Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

GSAH 200 (Global Studies in the Arts & Humanities)
Summer 2012
MSU Honors College & African Studies Center
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Background:

- *Explore Africa at MSU*, one week residential program for high school students offered 2001-2009
- 2010-2011 explored possibility of offering program in South Africa
- New iteration collaboration between MSU Honors College, African Studies Center and the Global Studies in Arts and Humanities (College of Arts and Letters)
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Instructors
Course will be team taught:
John Metzler (team leader): history, social science, current issues
Jonathan Choti: KiSwahili Instructor
Marie Kujenga: African music, dance, performance
TBA: African Literature and Cinema (Doctoral student MSU English Department)
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Daily Schedule

Monday – Thursday:

KiSwahili: (9:00 – 9:50) Most widely spoken African language
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Daily Schedule
Monday – Thursday 10:00 - 10:50:
Exploring Africa through the study of history, culture, society and current issues
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Daily Schedule
Monday & Wednesday: 11:00 - 12:00

African cultural expressions: music, dance & performance
Daily Schedule

Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 – 12:00

• African cultural expressions: oral & written literatures (short stories, novels, drama, poetry, & cinema)
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Course Texts

• Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (novel, 1997)
• Modules from *Explore Africa: An Online Curriculum* [http://exploreafrica.matrix.msu.edu](http://exploreafrica.matrix.msu.edu)
• Swahili language instructional materials developed by MSU Department of African, Asian Languages and Linguistics
• CD Mix of African Music prepared by Marie Kujenga
• African cinema: at least one feature film a week
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Course Requirements

• Writing Assignments:

• Book report on Nervous Conditions (two pages)
• Newspaper journal. [At the beginning of the course each student will select a country and topic of interest—limited to Anglophone countries. By regularly reading online editions of newspapers from their selected countries students will compile a newspaper journal with a minimum of 10 entries that focus on their identified areas of focus; e.g. performing arts in Nigeria; contemporary music in Mali, HIV/AIDS in South Africa, conservation/environmental issues in Kenya.]
• Research project that focuses on a contemporary African issue (5 pages)
• Final exam (in class on the last day of class)
• Weekly quizzes in each section of the course [Swahili (oral and written), Social Sciences, Music (performance and written) Literature (oral/performance and written]

• Group projects:

• Simulation: African Farmer
• Weekly ensembles: dance, drumming, drama, Swahili—song & drama

• Oral Exam: KiSwahili (final day of class)
Questions, Issues and Debates in Global Studies: Exploring Africa Through the Arts and Humanities

Asante Sana – Thank You!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me:
metzler@msu.edu
517-353-1700