African State Research Presentations Assignment: The task is to complete outside academic research on how a particular African state formed and present it to the class.

1. **Research presentation topic:** The processes of state formation in pre-16th century Africa.

2. **Questions to guide the analysis:** Where do our African states come from? How did ancient and pre-modern African states come into being? What social processes precede and contribute to the state forming? How do the social changes brought about by the agricultural, pastoral and iron revolutions impact a particular African state forming? What are the social needs or developments that give rise to political activities such as providing security, adjudicating disputes, creating laws and enforcing order? What gives rise to political actors? What are the social processes, activities such as trade or sets of internal and external relations among different social groupings, classes and job occupations that require states to form? In other words, why does a professional trader or a merchant want the specific form of political organization we call a state? What can it do for them? How it is useful to them? Why would they accept the authority of the state? What is the relationship between the governed and the governors? How do these states conduct foreign relations?

3. Under our course reserves there is a list of pre-selected books that may be used to complete the research presentation assignment. The list is available online at [http://www.lib.utk.edu/](http://www.lib.utk.edu/).

   A. **Enter course number AF 235> click on Dunn.**
   B. Pick up the books from Course Reserves at the Library Circulation Desk.

4. Use **at least** four outside sources. Two sources **must** be books. The remaining sources may be academic journal articles or other books. The books may come from Dunn AF235 Course Reserves. The articles may come from our “Articles” folder on Blackboard under “Course Materials.” **Shillington May Not Be Used As A Reference. No Internet Sources May Be Used.**

   **For assistance in identifying sources, ask Allison Sharp our Remarkable Librarian (email Allison Sharp at asharp9@utk.edu) or another helpful librarian in Hodges Library at the desk area after the circulation counter (General, eref@utk.edu).**

   **Allison’s hours at the research assistance desk are Monday 4pm-6pm and Wednesday 1-2:30pm. The research assistance desk is in the room on the right after circulation desk in the library, across from Starbucks in Hodges library.** For a couple of points added to your presentation grade, print out this first page of the assignment and have Allison or another librarian sign the following statement. Hand in this first page of the assignment.

**Statement confirming research assistance sought, given and received:**

The following student ___________________ received research assistance from ____________________ in Hodges Library for this African State Research presentation assignment.
5. For evidence and arguments to support thesis statement in the presentation, use quotations from the books and journal articles and in parentheses provide author’s last name, year of publication and: page number or range of page for example (Smith 1978: 63) or (Eisenberg 1996: 80-82). On the References slide provide bibliographic information.

6. Focus on one Ancient/pre-modern African state. For example, if Songhay is the chosen ancient/pre-modern African state, then research and present on what social processes and practices led to the formation of the state.

7. The following is a list of possible states and sources. **This list just provides examples; it is not exhaustive. It is not intended to limit and is far from complete.** However, please do note and be aware that the African states of interests in this course are ancient/pre-modern not modern states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>North Africa</th>
<th>North-east Africa</th>
<th>West Africa</th>
<th>Central Africa</th>
<th>Southern Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3100 BCE – 300 CE</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Kingdom of Kush/Meroe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 CE – 800 CE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aksum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800 CE – 1400 CE</td>
<td>Almoravid/Almohad/Morocco</td>
<td>Kingdom of Ethiopia</td>
<td>Ancient Ghana</td>
<td>Swahili city-states (Kilwa, Mombasa, Zanzibar, Sofala)</td>
<td>Empire of Mali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 CE – 1600 CE</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Songhay Empire</td>
<td>Luba Empire</td>
<td>Great Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Lunda Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Search terms to use when researching journal articles and books to research for this presentation:**
state formation; early state; state development; origins of the state; AND “the name of the particular state being researched” and/or “Africa”, “Ancient Africa”, “premodern Africa.”

**Starter sources for Theories of State Formation:**


**Starter sources for Kush and Meroe:**


The kingdom of Kush: handbook of the Napatan-Meroitic civilization
László Török 1941-
Leiden ; New York : Brill 1997

The kingdom of Kush: the Napatan and Meroitic empires
Electronic full text through UTK library website

Title: Africa and Africans in antiquity / edited by Edwin M. Yamauchi.

**Starter sources for Aksum:**

Title: Aksum: political system, economics and culture, first to fourth century
Author: Kobishanov, Y.M.


**Starter sources for Ancient Ghana:**


**Starter sources for Mali:**


**Starter sources for Songhay:**


**Starter sources for Bunyoro:**


Author: Nyakatura, J. W. (John W.)


**Starter sources for Ethiopia:**


**Starter sources for Swahili City-States (any and all):**


**Starter sources for Great Zimbabwe:**


**Starter sources for Morocco:**


**Starter sources for Transatlantic Slave Trade:**

The transatlantic slave trade : a history. James A. Rawley Stephen D Behrendt


Behrendt ; S. Transatlantic Slave Trade Oxford University Press 2005