**Contemporary African Philosophy**

Course Code: PHI 3203

**Course Unit: 3**

***Course Description:***

This course examines the various schools of thought and trends in African Philosophy today vis-a-vis the background of world philosophy. It considers the source, foundation, method, meaning, character and application of philosophy in the African schools of thought today. It analyses the influence of African thought on the present life and events in Africa and elsewhere.

***Course Objective:***

To enable students critically discuss and analyze contemporary issues in African philosophy.

***Learning Objectives***

By the end of the course the students should be to learn the following:

1. To identify and discuss the various issues in contemporary African Political philosophy
2. To identify and discuss the issues in contemporary African social philosophy.
3. To identify and discuss issues in the contemporary African Economic Philosophy
4. To identify and discuss philosophical issues in contemporary African philosophy of religion.
5. To identify the life history, philosophical writings and discuss the main philosophical views of some of the contemporary African philosophers like; KwasiWiredu, PaulinHountondji, OderaOruka, Kwame Gyekye, Samuel Oluoch etc.
6. To identify, analyze and discuss the relevance of the following themes in contemporary African philosophy: African Indigenous Ethics, African Indigenous knowledge systems, African indigenous systems of governance, and African indigenous justice systems.

***Course Outline***

1. Introduction
2. Issues in Contemporary African Philosophy
3. Contemporary African Political Philosophy
4. Contemporary African Social Philosophy
5. Contemporary African Economic Philosophy
6. Contemporary African Philosophy of Religion
7. Some Contemporary African Philosophers
   1. K. Wiredu
   2. P. Hountondji
   3. H. Odera Oruka
   4. J. Nyerere
   5. Kwame Gyekye
   6. Samuel Oluoch Imbo
   7. Tsenay Serequeberhan
8. Critical Analysis of Themes in Contemporary African Philosophy
9. African Indigenous Ethics and their Contemporary Relevance
10. Indigenous African Knowledge Systems and their Contemporary Relevance
11. Indigenous African Systems of Governance and their Contemporary Relevance
12. Indigenous African Justice Systems and Contemporary Relevance

***Methodology***

Lectures, tutorials, guest lecturers, group work, individual presentations

***Assessment Mode***

Course work exercises 30%

End of semester examination 70%

***Reading List***

1. Achermann Eduard; *Cry Beloved Africa: A Continent Needs Help*; African UniversityStudies, Munich - Kinshasa 1994.
2. Chukwudi E. Emmanuel, ed., *African Philosophy: An Anthology*, Blackwell Publishers,MaldenU.S.A. 2001.
3. Coetzee P.H. and Roux A.P.J, eds, *The African Philosophy Reader*, Routledge Press, London and New York 1998.
4. English, P. &Kalumba, K. M. (1996). *African Philosophy: A Classical Approach*.Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
5. GuttormFloistad [ed.]*Contemporary Philosophy: African Philosophy* (1987; MartinusNijhoff).
6. Gyekye, Kwame. (1987). *An Essay on African Philosophical Thought: The Akan Conception Scheme.*Cambridge: CambridgeUniversity Press.
7. Gyekye, Kwame. (1995). *An Essay on African Philosophical Thought: The Akan Conception Scheme*. Revised edition. Philadelphia: TempleUniversity Press.
8. John S. Mbiti, *African Religions and Philosophy*, Heinemann, Nairobi 1969.
9. [Kwame](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Forum/6065/philosop.htm)Sofro,*Readings in African Philosophy: An Akan Collection* (1995; University Press of America).
10. Kwasi, Wiredu [ed.];*A Companion to African Philosophy* (2004; Blackwell)
11. Kwasi, Wiredu; (1996). *Cultural Universals and Particulars: An African Perspective*. Loomington: IndianaUniversity Press.
12. Lee. M. Brown [ed.]*African Philosophy: New and Traditional Perspectives* (2004; Oxford university press).
13. Mugaju Justus and Oloka-Onyango eds., *No-Party Democracy in Uganda: Myths and Realities*, Fountain Publishers, Kampala 2000.
14. New York 1991.
15. Ochieng'- Odhiambo, *Handbook on Some Social-Political Philosophers*, Consolata Institute of Philosophy Press, Nairobi 1994.
16. Odera H. Oruka [ed.]*Sage Philosophy* [Volume 4 in *Philosophy of History and Culture*] (1990; E.J. Brill)
17. SegunGbadegesin; *African Philosophy: Traditional Yoruba Philosophy and Contemporary African Realities*; Peter Lang, New York 1991.
18. Serequeberhan, Tsenay, ed. (1991). *African Philosophy: The Essential Readings*. Paragon House.
19. Serequeberhan, Tsenay; *The Hermeneutics of African Philosophy: Horizon and Discourse;*Routledge, New York 1994.
20. TarcisioAgostoni; *Every Citizen's Handbook*; Pauline’s Publications Africa, Nairobi 1997