

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-AFRICA
HIS 4120: AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY SINCE AD 1900
COURSE SYLLABUS,
CREDIT: 4 UNITS**

Course Description

This course focuses on the economic history of Africa since 1900 and entails an analysis of major economic trends from the on-set of colonialism to the post-colonial era. Particular emphasis will be placed on agriculture, colonialism, colonial capitalism, industrialization, mining, indigenous capitalism, urbanization, proletarianization, commerce and attempts at continental economic cooperation. These thematic issues will be discussed in the context of theoretical debates on development and underdevelopment, imperialism and colonialism, neo-colonialism and dependency.

Course Content

Week 1.

Physical environment of Africa and
Population before 1915

Week 2

Resources of Africa at the beginning of the 20th century
The establishment of the colonial states
Colonial economic policy

Week 3

White settlements and African labour
Economic production

Week 4

Industries and mining

Week 5

Colonial and economic up to 1945
MID-QUARTER EXAM

Week 6

The economics of nationalism 1945-1960

Week 7

Independence and economic adjustments

Week 8

Politics and economic mismanagement
Role of multi-nationals

Week 9

Economic and natural disasters in Africa

Week 10

Underdevelopment and the future

Week 11

FINAL EXAM

Teaching Methodology

Lectures, discussions, and handouts

Course Texts

Ralph Austen, *African Economic History* (London: James Currey, 1987)

D.K. Filedhouse, *Black Africa 1981-1980: Economic Decolonization and Arrested Development* (London: Allen Unwin, 1986).

Allen Isaacman and Richard Roberts, *Cotton, Colonialism and Social History in Sub-Saharan Africa* (London: James Currey, 1991).

Course Evaluation

Attendance and Participation	10%
Written Assignment	30%
Mid-Quarter Exam	30%
Final Examination	30%

GRADING

90	-	100	A
87	-	89	A-
84	-	86	B+
80	-	83	B
77	-	79	B-
74	-	76	C+
70	-	73	C
67	-	69	C-
64	-	66	D+
62	-	63	D
60	-	61	D-
Below	59	F	