AFST 3950 - Special Topics in African Studies: Introduction to Amharic Language, Culture, and Society

Spring 2024
CRN: 69320
Tue/Thu - 2:20-3:35 pm

Course Outline

The objective of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Amharic Language, Culture, and Society by elucidating its historical significance, cultural heritage, and societal impacts. While we will delve into the intriguing historical background, structure, and use of the Amharic language, our primary objective is not to provide language instruction but rather to fully engage with the culture.

Throughout this course, we will explore a variety of themes, including:

1. **Historical Overview:** Knowing the origins, development, and impact of Amharic culture on modern society.

2. **Language and Society:** An introduction to the Amharic language, including linguistic characteristics, history, and function in Ethiopian society and the worldwide community

3. **Cultural Expression:** Examining how Amharic culture is expressed via art, music, literature, and traditional traditions.

4. **Contemporary issues:** Examining contemporary social, political, and economic challenges affecting the Amharic language.