



Did you know?

The novel *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe, a Nigerian, is a milestone in African and world literature. Published in 1958, it has sold more than 8 million copies worldwide. The novel depicts the corrosive influences of British colonialism and Christian missionaries on a traditional Igbo community during the late 19th or early 20th century. Of all Achebe's works, *Things Fall Apart* is the most read, and has generated the most critical response, examination, and literary criticism. It is studied widely in Europe and North America, where it has spawned numerous secondary and tertiary analytical works. It has achieved similar status and renown in India, Australia, and Oceania.

For more
information

Prof. Fallou Ngom
Director,
African Language Program
fngom@bu.edu
617-353-3673

<http://www.bu.edu/africa/alp/>

**BOSTON
UNIVERSITY**

African Studies Center

232 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215
www.bu.edu/africa

Igbo

Boston University



50th Anniversary Edition

**THINGS
FALL APART**
Chinua Achebe

The setting for *Things Fall Apart*, the best-known African novel, is an Igbo village at the outset of colonialism.

About Nigeria

Nigeria is Africa's most populous country and the 7th most populous country in the world.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is a federal constitutional republic comprising 36 states and a Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

The three largest and most influential ethnic groups in Nigeria are the Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba.

Archaeological evidence shows that human habitation of the area dates back to at least 9000 BC. The area around the Benue and Cross River is thought to be the original homeland of Bantu migrants who spread across most of central and southern Africa in waves between the 1st millennium BC and the 2nd millennium.

It is estimated that more than 500 languages are spoken in Nigeria. The major languages spoken in Nigeria represent three major families of African languages: the majority are Niger-Congo languages, such as Yoruba and Igbo; the Hausa language is Afro-Asiatic; and Kanuri, spoken in the northeast, primarily in Borno State, is part of the Nilo-Saharan family.

English is the official language and is widely used for education, business transactions, and official purposes.



Igbo wedding dancers at Ibankwu Nwando (Miss Wonderful wedding), Anambra State Nigeria. (Oralfite.com)

Courses & Minors

BU's program in Igbo is brand new. All language courses use the communicative approach and develop proficiency in the four skills—oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, and writing—while also emphasizing cultural understanding. Igbo language courses can be used to meet the CAS language requirements.

LD 119 -120 First Year Igbo
LD 219-220 Second Year Igbo
LD 319-320 Third Year Igbo
LD 419-420 Fourth Year Igbo
LD 491/492 - Directed Study: Igbo

Two Minors: African Studies or African Languages & Literature

Each semester more than 75 courses are offered across campus with at least 25% Africa content. Consider a few options:

ID 116 - Africa Today: The Beat of Popular Culture
AN 312 - Peoples & Cultures of Africa

AH 429 - Photography & Africa: Race & Representation

MU 340 - Musical Cultures of the World

HI 348 - Colonialism in Africa: Impact & Aftermath

IR 351 - Africa in International Politics

PO 378 - International Human Rights: Applying Human Rights in Africa

AH 429 - Photography & Africa: Race & Representation

AA 588 - Women, Power, & Culture in Africa

AN 524 - Language & Culture Contacts in Contemporary Africa

AN 532 - Literacy & Islam in Africa

AN 593, 594 - Seminar: Topics in Cultural Anthropology

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships for Undergraduates (FLAS)

Get paid to study Igbo or any other African language at BU! FLAS awards cover \$10,000 tuition and \$2500 stipend per semester. Applicants are eligible after their first year of language study. Applications are due annually on February 15th.