SEPTEMBER 19

Diverse Dialogues on Race and Culture: Welcome to Shelbyville film screening/discussion
7:00 PM, Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

A small town in the heart of America’s Bible Belt grapples with rapidly changing demographics in this documentary. Longtime African American and white residents are challenged with how best to integrate with a growing Latino population and the more recent arrival of hundreds of Muslim Somali refugees. As the newcomers—mostly of Muslim faith—attempt to make new lives for themselves and their children, leaders in this deeply religious community attempt to guide their congregations through this period of unprecedented change. Co-sponsors: KASC, CLACS, Langston Hughes Center, LPL.

OCTOBER 27

Preaching For the Nation:
Media and Religion in Modern Egypt
4:00 PM, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union
Dr. Jackie Brinton (Religious Studies)

The Sunni scholar Muhammad Mitwalli Sha’rawi was one of Egypt’s most beloved and successful Islamic preachers until his death in 1998. Through weekly television appearances viewed by up to 30 million people he popularized theological and ethical beliefs and became a national media sensation. Brinton’s new book Preaching Islamic Renewal examines Sha’rawi’s life and work to demonstrate how traditional Muslim authorities have used various media to put forth a unique vision of how Islam can be renewed and revived in the contemporary world. A book signing will follow the talk. Co-sponsors: CGIS, Religious Studies, KASC, Middle East Studies.

NOVEMBER 16 AND DECEMBER 1

FLAS Info Sessions
4:00 PM, English Room, Kansas Union

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded funding to the Kansas African Studies Center for Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships for the 2014-2018 grant cycle. FLAS funds are awarded in a competitive process open to graduate and undergraduate students. Students must be U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents to be eligible to apply. FLAS awards are available for the study of Amharic, Arabic, Hausa, Kiswahili, Somali and Wolof, with additional African language requests considered. Learn more about this opportunity by attending one of these sessions.

SEPTEMBER 26

African Studies Council Meeting
3:30 PM, Bailey 318

Join KASC and the KU Africanist community to celebrate the beginning of the academic year. The African Studies Council is an inclusive group made up of all faculty, staff, and students with a strong interest in African Studies. Elections will be held for open positions on the Executive Committee, the Center’s Advisory Board.

NOVEMBER 16

Ujamaa Food for Thought:
Food (In)security in Harare, Zimbabwe
12:00 PM, Bailey 318
Dr. Abel Chikanda (Geography/AAAS)

The economic and political challenges which Zimbabwe has faced over the past two decades have reduced the country from being the breadbasket of southern Africa to a basket case. Consequently, access to food has become a growing problem especially in the urban areas. Using recent data, the presentation attempts to measure the magnitude of food insecurity in Harare, Zimbabwe’s capital, and assess the livelihood strategies of the city’s population in the face of worsening economic conditions. Co-sponsors: KASC, CGIS.

DECEMBER 6

The Power of Migration Stories
3:30-5:00 PM, The Commons, Spooner Hall

As part of the new series “Framing the Dialogue” sponsored by The Commons, this gathering will be a conversation about migration issues across disciplines. KASC and our Migration Stories project partners will highlight accomplishments in facilitating and sharing stories of migration this year during an initiative funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Join us to view the fruits of the project to date and to discuss possible broader collaborations in the future. For more details visit: www.migrationstories.ku.edu.