

Unit Title: Why Study the History of Africa?

Grade Level: 12

Subject Area: History

Duration/Length/Number of class periods: 2 class periods

Description:

Students will jigsaw three editorials by Africa scholars and share the arguments made and examples offered and share their take-aways and reflections.

Established Goals (National, State, Local):

MN Social Studies Standards---4. History; 1. Historical Thinking Skills; Evaluate alternative interpretations of historical events; 9.4.1.2.2 use historical evidence to support or refute those interpretations.

What Enduring Understandings are desired? Students should understand that Africa is a continent of great cultural diversity, and that its people have contributed greatly to world history.

Students should understand that a knowledge of a people's history is essential to their cultural pride and sense of identity.

What Essential Questions will be considered? Why study the history of Africa?

Students will know / be able to: 1) Write and talk about the key claims made by authors and offer evidence that the authors gave; 2) Write and talk about what they found surprising and interesting in their respective reading in small and large groups; 3) Compare and contrast the arguments made by three authors about the same topic by writing and talking in large and small groups; 4) Summarize in writing the key reasons to study African history that they took away from their reading and the class discussion.

Description	Units must include at least one of each formative, summative, introductory activity and learning activity. Check the appropriate box; one per row.	Formative	Summative	Introductory Activity	Learning Activity	Student Technology Used	Teacher Technology Used	ISTE Standards
Padlet.com comments by each student on why it is important to study the history of Africa.				X				6c

Each student in group of three read one of three editorials uploaded on my Google Calendar about why learning African history is important as homework.					x		3c
Students share with their groups of three the claims of their author and the evidence they offered. They also share what they found interesting and surprising.				x			6d
Students use padlet.com as well as verbal responses to discuss as a full class their reflections and take-aways from the editorials.			x				6c
Students write a final exit-slip which offers their now-educated opinion about two main reasons to study the history of Africa; they must include two specific examples/pieces of evidence for each reason from the editorials.	x						3d

Materials, tools and resources - Class Chromebooks; three editorials on Google Calendar; Padlet.com

Unit Plan Author (name, school and optional email address or hyperlink to teacher's web page) - Brian Meyer, Minneapolis Southwest HS

Additional credit given to