

This second week was only four days, but students were able to learn so much! We wanted to highlight one of the students, Zeinab Dembele, as she writes her analysis of the book "Africa is Not a Country" by Dipo Faloyin. As a part of the curriculum, students are required to read & engage with the text in a weekly book club.

Howard University's African Studies Summer Leadership Institute Program



Zeinab writes:

"In his thought provoking book, 'Africa is not a country' the author Dipo Faloyin, challenges common misconceptions about Africa and explains his thoughts in intriguing ways. One of the most interesting things about the book is how Faloyin weaves his own personal experiences into these misconceptions to prove the Western World wrong about their stereotypical thoughts on Africa. This allows the reader to gain a deeper sense of understanding. Personally, it allows me to see certain topics, such as white saviour imagery, in a perspective I wouldn't have even thought of prior to reading the book. Overall, this book can widen the eyes of many throughout the world and is therefore a must read."

-Zeinab Dembele

This week began with our very first journaling session during our Mindfulness morning activity. Ms. Helen spoke about the importance of African languages. Students were able to discuss the integration of different languages in D.C, their native city, while also understanding how English is seen as a privilege overseas. Students grasped that, as Americans, we often expect others to assimilate to the English language rather than us learning and adapting to other cultures. Ms. Chidima, who will be joining us Week Four, paid a visit, where students witnessed the cultural dresses custom to Nigeria. She dressed Ms. Helen head to toe! Through this interactive experience, students were introduced to traditional wedding attire specific to the Igbo Tribe.

Overall, this was an amazing second week!

Christiana Biruk
Editor-in-Chief

