

University of Hawaii
Department of Anthropology
Outreach Spring 2012 Term

Anth 385D Undergraduate Proseminar: Social
Instructor: Rachel Harvery

This course is a broad topical survey designed to re-inform and enlighten our popular conceptions of contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa. In the media and global imagination, Africa is often characterized as an invariable and backward land of failure, dependence, poverty, and violence. Students will challenge these ideas by discovering some of the diversity of histories, societies, and experiences that make up this vast and manifold continent. We will explore Africa's vital social and economic connections with the rest of world. As this is an anthropology class, ideas will be filtered through understandings of culture, context, and daily life practices. Grades will be based on weekly participation, writing assignments, presentations, and take-home exams. The course will address the following key themes: Backgrounds and Settings, Globalization and Economic Development, Health, Gender, and Social Development, African Urbanism, Youth, Violence, and War, and Popular Culture.