

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA
Department of Africana Studies

Course Title: **“Africa and the Indian Ocean World”**

Course #: AFRC 5140-301

Room: WILL 315

Times: Tuesdays 3:30 – 6:30 PM

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor:	Ali Dinar, Ph.D.
Office:	334A 3401 Walnut Street
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Office Hours:	M, W, 1:30 – 2:15 (by appointment)

The Indian Ocean region represents an area with interwoven centuries of interactions, politically, historically, geographically, and culturally. This area has witnessed continuous migrations of peoples, the circulation of goods and ideas, and the interaction with foreign forces. The Indian Ocean world has served as an epicenter of global economy in pre-modern world and as such, it gave rise to trading networks and political empires. As part of the Indian Ocean World, the eastern and southern shores of Africa are both the recipients and the transmitters of cultural and political icons. The existence of many islands that separate Africa from Asia stand as hybrid cultures that are influenced by forces from different continents. Political and cultural relations between African regions and the rest of the Indian Ocean world are evident with the presence of African-descent populations in these places, as well as the prevalence of cultural practices of African origin. Signs of interaction between the Indian Ocean world and the African shores are apparent in several archeological sites, as well as in the cultural practices of religion, language, architecture, and modes of dress. The European colonial expansion has allowed the populations in the Indian Ocean world to share strategies during their independence movements to thwart western political hegemony. With the current advanced forms of globalization, this region is moving more towards economic and political cooperation and in addressing the transnational natural and man-made threats.

The objectives of this course are to achieve the followings:

- Explore the geographic interconnectedness between Africa and the rest of the Indian Ocean world.

- Explore the historical interaction between Africa and the adjacent areas of the Indian Ocean world from ancient times to present day.
- Examine the history of cultural forces that have shaped the cultural landscape of the African shores with special reference to Arabian Peninsula.
- Examine the political, economic, and cultural interconnections between Africa and the rest of the Indian Ocean world and the impact of European expansion.
- Provide the students with historical understanding of the concept of globalization and the challenges of inter-disciplinary study and research.

Text Books:

- Alpers, Edward A. 2009. *East Africa and the Indian Ocean*, Princeton, NJ: Markus Wiener Publishers.
- Campbell, Gwyn 2016. *Early Exchange between Africa and the Wider Indian Ocean world*, Palgrave series in Indian Ocean world studies, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Campbell, Gwyn, et.al. 2007. *Women and slavery*. Volume one, Africa, the Indian Ocean world, and the medieval north Atlantic, Athens : Ohio University Press,
- Meier, Prita & Allyson Purpura. 2018. *World on the Horizon: Swahili Arts across the Indian Ocean*, Champaign, Illinois: Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion.
- Middleton, John, 2004. *African merchants of the Indian Ocean: Swahili of the East African Coast*, Long Grove, Ill.: Waveland Press, Inc.

Grading:

1) 5 Researched Essays (5-7pages, double-spaced)	40
2) Attendance	10
3) Class Participation	10
3) Final Project, Dec 16 (14-16 pages, double-spaced)	40

Grading Scale:

Numerical Scale	Letter Grade Equivalent
95-100	A
89-94	A-
83-88	B+
77-82	B
71-76	B-
65-70	C+
62-64	C
60-61	C-
55-59	D
Else	F

Course Policy:

Canvas:

Materials regarding this course will be posted on Canvas, as well as any PowerPoint presentations.

Assignments:

Each of the five researched essay (5-7 pages double-spaced) incorporate additional references besides the posted readings. These reports will form the base for class discussion and participation.

The final project should be discussed first with the instructor, and it should cover specific topic from the general themes of the course syllabus.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Please do your best to arrive on time. If you are unable to attend for legitimate reason, please notify the instructor, but you will be responsible for all class work during your absence.

