

## **Africa and Africans in Global History: new perspectives, concepts and narratives**

### **Syllabus, fall 2023**

**Where:** Classroom 2

**When:** Starting on November the 6<sup>th</sup>, then every Monday at 11:00 AM

**Teacher:** Thaïs Gendry

**Student reception:** by appointment.

#### **Evaluation criteria:**

Class attendance: 15%

Participation to class discussion: 35%

Final paper on one topic discussed in classes (between 4,000 and 6,000 words): 50%

#### **General description of the course**

Western university students bring with them a lot of preconceived ideas about Africa, even though it is a little-known continent. Those who can situate some key dates or facts about the history of Africa do not usually realise they are mere examples in European-centred narratives. African narratives of African history and global events are absent from European universities. This class is designed to present alternative historical tools and narratives that will enable students to integrate Africa in global history, but also to look at world history from the perspective of African actors. In this class we will learn about the specificities of African history but also use them as a stepping stone to explore global history and challenge the classical writing of history.

#### **Overview of the classes**

##### **Lecture 1, November 6th**

Forging tools and concepts for doing African and global history

##### **Lecture 2, November 13<sup>th</sup>**

How to write of Medieval and Early Modern Africa: oral histories and global histories

##### **Lecture 3, November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Framing historical events: timeline, space and actors (1)

The case of Abina Manshah, a domestic slave in a British colonial court of law

##### **Lecture 4, 27th of November**

Framing historical events: timeline, space and actors (2)

European colonialisms: examples of West-African perceptions and (re)actions

##### **Lecture 5, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

Africa and Africans during the World Wars

##### **Lecture 6, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

Title TBD, With Nouredine Amara, SSM

##### **Lecture 7, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

The dimensions of anticolonial struggles: African feminists, global feminisms and anticolonialism

##### **Lecture 8, February 12th**

(Un)framings: Photographic Appropriations, with Daniel Foliard (Université de Paris)