Too often, Africa and Africans are understood as being on the periphery of world history. Histories of the Atlantic World are only now beginning to recognize Africans’ contribution to the making of the modern world, and more specifically, their impact on the cultures and societies of post-Columbian America. This class turns this narrow view of African history on its head, by placing Africa at the center of World History. How did Africans live happily and harmoniously without states up until the nineteenth century and what does this say about our assumptions and the larger processes of world history? Why do Nigerians go to Brazil to learn about African healing? How did bananas from Malaysia become a staple of the African diet? Did Belgian colonialism lead to Rwandan genocide? This course will challenge the previous model of writing about Africa that has relegated Africans to the margins of history, and furthermore, it will ask students to construct a new vocabulary that takes account of the distinctiveness of African historical experience in a way that enlarges our understanding of World History.