SYLLABUS

Week 1: Aug. 30

Course Introduction and the region's cartography

(Introduction about course: requirements and expectation, cartographic journey about the areas that form the Indian Ocean World)

Week 2: Sept. 6

Geographical Forces

(Studying the geographical forces that have influenced the Indian Ocean World and their impact: Monsoon, earthquake, drought)

Readings:

(1) Alpers, Edward A, 2019, "Africa's Indian Ocean Islands, Near and Distant"
In: African Islands Leading Edges of Empire and Globalization,
Edited by Toyin Falola, R. Joseph Parrot, and Danielle Porter Sanchez, University of Rochester Press, pp 245-66

<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/reader.action?docID=5786561&ppg=254>

(2) Beaujard, Philippe, "The Geography of the Indian Ocean and Its Navigation", In: The World of the Indian Ocean, Cambridge University Press

(3) Newitt, Malyn, 2017, "Africa and the wider world: creole communities in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans", In: Tempo. Vol.23(3), p.465-481

<https://www.scielo.br/j/tem/a/J9bCFkBXm7rw4B8RcTj9zWS/?lang=en&format=pdf>

Week 3: Sept. 13

Historical Background

(Examining history of the Indian Ocean islands that are in close proximity to the African continent, and their relationship to Asia)

Readings:

(1) Walker, Iain, 2020, "Context: Social and Geographical", in Islands in a Cosmopolitan Sea: A History of the Comoros"

Published to Oxford Scholarship Online: February 2020

<https://oxford-universitypressscholarship-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/view/10.1093/oso/9780190071301.001.0001/oso-9780190071301>

(2) Pyndiahn Gitanjali, 2015, "Decolonizing Creole on the Mauritius islands: Creative practices in Mauritian Creole", In: [Island Studies Journal](#)(Vol. 11, Issue 2)

https://go-gale-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/ps/i.do?p=AONE&u=upenn_main&id=GALE%7CA487434072&v=2.1&it=r&sid=summon

(3) Zhong, S & X. Wu, 2020, "Indian Ocean island sustainable development in the context of the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road", In: [Island Studies Journal](#)(Vol. 15, Issue 2)

https://go-gale-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/ps/i.do?p=AONE&u=upenn_main&id=GALE|A645582994&v=2.1&it=r&sid=summon

Week 4: Sept. 20 (Assignment #1)

Migration and Identity

(Discuss the migration of people from Africa to other parts in the Indian Ocean region and the settlement of groups from Asia and Arabia in east and southern Africa, and the process of forming distinct identities)

Readings:

- (1) Allen, Richard B, 2019, "The Mascarenes, Indian Ocean Africa, and Global Labor Migration during the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries:", in: African Islands : Leading Edges of Empire and Globalization, Falola, Toyin, et.al. Rochester University Press, PP. 294-316

<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pg-origsite=summon&docID=5786561#>

- (2) Green, Nile, 2012, "AFRICA IN INDIAN INK: URDU ARTICULATIONS OF INDIAN SETTLEMENT IN EAST AFRICA", in: *The Journal of African History* , Volume 53 , Issue 2 , July 2012 , pp. 131 - 150

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021853712000230>[Opens in a new window]

- (3) Walker, Iain, 2013, "Comorians and Hadramis in the western Indian Ocean: diasporic practices in a comparative context, in: *Social Dynamics* Vol. 38, No. 3, September 2012, 435–453

<https://www.tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/02533952.2012.756722?needAccess=true>

- (4) Basu, Helene, 2008, "Music and the Formation of Sidi Identity in Western India", in: *History Workshop Journal*, Spring, 2008, No. 65pp. 161-178

<https://www-jstor-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/stable/pdf/25472979.pdf?refregid=excelsior%3A53ad82557908e92e3f0a60b64d8d77af>

- (5) Pearson, M.N. 1998, "Indians in East Africa: the Early Modern Period", in: *Politics and Trade in the Indian Ocean World*, R. Mukherjee & L. Subramanian (eds.), pp 227-45

