

All these courses are available as electives and do not require previous History.

HIS 102: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF HISTORY

The course is about the origins of modern Botswana, whether at a social, economic, political, cultural, or environmental level. It is about where we come from to be called the nation of Botswana, and how we have influenced Southern African region and vice versa.

HIS 104: DEBATES IN BOTSWANA HISTORY

History is neither a set of simple facts in a textbook nor a matter of opinion. Historical knowledge emerges from informed debate. In this course students study some notable debates in Botswana history and analyse the issues. This is a course for those who want to be actively involved and learn how history works.

HIS 201: AFRICAN CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS TO c.1500

This course is essentially about who are we, that is, where do we come from as Africans. What processes were at play in the creation of the different societies that are found in the continent. Was Africa the “Dark Continent” as some had referred to it?

HIS 211: THE RISE OF EUROPE TO WORLD DOMINANCE

For most of human history Europe was only one among a number of cultures. But in the past 500 years it came to dominate much of the world, leaving behind great changes even when the empires ended, as is obvious from the case of Botswana. This course will examine both the rise of European power and the changes within Europe itself, focussing on large

scale issues rather than detail. To understand the impact of colonialism it is essential to understand how it came about.

HIS 213: POVERTY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND AFFLUENCE IN WESTERN EUROPE AND AMERICA

This course draws on economic reasoning to examine the transformation of Western European and American economies from rudimentary beginnings to the world’s most affluent regions. How did the Western world escape the threat of poverty to become the drivers of today’s world economy? This move ‘From Caveman to Skyscrapers’ is instructive to learners in developing economies such as those in Africa who will potentially advise policy makers.

HIS 335: COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA.

Just like Africans, Latin Americas experienced colonial conquest and rule, but in their case it was more ferocious and brutal. This course analyses the ‘microbic’ and ‘physical’ ‘genocides’ which accompanied Spanish conquest of Latin America. Issues of race, colour, class and the role of women during the period have ramifications even today and these shall be explored. The rise of the *latifundia*, (the large landed estate) which make some of the current large land holdings held by multinational corporations for agricultural purposes and the beginnings of the plight of the landless indigenous Indians and the peasantry shall feature. The hopelessness of the indigenous people is the backdrop to the rise of popular socialist-oriented governments such as that of Ivo Morales in the Andean state of Bolivia. The independence ‘revolutions’ and their hollowness for the indigenous people shall conclude the discussion.

HIS 401: DEBATES IN CONFLICT AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

HIS 412: TWENTIETH CENTURY SOUTH AFRICA

Understanding the history behind #StateCapture; #RhodesMustFall; #FeesMustFall and the campaign for Radical Economic Transformation in South Africa.

HIS 431: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY, PART I (course appears in ASAS as “Natives & Settlers in Early North America”)

For those who know American history, it is no surprise that Barack Obama was followed by Donald Trump using race-baiting campaign rhetoric. This course will account for the long history of America’s racialized past, beginning with European conquest of America, the devastation of the indigenous Americans, the importation of indentured and slave labour to build its new economy, and the persistence of slavery after the United States came into being following its break with mother England, in spite of its claim to “hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...” The course follows the expansion of the US economy built on slave labour and the rising political conflicts over legal slavery, culminating in a bloody civil war. African American history is central to the understanding of America, past and present.

HIS 435: MODERN BRITAIN

As the former colonial power, Britain has had a huge impact on Botswana. Despite its image of “tradition”, it has experienced great social, political and cultural change over time, and the very idea of

“Britain” has been challenged not only by the question of Europe but by Scottish and Welsh separatism. Now, “Brexit” makes the future even more uncertain. What has been the changing experience of women, people of different races, religions, and sexual orientations? How does government work, and who holds political power? Britain remains one of the fascinating countries in the world.

HIS 441: EAST AFRICA - SLAVE TRADE AND COLONIAL CONQUEST

Starting from around 1800, this course shows how East Africa was affected by the slave trade, especially involving Zanzibar. Also, how did Ethiopia succeed in remaining independent, while the colonial powers took over Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, etc.? Learn the roots of this vital area of Africa.

HIS 443: ISLAM, IMPERIALISM AND THE MILITARY IN THE MAKING OF MODERN EGYPT

Egypt as one of the earliest civilisations has shaped the modern world, and most importantly North Africa and the Middle East. The course traces how modern Egypt evolved and her influence on North Africa, especially the Sudan and Palestine. It deals with Islamic Fundamentalism which is at the core of the current problems in North Africa and its linkages with terrorism. The course gives an overview of the 2011 “Arab Spring” uprisings which began in Tunisia, then Egypt and resulted in the overthrow of the first democratically-elected president Mohamed Morsi. The culmination of this “revolution” was the toppling of Libya’s strongman Muammar Gaddafi. This is a course not to be missed by any student interested in International relations studies.

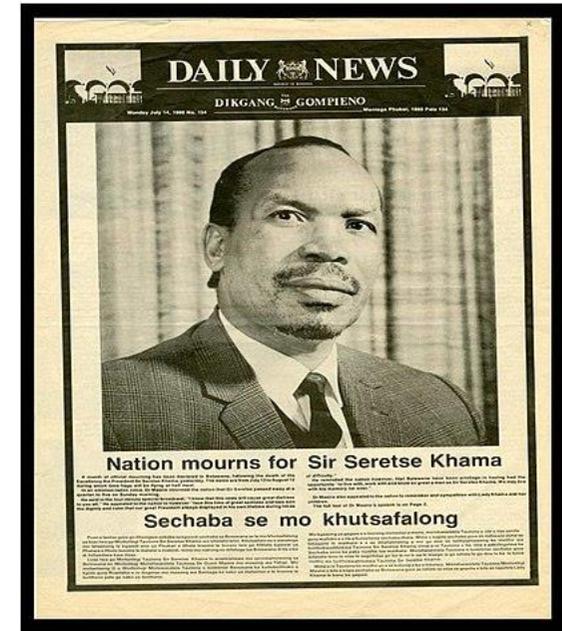
HIS 445: GLOBALISATION & THIRD WORLD ECONOMIES IN AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA & SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Arguably, it is due to the globalisation phenomenon that livelihoods, across the globe, have experienced a tremendous economic transformation in all aspects of life. This has largely been driven by technological transfer, international trade, increasing foreign direct investment and knowledge transfer—but also creating global inequalities. This course examines the impact of globalisation on developing economies. Economic history students are the potential future leaders of their countries and need exposure to the historical nature of contemporary economic problems.

HIS 473: SPECIAL SEMINAR: GLOBAL HEALTH HISTORY

This seminar explores the history of global health and the consequences of global health interventions. It surveys broad topics in the evolution of human diseases and therapies, the global integration of disease environments, epidemic and pandemic disease, early public health interventions, modern sanitation, the history of vaccines, the epidemiological transition, and the contemporary challenges of global public health.

Electives in History (August 2018)



Broaden your knowledge of the world, and learn where modern issues come from, by taking an elective in History! Most History courses are available as electives, and students from across UB have been successful in them.

For information on History electives, see the History Department office in 239/229, OR go to www.thuto.org/electives OR ask any History lecturer