

**HIS/AFS 221**  
**Modern Africa**

Satisfies: GLO, SBS

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

Tu/Thurs 10:00 AM - 11:20 AM

Professor Shobana Shankar

This course surveys the modern history of Africa, roughly from the 1400s to the present. The continent was 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 slave trade and abolition, African political and economic transformations, and African responses to European imperialism. 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. This is an excellent introduction for students interested in Africa and the Diaspora, global and international history, and the study of social movements.