Week 5: Sept. 27

Faces of Islam

(Examining the impact of Islam in the Indian Ocean world, and the relationship between the African shores and Arabia)

Readings:

- (1) Wink, Andre, 2010, "The early expansion of Islam in India", in: *The Cambridge History of Islam*, Adam Morgan (ed.), Cambridge University Press pp 78-99

https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/0D526551F90F80ED39FBDD338DD44D6D/9781139056137c2_p78-99_CBO.pdf/early_expansion_of_islam_in_india.pdf

- (2) Michael, Pearson, 2010. "Islamic trade, shipping, port-states and merchant communities in the Indian Ocean, seventh to sixteenth centuries", in: *The Cambridge History of Islam*, Adam Morgan (ed.), Cambridge University Press pp 315-65

DOI: <https://doi-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/10.1017/CHOL9780521850315.011>

https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/78112C82317F6087DE4FEA53304B6325/9781139056137c9_p315-365_CBO.pdf/islamic_trade_shipping_portstates_and_merchant_communities_in_the_indian_ocean_seventh_to_sixteenth_centuries.pdf

- (3) Gooding, Philip, "ISLAM IN THE INTERIOR OF PRECOLONIAL EAST AFRICA: EVIDENCE FROM LAKE TANGANYIKA". In: Journal of African History (60,1), pp 191-208

<https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/A1F58E5B9A722F3F190E302323EF2CBE/S0021853719000495a.pdf/islam-in-the-interior-of-precolonial-east-africa-evidence-from-lake-tanganyika.pdf>

- (4) Schottenhammer, Angela, 2019. "Islam Across the Indian Ocean to 1500 CE", in: Early Global Interconnectivity Across the Indian Ocean World, Volume II, pp 85-138

<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=summon&docID=5704091#>

Week 6: Oct.04 (Assignment #2)

The Age of European Expansion

(Examining the history of European expansion and the foundation of colonies in the region, and its political and cultural impacts)

Readings:

- (1) Kearney, Milo 2004, "The British Raj Period", in The Indian Ocean in World History", Routledge, pp. 137-52
- (2) Kearney, Milo 2004, "The Cold War Period", in The Indian Ocean in World History", Routledge, pp. 153-67
- (3) Campbell, G. 2019, "The European Impact in Indian Ocean Africa, 1500-1830", in: Africa and the Indian Ocean World From Early Times to Circa 1900, PP. 158-75

Week 7: Oct. 11

Trade and Navigation

(Examining the history of sailors and navigators and its impact on creating and protecting trade network in the region)

Readings:

- (1) Seland, Elvind Heldaas, 2011, "The Persian Gulf or the Red Sea? Two axes in ancient Indian Ocean trade, where to go and why", in: World Archaeology , SEPTEMBER 2011, Vol. 43, No. 3, THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATION (SEPTEMBER 2011), pp. 398-409. Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41308507>

<https://www-jstor-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/stable/pdf/41308507.pdf?refregid=excelsior%3Af74c0ce3b2cde49518f89b71210f4d03>

- (2) Schottenhammer, Angela, 2019, "Religion and Early Trade in the Western Indian Ocean: Ideology and Knowledge Exchanges Across the Indian Ocean World", in: Early Global Interconnectivity Across the Indian Ocean World, vol.II, pp.69-83

<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pg-origsite=summon&docID=5704091#>

- (3) Kinyera, Okeny C & E. Pollard, 2017, "1345266 The Swahili Coast and the Indian Ocean Trade Patterns in the 7th–10th Centuries", in: Journal of Southern African Studies, 2017 Vol. 43, No. 5, 927–947,

<https://doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2017>.

