

SYLLABUS

CUL2400-08

Spring 2019 Term I

3 units

W 6-10:15p.m in SM208

Office Hours: Wed. 3:30-5:45p.m and by appointment, SM114

email: hdavis@ndnu.edu

AFRICAN CINEMA

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hélène Laroche Davis, MA, Sorbonne, Paris, France, PhD, Stanford University, California.

Professor of French and Film Studies. Has published books and numerous articles on French literature and French cinema. Has worked with famous French film director François Truffaut. Attends Film Festivals, publishes articles, interviews.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Study of French speaking Sub Saharan African countries, their culture, society, politics and language through their films. Study of Cameroon, Mali, Congo, Senegal and Burkina Faso, as well as the cultural heritage in Martinique, West Indies. The Négritude Movement and its leaders, Aimé Césaire, Senghor. Directors such as E.Palcy, G.Kabore, A.Sissako, O.Sembene...

TEACHING STRATEGIES: Introductory lectures on French speaking Africa and the evolution of African Cinema, accompanied by film clips and followed by class discussions.

Class presentations by individuals or team of students on various countries and aspects of culture. Viewing of feature films in French and African languages with subtitles, class discussions. Papers on major films.

Practice of conversational French language.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will

* understand the issues of postcolonialism, development, tradition versus modernity. **(PLOSs 3 & 4)**

* become aware of the problems of social justice, search for national identity, women in a patriarchal society, oppressive order of government and the role of the “Griot”, oral tradition and the media.

Write reflection and critical papers on the films. **(PLOs 3 & 5)**

- * discover education for the future of Africa, economic problems and opportunities for Pan-Africanism. **(PLOs 3, 4 & 5)**
 - * practice basic French dialogues, enough to survive and maybe develop a taste for it. **(PLO 1)**
- The class is conducted in English with a component of French Language.

Credit Hours:

Hours in class 31.5: Participation, discussions and oral presentations, viewing of films.

Out of class hours 103.5 per semester = 15 hours a week:

Reading the text, research on African cultures, viewing extra films and documentaries.

Writing reports and papers

Preparing the oral presentation for the class

GRADING: Class participation	20%
Oral presentations	30%
Papers	30%
Final exam	20%

ATTENDANCE POLICY: A student who misses more than one class or its equivalent (four hours) must withdraw from the class. Even one absence can significantly impact achievement of learning outcomes and course grade.

Disability Services

LEARNING and OTHER DISABILITIES: If you have a learning disability or other circumstance that requires accommodations in this class, you must bring it to the attention of Disability Services to arrange for possible accommodations. Disability Services has recently become part of Counseling, Health, and Disability Services, located in New Hall E18 and New Hall E19. The main number for Counseling, Health and Disability Services is 650-508-3714.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic honesty is a cornerstone of our values at NDNU. If any words or ideas used in an assignment submission do not represent your original words or ideas, you must cite all relevant sources and make clear the extent to which such sources were used. Words or ideas that require citation include, but are not limited to, all hard copy or

electronic publications, whether copyrighted or not, and all verbal or visual communication when the content of such communication clearly originates from an identifiable source. Consult the NDNu Student Handbook regarding consequences of misrepresenting your work.

TEXTS:

AFRICA SHOOTS BACK by Melissa Thackway

BOOKLET distributed in class

Satisfies the GE requirements in **CL, Cdiv**

ASSIGNMENT FOR FIRST CLASS :

***Research on Martinique online or in books on the West Indies**

***Find out where is French speaking Africa.**

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OUTLINE

Jan.9 Introduction of course. Choice of topics for students oral presentation

Presentation of Martinique, Negritude and Aimé Césaire.

Viewing of SUGAR CANE ALLEY. Class discussion.

Assignment: Write a paper on SUGAR CANE ALLEY and Negritude.

Read culturgram on Cameroon. + relevant hand out.

Jan.16 Survey of African Cinema. Viewing of SANGO MALO (CAMEROON). Class discussion

Oral presentation by students.

Assignment: Write a paper on SANGO MALO and Cameroon. Read culturgram on Burkina Faso.

Jan.23 Viewing of ZAN BOKO (Burkina Faso). Class discussion.

Oral presentation by students.

Assignment: Write a paper on ZAN BOKO and Burkina Faso.

Study on DRC Congo Kinshasa. (Zaire)

Jan.30 Viewing of LA VIE EST BELLE (Congo) Class discussion

Presentations by students

Assignment: Write a paper on LA VIE EST BELLE and Congo.

Study culturgram on Mali

Feb.6 Viewing of TIMBUKTU (Mali) Class discussion
Presentations by students

Assignment: Write a paper on TIMBUKTU and Mali
Study on Sénégal .

Feb.13 Presentations by students .Viewing FAAT KINE (Senegal)

Assignment: write a paper on FAAT KINE and Senegal
Prepare a synthesis of the course

Feb.20 Synthesis of course with class discussion & Final exam