



ACCR HIST/SOCY 3120

Myths and Realities of Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

Global Seminar in Accra, Ghana

Summer 2018

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Class/contact dates	:	May 24 – June 21, 2018
Classroom location	:	The Aya Centre
Office Hours	:	By Appointment

Course Description

This is an interdisciplinary course designed to disrupt old assumptions, dispel lingering myths, and introduce students to the realities, paradoxes, and challenges that permeate the terrible histories of slavery in general and the socio-economic and political institutions that resulted from the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in particular. Located in the Republic of Ghana, where much of the physical and social history of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade can still be found, this 4-week seminar will make an invaluable contribution to enhancing the students' understanding of this tragic chapter of human history.

Course Aims

With the use of lectures, readings, site visits, and audiovisual materials, this seminar aims to provide students with a strong interdisciplinary perspective and analytical framework in which to appreciate the wide variety of issues, questions, and experiences surrounding the seminar topic: Myths and Realities of Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade.

Requirements and Prerequisites

The following textbook of compiled and edited articles will serve as the required readings for this seminar: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade: Landmarks, Legacies, and Expectations, James Kwesi Anquandah, Editor; Sub-Saharan Publishers: Accra, Ghana, 2007.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Distinguish between much of what is fact and much of what is myth surrounding slavery and the trans-Atlantic slavery trade
- Appreciate what was unique about slavery and the trans-Atlantic slave trade compared to other periods of enslavement in human history
- Understand the tremendous impact slavery and the trans-Atlantic slave trade had, and continues to have, on human development
- Learn about the historical role(s) the people of Ghana, during the period of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, played in the evolution of this tragic era in human history.

Class Methodology

The seminar will be multi-formatted to include the following methods of learning: lectures, required and recommended readings, site visits, field trips, audiovisual materials, and classroom discussion.

Field Components

A number of required site visits and field trips have been planned, all of which will serve to complement the material covered in class and found in the required readings. Students will be able to collect useful information during these out-of-class experiences that will be an invaluable resource for the essays/papers/projects assigned in this course.

The assigned field component(s) are*:

- An exploratory tour of James and Ussher Forts, two of the remnants of the trans-Atlantic slave trade located in Accra.
- An exploratory tour of Cape Coast and Elmina Castles, two of the oldest buildings of the 17th century that held captives, located on the southern coast of Ghana.
- An exploratory tour of Assin Manso, the site of the last river where captives were bathed before reaching the slave dungeons of Cape Coast and Elmina Castles
- An exploratory tour of the Ashanti region
- Site visits to a number of museums, villages and markets will highlight some of the history and culture of the people of Ghana.

*Field components listed in the syllabus are provisional as the program will take advantage of opportunities to engage with course themes as they appear.

Assessment/Grading Policy

Descriptor	Alpha	UK	US	GPA
Excellent	A	75+	93+	4.0
	A-	70-74	90-92	3.7
Good	B+	66-69	87-89	3.3
	B	63-65	83-86	3.0
	B-	60-62	80-82	2.7
Average	C+	56-59	77-79	2.3
	C	53-55	73-76	2.0
Below Average / Poor	C-	50-52	70-72	1.7
	D+	46-49	66-69	1.3
	D	40-45	60-65	0.7
				1.0
Fail	F	<40	<60	0

Grade Breakdown and Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Assessment Task	Grade %	Due Date
Mid-term Exam (Long Essay)	50%	Middle of the Term
Final Exam (Long Essay)	50%	End of Term

Course Materials

Required Readings:

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade: Landmarks, Legacies, and Expectations, James Kwesi Anquandah, Editor; Sub-Saharan Publishers: Accra, Ghana, 2007. Selected Chapters will be required.

Recommended Reading(s):

Dropping Anchor, Setting Sail: Geographies of Race in Black Liverpool, Jacqueline Nassy Brown; Princeton University Press: Princeton, NJ, 2005; The Grand Slave Emporium: Cape Coast Castle and the British Slave Trade, William St. Clair; Profile Books: London; Forced Migration: The Impact of the Export Slave Trade on African Societies, J.E. Inifori, Editor; Africana Publishing Company; New York, 1982.

