay prompt or essay has no thesis.
<b>Analysis, content, and supporting information</b> [4 points]	Essay uses relevant information and facts to effectively defend the thesis.	Essay supports thesis with some relevant information but has limited depth of analysis.	Essay has limited amount of supporting information for thesis and contains only generalizations.	Contains no analysis or supporting information.
<b>Organization</b> [2 points]	Essay is clearly organized with a logical structure that supports the thesis. Transitions are smooth.	Essay is organized but the structure is not consistent. Transitions are present but somewhat awkward.	Essay is not well organized and structure only weakly supports the thesis. Transitions are choppy.	Essay has no organizational structure and no transitions.
<b>Sentence Structure, Grammar, Mechanics, &amp; Spelling</b> [2 points]	Sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. No errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. Few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. Several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Sentences sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or are difficult to understand. Numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.

Source: Rubric was adapted from <http://soe.unc.edu/>. See page [here](#).

This rubric lists maximum points but the instructor may assign a range of points lower than the maximum. For example, we know “A” is 90-100, not 100 and “B” is 80-89, not 89. In the context of this rubric, a score of “A” for “Organization” will range from 1.8 to 2; “B” for “Analysis and content” will range from 3.2 to 3.5.

Note: Any essay with a high similarity index from Turnitin, or any essay suspected of plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), will not be graded and the student will be reported for disciplinary action.



**Short Paper 1**  
**Biographical Sketches of West African Leaders**

Instructions:

- a. In writing this biographical paper, use Wikipedia, Encyclopedia Britannica, and any online sources but go beyond them.
- b. Use your own words. If you quote at all, it should be words or expressions by the leaders themselves.
- c. The maximum length of the paper is 250 words.
- d. Use two sources, which should be books or articles in scholarly journals. Your textbook may be one of those sources.
- e. Use the Chicago Style for your citations.
- f. No need for title page but include bibliography.
- g. Write your name on the paper.
- h. **Due date: June 17, 2019, 11:59 PM**

Abubakar Tafawa Balewa

Ahmed Sekou Toure

Alaafin Abiodun

Amilcar Cabral

Askia Muhammad Toure

Dawda Jawara

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Felix Houphouet-Boigny

Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti

Herbert Macaulay

Ibn Battuta

J. E. Casely Hayford

King Jaja of Opobo

Kwame Nkrumah

Leopold Sedar Senghor

Mai Idris Aloomaa

Mansa Kankan Musa

Muhammad Bello

Nnamdi Azikiwe

Nnamdi Azikiwe

Oba Ovonramwen Nogbaisi

Obafemi Awolowo

Osei Tutu

Prempeh I

Queen Amina

Samuel Ajayi Crowther

Seku Amadu

Shaihu Usman dan Fodio

Sylvanus Olympio

Thomas Birch Freeman

Yaa Aasntewaa

**Short Paper 2**  
**Important Locations/Events/Terminologies in West African History**

Instructions:

- a. In completing this paper, use Wikipedia, Encyclopedia Britannica, and any online sources but go beyond them.
- b. Use your own words. Quotations must be minimal.
- c. The maximum length of the paper is 250 words.
- d. Use two sources, which should be books or articles in scholarly journals. Your textbook may be one of those sources.
- e. Use the Chicago Style for your citations.
- f. No need for title page but include bibliography.
- g. Write your name on the paper.
- h. **Due date: July 8, 2019, 11:59 PM**

Almoravids

Amalgamation of Nigeria

Asante and the British

British Conquest of Lagos

Child Soldiers

Christian Missions

Cocoa in West Africa

Diamond

Ekpe or Ekpo

Elmina Castle

European Exploration of West Africa

Founding of Liberia

French Conquest of West Africa

Fulani (or Fulbe)

Futa Jallon (or Fouta Djallon)

Gold Trade

Goree

Groundnuts in West Africa

Lake Chad

Middle Passage

Ogboni

Palm Oil in West Africa

Poro

River Niger

Royal Niger Company

Royal West African Frontier Force

Sahara

Senegalese Tirailleurs

Sufism in West Africa

Timbuktu

Trans-Saharan Trade

Tuaregs