<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/03057070.2017.1345266?needAccess=true>

- (4) Alpers, E.A. "Gujarat and the Trade of East Africa, c. 1500-1800", in: East Africa and the Indian Ocean, E. Alpers, pp. 3-22

Week 8: Oct. 18 (Assignment #3)

Slavery across the Indian Ocean

(Examining the history of slave trade between Africa and the Indian Ocean world and its cultural manifestation in the whole region)

Readings:

- (1) Campbell, G.2019. "The Question of Slavery in Indian Ocean World History", in: Africa and the Indian Ocean World from Early Times to Circa 1900, pp. 123-49
- (2) Campbell, G.2019. "Africa and Slavery in the Indian Ocean World", in: Africa and the Indian Ocean World from Early Times to Circa 1900, pp. 255-79
- (3) Campbell, G.2019. "Slave Trades and the Indian Ocean World", in: Africa and the Indian Ocean World from Early Times to Circa 1900, pp. 123-49
- (4) Shroff, B, 2010, "Indians of African Descent: History and Contemporary Experience", In: Souls , A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society Volume 10, 2008 - Issue 4, pp. 315-26

<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/10999940802523836?needAccess=true>

Week 9: Oct. 25

Path to Independence

(Examining the anti-colonial rhetoric and solidarity in pursue for independence)

Readings:

- (1) Joshi, Y, 2019, "Whither Non-Alignment? Indian Ocean Zone of Peace and New Delhi's Selective Alignment with Great Powers during the Cold War, 1964–1979", in: *Diplomacy & Statecraft*, Vol. 30, issue 1, pp. 26-49
<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/09592296.2019.1557414?needAccess=true>
- (2) Frenz, Margret. 2019, "Complicating Decolonisation: Mozambican Indian Experiences in the Twentieth Century", in: *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, Vol. 47, Issue 5, PP 999-1020
<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/03086534.2019.1677344?needAccess=true>

Week 10: Nov. 1 (Assignment #4)

Piracy and Regional Security

(Discussing the ways in which the countries of the region pursue cooperation against transnational crimes such as piracy, drug trafficking and tsunamis)

Readings:

- (1) Pejsova. Eva, 2016, "Scrambling for the Indian Ocean". In European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) (2016)
 URL: <http://www.jstor.com/stable/resrep06885>
<https://www-jstor-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/stable/pdf/resrep06885.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3A4a130a0cdc45d8227090b5f90087b8d9>
- (2) Hamza, Farah R, & Jean-Philippe Priotti, 2020, "Maritime trade and piracy in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean (1994–2017)", In *Journal of Transportation Security* volume 13, pages141–158
<https://link-springer-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/content/pdf/10.1007/s12198-018-0190-4.pdf>
- (3) Schottli, Jivanta, 2019, "Security and growth for all in the Indian Ocean" – maritime governance and India's foreign policy, *India Review*, 18:5, 568-581
<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/14736489.2019.1703366?needAccess=true>
 "Security and growth for all in the Indian Ocean" – maritime governance and India's foreign policy: *India Review*: Vol 18, No 5 (tandfonline.com)
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- (4) Dua, Jatin, 2019, "Hijacked: Piracy and Economies of Protection in the Western Indian Ocean", in: *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 2019;61(3):479–507

<https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/E5C35288523C8AEF97A8D87804837782/S0010417519000215a.pdf/hijacked-piracy-and-economies-of-protection-in-the-western-indian-ocean.pdf>

- (5) Vines, Alex, 2011, "India's Security Concerns in the Western Indian Ocean", in: India in Africa, Changing Geographies of Power, Mawdsley, Emma & G McCann (eds.), pp. 187-201

Week 11: Nov. 8

Language and Culture

(Discuss the influence on language and other forms of culture in terms of borrowings and the interaction between east and southern Africa and Asia, and the African cultural influences into these regions)

Readings:

- (1) Hofmeyr, Isabel, et.al. 2011, "INTRODUCTION: PRINT CULTURES, NATIONALISMS AND PUBLICS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN", In: Africa 81 (1) 2011: 1–22
- (2) Vierka, Clarissa, 2016, "From across the ocean: considering travelling literary figurations as part of Swahili intellectual history", in: Journal of African Cultural Studies, 2016 Vol. 28, No. 2, 225–240, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13696815.2015.1053800>