Weekly Course Schedule (subject to change)

Day 1	Tour of Accra Site Visit – Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum Site Visit – W.E.B. Du Bois Centre
Day 2	Tour – Aburi Botanical Gardens Visit – Aburi Woodcarving Village
Day 3	Lecture #1: History of Slavery over the Centuries (2hrs) Lecture #2: Historical Overview of Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in West Africa (2hrs)
Day 4	Lecture #3: Historical Overview of Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in Central, Southern, and East Africa (2hrs) Lecture #4: African and Arab Slave Trades Compared (2hrs)
Day 5	Lecture #5: Domestic Slavery in Ghana (2hrs) Lecture #6: Ghana's Unique Involvement in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs)
Day 6	Site Visits: James Fort and Ussher Fort / Accra (2hrs) Visit – Ghana National Museum
Day 7	Depart for two-night exploration of the Central Region Tour – Donkor Nsuo (Slave River)
Day 8	Tour – Elmina Castle Visit – Kakum National Park
Day 9	Tour – Cape Coast Castle (2hrs)
Day 10	Site Visit: Danish Plantation (2hrs) Lecture #7: Archaeological Remnants of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in Ghana (2hrs) Lecture #8: Slavery and Memory in Ghana (2hrs)
Day 11	Lecture #9: African Cooperation During the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs) Lecture #10: African Resistance to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in Africa (2hrs)
Day 12	Lecture #11: Impact of Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade on England and Industrial Revolution (2hrs) Lecture #12: Impact of Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade on Africa (2hrs)
Day 13	Mid-term Exam (3hrs) Free afternoon
Day 14	Depart for overnight exploration of the Ashanti Region Visit – Central Market Tour – Manyia Palace (Ashanti King's Palace)
Day 15	Visit – Rural Villages/Small Towns (Beads, Kente, & Adinkra production sites)
Day 16	Visit – Alliance Art Gallery (traditional crafts), exploration of La Pleasure beach
Day 17	Lecture #13: Slavery in the Antebellum (USA) South (2hrs) Lecture #14: Slavery in the Caribbean and Central and South America (2hrs)
Day 18	Lecture #15: Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in England (2hrs) Lecture #16: Abolitionism and Slavery in the United States (2hrs)
Day 19	Lecture #17: Role of the Haitian Revolution in the Abolition of Slavery (2hrs) Lecture #18: Emergence of Sierra Leone and Liberia During Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs)
Day 20	Lecture #19: Heritage Tourism and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs) Lecture #20: Rise of Covert, Institutional, and Ideological Racism and its Links to Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs)

Day 21	Lecture #21: Reparations for Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs) Lecture #22: New Directions in the Research on Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (2hrs)
Day 22	Documentary/Video Sessions and Discussions (2hrs) Documentary/Video Sessions and Discussions (2hrs)
Day 23	Study day
Day 24	Final Exam (3hrs)

Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

Attendance: CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class. Unauthorized absence from class will result in a reduction of the final grade and potentially a failure for the course.

Missing classes for medical reasons: If you need to miss a class for medical reasons or for a family emergency, **you must send an e-mail** to let the Course Leader know at least one hour in advance of your class or meeting at the following e-mail: [TBC](#). Note that calling the Centre (TBC) is acceptable only if you do not temporarily have access to the internet. An e-mail is still required as quickly as you can get access to the internet again. You will need to provide evidence of the reason for your absence. Unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. In the event of a missed class or field trip, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor and make up any missed assignments.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assignments **BEFORE** the class, and come in on time. Participation is a vital part of your grade: students are expected to participate orally in seminars and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others in the class will not be tolerated.

Academic Integrity: A high level of responsibility and academic honesty is expected. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates individual honor in his or her scholastic work and class behavior. Plagiarism and cheating will result in dismissal from the program. See the Handbook of CAPA Academic Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

Use of electronic equipment in class: All devices such as laptops, i-pods, i-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are **NOT** allowed unless you have express permission from the faculty or you have been instructed to do so. If you require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, inform the Associate Director of Academic Affairs at the beginning of Term.

Late Submission: Late submission of papers, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request must be made to the relevant Faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a full alpha grade penalty. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of F will be given for the assessment.

Behavior during Examinations: During examinations, you must do your own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.