This course will examine how foreign actors and trends have contributed to historical developments in Africa and the way in which Africans have driven historical change outside the continent. Topics of discussion include:

1. Africa and Africans in the Indian Ocean and Atlantic worlds, paying special attention to the bonds of trade, religion and enslavement from the 15th to 19th centuries.
2. European exploration and intervention in Africa, and Africans in Europe and the United States during the long 19th century.
3. Roles of African students, soldiers and intellectuals abroad in the world wars, liberation struggles and nationalist movements.
4. Lebanese communities in west Africa and south Asian communities in east Africa as well as their roles in formal colonization and the transition to independence.
5. Oil in politics, humanitarian involvement and international migration as a way of thinking about resource extraction, justifications for foreign intervention and labor trends in history perspective.

Katie J. Hickerson is a visiting instructor at OU. Her research focuses on the history of death in Sudan and south Sudan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries: a period that encompassed colonial domination by Egypt, the establishment of an independent Islamic state and conquest by the British empire. Her research and teaching interests include Islam in Africa, visual and material culture, transnational museum studies and the political history of fashion. She is the recipient of several awards, including a Pennfield Fellowship, the Janet Lee Stevens Award and three Foreign Language Area Studies fellowships. She has presented her work at the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, the School of Oriental and African Studies, the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London, the Sorbonne and Stanford University as well as the annual meetings of the American Historical Association and the Sudanese Studies Association. Katie served as an editorial assistant under Mamadou Diouf on Tolerance, Democracy, and Sufis in Senegal (Columbia University Press, 2013). She received a Masters of Arts from the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Languages and Cultures at Columbia University and is currently a doctoral candidate in History at the University of Pennsylvania.

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