

Fundamentals of Orisa Lifestyle 1A
Orisa Lifestyle Academy
Fall 2015, Sundays 2.00 – 4.00
United Roots 2781 Telegraph, Oakland, CA
Online: Google+, Fundamentals 1A

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Contact Protocol: I prefer to be contacted by email. Please put “Fundamentals 1A” in the subject line. Should you have an urgent matter, however, you may call. You do not have to contact the professor when you are unable to make class, except in special circumstances where he should be notified.

Course Description: This is a religious studies course that it will focus exclusively on the Yoruba religious tradition of Nigeria and the Republic of Benin. At the same time, we will examine the complex nature of religious phenomena, including religious knowledge and manifestations of Orisa Lifestyle in the diaspora. In this regard, the course is a survey of religious thought and practice in global and local perspective. This includes approaches to the study of Orisa Lifestyle and some general theories of religion. Through this course, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity and complexity of Orisa Lifestyle as well as a basic understanding of the study of Yoruba civilization. This course will pay special attention to Orisa Lifestyle as a framework for Personal Priesthood.

Teaching Methods: This class will explore the nature of Orisa Lifestyle and varieties of Yoruba religion through lectures by the professor, class discussions, readings (both listed below and additional readings at the professor’s discretion), and student writing projects.

Required Texts:

- Origunwa, Obafemi. Fundamentals of Orisa Lifestyle

Academic Honesty Policy: Students are required to do their own work on all assignments. Do not assume that you can outsmart the professor by borrowing work from the internet or printed texts. Plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty are severely discouraged. **Students found submitting work not their own will be given zero for the assignment.**

Changes in the Syllabus: The professor reserves the right to make appropriate changes in the syllabus. It is your responsibility to keep updated on course information.

Assignments and Grading:

Quizzes: Each of the three section quizzes will be worth 33.3 points each for a total of 100 points. The quizzes will have 20 fairly difficult multiple-choice and true-false questions that will require attention to the assigned readings, lectures, and videos.

Term Paper: Students will write one 3-5 page research paper to be due on the last day of class. The paper will be worth 50 points, but the paper abstract and annotated bibliography will be due on the 9th class and will be worth 25 points.

Absences: Participation and attendance is worth 25 points.

Extra Credit: As a general rule, the professor does not give extra credit except in extraordinary circumstances. Please do not ask.

Possible Points:

Quizzes (3)=100 points

Term Papers=50 points

Annotated Bibliography, Abstract=25 points

Attendance/Participation=25 points.

Grading Matrix:

Points	Percentage	Grade
180+	90% and above	A
172-179	86-89%	A-
166-171	83-85%	B+
160-165	80-84%	B
152-159	76-79%	B-
146-151	73-75%	C+
140-145	70-72%	C
132-139	66-70%	C-
126-131	63-65%	D+
120-125	60-62%	D
112-119	56-59%	D-
0-111	55% or less	F

Schedule of Readings and Assignments:

*****Temple Roles:** This class is a prerequisite for anyone who wishes to assume an official temple role. A minimum score of 83% is mandatory for eligibility.

Section I: Physical Energy

- 8/2** Introduction to Course, Overview of Syllabus and course requirements,
Lecture 1: The Good Condition, What is the significance of the body to Òrìsà
Lifestyle?
Reading: Introduction, Page 18-34. Complete worksheet.
- 8/9** Lecture 2: Okan, the intuition.
Reading: Page 35-36. Complete worksheet.
- 8/16** Lecture 3: Emi, the spirit
Reading: Page 37-39. Complete worksheet.
- 8/23** Lecture 4: Ori Ode, the mind
Reading: Page 40-43. Complete worksheet.

Section II: Ancestral Energy

- 8/30 QUIZ #1.** Lecture 5: Egungun
Reading: Page 44-49. Complete worksheet.
- 9/6** Lecture 6: Ori Iya, maternal soul
Reading: Page 50-58. Complete worksheet.
- 9/13** Lecture 7: Ori Baba, paternal soul
Reading: Page 59-68. Complete worksheet.
- 9/20** Lecture 8: Ori Isese, ancestral guardian soul
Reading: Page 69-74. Complete worksheet.
Paper Topics Due (Bibliographies, Titles, abstracts, etc.)

Section III: Spiritual Energy

- 9/27 QUIZ #2.** Lecture 9: Egbe, spiritual cohort
Reading: Page 75-87. Complete worksheet.
- 10/4** Lecture 10: Owo, spiritual vocation/mentorship
Reading: Page 88-95. Complete worksheet.
- 10/11** Lecture 11: Oja, the marketplace of life
Reading: Page 96-102. Complete worksheet.
- 10/18** Lecture 12: Ori Inu, spiritual essence
Reading: Page 88-95. Complete worksheet.

Section IV: Universal Energy

- 10/25 QUIZ#3.** Lecture 13: Olódùmarè, the supreme being
Reading: Page 108-112. Complete worksheet.

11/1 NO CLASS

11/8 Lecture 14: Irúnmọ̀lẹ̀ & Òrìsà, emissaries of Olodumare
Reading: Page 113-116. Complete worksheet.

11/15 Lecture 15: Ifa, the custodian of fate
Reading: Page 117-124. Complete worksheet.

11/22 PAPERS DUE. Lecture 16: Ori Apere, the zenith of spiritual elevation
Reading: Page 125-128. Complete worksheet.