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| <p>Course Name: GNDS 380/3.0 Gendered Violence in West African Cultures</p> <p>Contact Hours Lecture: Mondays, 11:30am-2:30pm</p> | <p>Course Instructor: Elizabeth Peprah-Asare</p> |
| <p>Course Description This course examines comparative studies in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) within matrilineal and patrilineal cultures across West Africa. Students will gain foundational knowledge in African feminist and womanist epistemologies and acquire insights into the unique forms of power that pre-colonial West African women exercised to empower themselves and their communities while working to prevent the occurrence of domestic violence within their societies.</p> | <p>Required Course Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All readings are available through the library's e-reserve |
| <p>Course Objectives By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen understanding of Modern Matriarchal Studies and Gender Equality (GE) • Clearly define key terms and topics surrounding West African matrilineal and matriarchy • Articulate West African women's feminist and womanist epistemologies surrounding power and gendered violence • Develop understanding of West African women's pre-colonial status and power • Identify equitable principles of West African matrilineal and matriarchal cultures and the backlash evident within patrilineal cultures | <p>Course Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance/Participation 10% • Weekly Reflections 20% • Research Outline 15% • Research Essay 25% • Documentary Review 15% • Oral Presentation 15% |
| <p>Topics in Course Outline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable Utopias? Principles of Matriarchal Cultures (Crete, Bissago, Khasi, Mosuo) • Making Sense of West African Matriarchy • Introduction to West African Matrilineal Cultures (Asante, Nnobi) • The European 'Witchcraze' and Patriarchal War Against Women • Migration of the 'Witchcraze' to West Africa • Colonialism: The Erosion of West African Women's Power • Ghanaian Feminist Activism Case Study: The Domestic Violence (DV) Bill • Making Sense of Modern "Witch Hunts" in West Africa • Backlash: COVID-19's "Shadow Pandemic" • Domestic Violence & Femicide during the "Shadow Pandemic" • Afterlives of Matrilineal and Patrilineal Gendered Violence in West Africa | |