

## Religious Experience in Africa: Sacred Cosmos, Ritual, and Community

The course is an introduction to the cultural study of traditional African religions. We begin with close attention to cosmology, the traditional view of the world as filled with living, sacred powers. These powers are experienced in various ways: as ancestral presences; nature deities; and personal guardian spirits. Therefore, we focus on ritual practices, ways of communicating with unseen forces to bring communal and personal healing, restoring balance in the human relationship to nature. Offered alternate years. Cross-listed as REL323.

Course Number: REL623

Unit: 3.0

Program: GRAD/UNDG Religs Studies