<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/13696815.2015.1053800?needAccess=true>

- (3) Jayawardene, Sureshi M. 2020, "Ceylon African Mānja performance: enactments of Black ways of being and Knowing in Sri Lanka", in: AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA: An INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL 2020, VOL. 13, NO. 3, 256–268

<https://doi.org/10.1080/17528631.2019.1686109>
<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/17528631.2019.1686109?needAccess=true>

- (4) Bakari, Mohamed, 2014, "The State of Swahili Civilization, Swahili Language and Society, Indian Ocean Antecedents and Anthropological Research", in: The Indian Ocean , Oceanic Connections and the Creation of New Societies, Sheriff A,& E. Ho (eds.), pp. 185-207

Week 12: Nov. 15 (Assignment #5)

India and China in Africa

(Examining the competition between India and China in regional politics. How this has influenced their relationship with the African countries of the Indian Ocean realm.)

Readings:

- (1) Postel, Hannah, 2017, "Moving Beyond "China in Africa": Insights from **Zambian Immigration Data**", In: [Journal of Current Chinese Affairs](#) (Vol. 46, Issue 2) pp. 155-74
- (2) Sautman, Barry and Yan Hairlong, 2008, "The forest for the trees: trade, investment and the China-in-Africa discourse", In: [Pacific Affairs](#) (Vol. 81, Issue 1)
https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A180638787/AONE?u=upenn_main&sid=summon&xid=39f321ec
- (3) Bhattacharya, Sanjukta Banerji, 2010, "Engaging Africa: India's interests in the African continent, past and present", In: The Rise of China and India in Africa, Fantu Cheru (ed.), pp 63-76
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pg-origsite=summon&docID=512030#>

Week 13: Nov. 22

Bollywood & African Representation

(Examining the issue of representation of the other (African/Asian) in films and mass-media)

Readings:

- (1) Bertz, Ned, 2011, "INDIAN OCEAN WORLD CINEMA: VIEWING THE HISTORY OF RACE, DIASPORA AND NATIONALISM IN URBAN TANZANIA", in: Africa 81 (1) 2011: 68–88
- (2) Sultan, Kamal A., 2008, "African_Indians_in_Bollywood",
 in: India in Africa, Africa in India, John Hawley (ed.), Indiana University Press, 273-288
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pg-origsite=summon&docID=455797#>
- (3) Ebrahim, Haseenah, 2008, "From "ghetto" to mainstream: Bollywood in South African:
 In: Scrutiny2: Issues in English Studies in Southern Africa, vol. 13, PP. 63-76
<https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/doi/pdf/10.1080/18125440802486035?needAccess=true>

Week 14: Nov. 29

Globalization and Human Rights

(Examining the aspect of globalization throughout the history of Indian Ocean world.)

Readings:

- (1) Prestholdt, Jeremy, 2019 "The_Island_as_Nexus_Zanzibar_in_the_Nineteenth_Century",
 in: African Islands: Leading Edges of Empire and Globalization, Falola, Toyin, et.al., pp 317-44
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.library.upenn.edu/lib/upenn-ebooks/detail.action?pg-origsite=summon&docID=5786561#>

(2) Myambo, Melissa Tandiwe, 2007 "Indian Ocean Cosmopolitanism?: M.G. Vassanji's Hybrid Parables of Kenyan Nationalism", in: *Diaspora, A Journal of Transnational Studies*, Volume 16, Number 1/2, Spring/Fall 2007, pp. 159-189
<https://muse-jhu-edu.proxy.library.upenn.edu/article/477061/pdf>

(3) SELAND, Eivind Heldaas, 2008, "**The** Indian Ocean and the Globalisation of the Ancient World". In: *Ancient West and East*, vol 7, pp. 67-79

(4) Introduction: The Geography of the Indian Ocean and Its Navigation

Week 15: Dec. 6

Course Review