

Write two short essays, demonstrate your knowledge after reading all the sources uploaded. You should think like a historian about a concept such as change over time, specific historical context of each society, and make a comparison between different societies in Africa. In this paper, your response should clearly indicate your awareness of how African history changed over the long-term (c-1500-present). Your response should also demonstrate your knowledge of reading and books.

You should cite in Chicago style with footnotes. Please note that any citations **MUST** indicate authors & page numbers.

The answers are expected to present clear arguments and provide supporting details and evidence from the readings.

It should be a double-spaced document. **2 pages for each short essay.**

Short Essay ONE

2 page (double spaced)

Question A prominent New York City museum is re-designing its Africa exhibit. Curators want to showcase African entrepreneurship, culture, and long-distance trade in the past and present. They are asking for advice on selecting 3-4 objects as focal pieces for this exhibit. This museum has a large budget and is committed to ethical practices to acquire loans of the objects you propose. **What would be your recommendations? Please indicate which 3-4 objects you would select and explain why they would meet the museum's objectives. The museum wishes to showcase the time period of 1500-2000s and wants to attempt to represent some of the geographic diversity of Africa. You should give examples from at least three different African societies. Your answer should use specific examples from assigned books and readings to support your recommendations.**

Short Essay TWO

2 page (double spaced)

Question How significant was the colonial period for changing trajectories of African history?

In African history, scholars often debate the key turning points and the long-term effects of historical events. **For this essay** you are invited to weigh in on one of the big debates: **how significant was the colonial period for changing trajectories of African history?** To answer you are encouraged to **focus thematically on a theme of interest such as gender, religion, politics, social class, or popular culture.** As you develop a clear argument thesis that takes a side on this question you are expected to use a number of examples from the readings as your evidence, at minimum, **there should be examples from 3 different African societies.**

Remember that a compelling answer to this question should examine change over time, eg it should discuss at least some history from both before and after the colonial period to support your argument. Lastly, please note, that esteemed historians have taken different stances on this very question. It's up to you to build a convincing argument that reflects your evaluation.