Cluster Purpose
This cluster examines Africa through its art and history. We trace major political, economic, and cultural developments on the continent as a context for cultural productions. We use the disciplines of art, literature and history to examine the ways in which “Africa” has been conceived, and deconstruct the assumptions shaping each discipline's approach. Students will visit collections of African art at regional museums to deepen their understanding of African art and culture.

Cluster Objectives
To gain an understanding and appreciation for the myriad of artistic forms and practices within African culture.
To investigate the cultural and historical construct "Africa" through a variety of artistic and historical genres.
To explore the similarities and differences in the ways artists and historians view a continent and its people.
To expand critical thinking skills through reading, discussion, writing and original written and creative research within the subject matter.
To utilize multiple disciplinary approaches to understanding course material.

Course Purpose
This course surveys African history from 1800 to the 21st century by tracing the major political, economic, and cultural developments on the continent.

Course Objective
To understand the political, economic, and cultural development of contemporary Africa.

Goals
Through studying European imperialism, African independence, and Africa in the age of globalization, students will gain a basic understanding of Africa’s history that will allow them to engage in further discussion and inquiry in other courses in African, European, and world history.

Outcomes
Students will be able to understand political institutions (such as indirect rule) and explain their importance to contemporary Africa.
Students will be able to identify economic processes (such as underdevelopment) and explain their importance to contemporary Africa.
Students will be able to recognize cultural practices (such as Pan-Africanism) and explain their importance to contemporary Africa.

Readings
Available from the bookstore and on reserve in McGill Library.
Web texts as indicated below
### Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group discussion</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Midterm exam</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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<td>Final presentation and paper</td>
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(in conjunction with ART 114)

### Grading Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<td>90-92</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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Regular attendance at and participation in class meetings is required. Students who merely attend each class meeting without contributing to class discussion will receive a failing grade for participation. Participation includes not only oral contribution to class discussion, but also completion of quizzes and other written work as assigned. Expectations for written work include proper documentation, good grammar, and clear, persuasive writing.

Absences are excused at the instructor's discretion. If you miss class for a legitimate reason, you must provide appropriate documentation in writing for the absence to be excused. E-mail or write the instructor within 24 hours of the absence regarding the reason for your absence and your plans for making up the work missed.

Late assignments will be penalized for each day the assignment is late.

Failure to complete all course requirements will result in an "F" for the course.

More information about assignments and exams will be forthcoming in a timely manner.

### Accommodations

Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Support Services, located in 209 Thompson-Clark Hall (phone: 724-946-7192, e-mail craigfa@westminster.edu).

Students who may need academic accommodations are encouraged to discuss options with their instructor no later than the second week of class.

### Academic Integrity

Violations of the Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy include (but are not limited to) cheating, misconduct, plagiarism, and providing false information. All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the definitions of these infractions of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty will be penalized in accord with the procedures outlined on pages 21-23 of the Westminster College Handbook for Students 2017-2018. The instructor reserves the right to submit students' written work to turnitin.com, and encourages students to use the turnitin.com web site as a resource to learn more about intentional and unintentional plagiarism.

### Schedule

Please read all assigned readings before the class for which they are scheduled, and bring an annotated copy of the week's readings (or your extensive notes on the readings) with you to each class meeting.

The schedule is subject to revision by the instructor.

**Introducing Africa**
August 28  introduction to the course

**Geography, Human Origins, and Agriculture**
August 30  *History of Africa*, Introduction & chapter 1
September 1  
*History of Africa, chapter 2*

**Ironworking & Trade**
September 4  
*History of Africa, chapter 3*

GROUP 1 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. September 5; leads discussion September 6

September 6  
*History of Africa, chapter 4*

September 8  
*History of Africa, chapter 6*

**West Africa and the Transatlantic Slave Trade**
September 11  
*History of Africa, chapter 12*

GROUP 2 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. September 12; leads discussion September 13

September 13  
*History of Africa, chapter 13*

September 15  
*History of Africa, chapter 16*

**Collecting African Art**
September 18  
Christa Clarke and Kathleen Bickford Berzock, "Representing Africa in American Art Museums: A Historical Introduction"

GROUP 3 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. September 19; leads discussion September 20

September 20  
Constantine Petridis, "A World of Great Art for Everyone: African Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art"

**Slavery Case Study: Abina Mansah**
September 22  
*Abina and the Important Men*, Part I

September 25  
Field trip to Cleveland Museum of Art

GROUP 4 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. September 26; leads discussion September 27

September 27  
*Abina and the Important Men*, Part III

September 29  
*Abina and the Important Men*, Part V

October 2  
review

October 4  
MIDTERM EXAM

October 6  
research workshop

**Art or Artifact?**
October 9  
*Les Statues Meurent Aussi* [in class]

GROUP 5 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. October 10; leads discussion October 11

October 11  
Susan Vogel, "Always True to the Object, in Our Fashion"

October 13  
Sally Price, "Anonymity and Timelessness"
October 16  
*In and Out of Africa* [in class]

GROUP 6 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. October 17; leads discussion October 18

**Southern Africa**
- October 18  *History of Africa*, chapter 18
- October 20  *History of Africa*, chapter 22
- October 23  FALL BREAK—NO CLASS

**Europeans and Africa**
- October 25  *The Bible and the Gun* [in class]
- October 27  *History of Africa*, chapter 20  
  ESSAY DUE
- October 30  *This Magnificent African Cake* [in class]

GROUP 7 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. October 31; leads discussion November 1

November 1  *History of Africa*, chapter 21

**Colonialism**
- November 3  *History of Africa*, chapter 23
- November 6  *History of Africa*, chapter 24

GROUP 8 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. November 7; leads discussion November 8

November 8  *History of Africa*, chapter 25

**Decolonization**
- November 10  *History of Africa*, chapter 26
- November 13  *The Rise of Nationalism* [in class]

GROUP 9 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. November 14; leads discussion November 15

November 15  *History of Africa*, chapter 27
- November 17  *History of Africa*, chapter 28

**Legacies**
- November 20  *History of Africa*, chapter 29
- November 22  THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS
- November 24  THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS
- November 27  *History of Africa*, chapter 30

GROUP 10 posts discussion questions by 11:55 p.m. November 28; leads discussion November 29

**Contemporary Africa**
- November 29  *History of Africa*, chapter 31
December 1  History of Africa, chapter 32
December 4  review
December 6  review
December 8  African Potluck

Monday December 11  FINAL EXAM  8:00 -10:30 a.m.