

**Modern Africa**  
HIS 221

Satisfies: GLO, SBS [DEC: J]

Thematic Categories: "Empires, Violence & Global Connections," "Health, Science & Environmental Change," "Race, Religion, Gender & Sexualities"

Summer I, 2025

Instructor: George Osei

Online, Asynchronous

This course surveys the modern history of Africa, roughly from the 1800s to the present. The continent has long been involved in global interactions that built the modern world, including but not limited to the trade in slaves across the Trans-Saharan networks, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean and later the Atlantic. Topics to be covered include African political and economic transformations, African responses to European imperialism and African religious beliefs. The course will also examine African resistance and independence movements, the formation of independent nations, and postcolonial development in fields including education, art, science, and medicine. Course materials may include films, novels, and oral histories alongside written texts. Course requirements will include weekly discussion posts, map activity, and a final essay. All course materials will be posted on Brightspace. This is an excellent introduction for students interested in Africa and the Diaspora, global and international history, and the study of social movements.