

United States Academic Decathlon® Curricular Topics for 2017–2018!

The U.S. Academic Decathlon® is excited to announce that the overall curricular theme for 2017–2018 will be **Africa**. Following is some general information on the topics in each of the subject areas.

- **SCIENCE:** The science topic will be an introduction to the biology of infectious diseases, with an emphasis on diseases that have had a significant impact on Africa.
- **LITERATURE:** The literature curriculum will include critical reading, one long work of literature, and selected shorter works. The long work of literature will be the novel *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe.
- **ART:** The art curriculum will include a section on art fundamentals and will largely focus on African art.
- **MUSIC:** The music curriculum will provide an introduction to the music of Africa.
- **SOCIAL SCIENCE:** The social science curriculum will provide an introduction to the history of Africa, with an emphasis on West Africa.
- **ECONOMICS:** The economics curriculum will cover fundamental economic concepts, microeconomics, and macroeconomics and will also include a thematic section on African economic history and development.
- **MATHEMATICS:** The mathematics curriculum will cover general mathematics, geometry, and an introduction to differential calculus.*

The full subject area outlines will be posted on the U.S. Academic Decathlon® website <www.usad.org> on May 1 and will also be published in the U.S. Academic Decathlon® *Study Guide*, which will begin shipping on May 15.

* *The 2017–18 mathematics curriculum and materials will be the same as were used for the 2014–15 U.S. Academic Decathlon®.*