

STANDARD USI.4c

The student will apply social science skills to understand European exploration in North America and West Africa by

c) identifying the location and describing the characteristics of West African societies (Ghana, Mali, and Songhai) and their interactions with traders.

Essential Understandings

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai each dominated West Africa in sequence from 300 to 1600 A.D. (C.E.).
African people and African goods were among the world resources that drew European interest.

Essential Knowledge

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai dominated West Africa in sequence from 300 to 1600 A.D. (C.E.).

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai were located in the western region of Africa, south of the Sahara Desert, near the Niger River.

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai became powerful by controlling trade in West Africa.

The Portuguese carried goods from Europe to West African empires, trading metals, cloth, and other manufactured goods for gold.