

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY – NEWARK

African History II

21:510:264

Class Time/Location: T/Th: 2:30 pm – 3: 50 pm, Conklin 302

Spring 2020

Dr. Habtamu Tegegne

Office: Conklin 329

Office Hours: T/R 4:00 pm – 5: 00 pm

Email: ht254@rutgers.edu

Office Hours

I hold office hours in Conklin Hall 329 on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4:00 pm and 5: 00 pm, and by appointment. I am present, during office hours which are scheduled for you, to talk about a course material or an assignment. If you have any urgent and critical issue about anything, ask and clear them with me immediately. Communication is the key for a rewarding course experience. Take advantage of these opportunities.

Course Description

This course will explore in-depth the major political, economic and social changes and developments in modern African history from 1850 CE to the present day. The course is divided into three broad parts. Part I will examine European expansion into Africa, resulting in the partition of the continent and the establishment of colonial societies during the last quarter of the 19th and early twentieth centuries. Special focus will be given to the political, social, economic and cultural transformations which colonialism and the incorporation of the continent into the modern world system brought upon African societies. Part II then takes up the issues of nationalism, decolonization and the formation of the modern state. Part III, the last part of the course, deals with developments in Africa in the era of independence. We conclude with a survey of the new opportunities and challenges with which Africa contends in the present century. Through lectures, readings, films and discussions we will look at the changes and continuities in African history, exploring key processes and events that shaped and continue to shape the continent.

Course Objectives

The course has the following main goals:

- Acquire knowledge about the making of modern African history;
- Provide students with relevant information for further inquiry;
- Develop interpretive and analytical thinking, research, and writing skills

Course Requirements and Evaluation

The two emphases of the course are lecture and discussion. Your grade for the course will be based on regular class attendance and participation, two term papers, mid-term and final exams.

Points will be available as follows:

Final Exam: 30%

Midterm Exam:	25%
Term paper:	15%
Participation in discussions:	20%
Class Attendance	10%

Grading Scale

In the final determination of the letter grades, I will use “+”. Grading for the course will be as follows:

- A grades (90-100);
- B+ grades (87-89)
- B grades (80-86);
- C+ grades (77-79)
- C grades (70-76);
- D grades (60-69); and
- F grade (below 60).

Grading Policy

This is a course that requires serious intellectual engagement with the course material, regular attendance and class participation. To successfully complete this course, a student must pay attention to the lectures, take good notes, study hard, and actively participate in class discussion. Assignments, including term papers, will be graded exclusively for their merit. Grade must be earned. Never beg for grade. I won't round a student's overall score. I will not bump a student's grade even if it means that the student will lose his/her scholarship or fail in school. Assignments not completed earn a 0. I am a fair and ethical grader, so please do not bother asking me about your grade. If I notice an honest error I will correct and mark a grade up.

EVALUATION DETAILS

Attendance (10%) (Ongoing)

Attendance is required – and rewarded, since active engagement in class is essential to succeed in this course. I take attendance daily. According to university policy, a total of eight [8] absences, whether excused or unexcused, will result in failure in this course. Likewise, five [5] consecutive, unexcused, absences will result in failure in this course. Poor attendance record can adversely affect your scholarship grants and other benefits. Class attendance can affect your class participation grade, which counts for 20% of your grade. Your participation grade will drop by 10 points for every absence. In this class, attendance is taken primarily to encourage students to engage in intellectual exchange and learning in the classroom. Attendance will also be rewarded through in-class assignments and unannounced quizzes. Always come prepared and in a timely fashion. You are responsible for the material covered during your absence, including discussion and reading. Since the exam comes mainly from the lecture and class participation determines a significant portion of your course grade, you will benefit from regular attendance.

Tardiness

If you are late and miss attendance you will be counted as tardy. Two late arrivals will be counted as one absence. A student must produce a written validation explaining the reason for absence. If you know that you will miss class for a compelling reason, you are responsible for contacting me in advance of class to request an excused absence. Medical emergencies and illness verified by a physician, deaths in the family,

religious holy days, athletic events, natural disaster, jury duty, and scholastic obligations will be accommodated. I will not excuse absences due to work, personal vacations or any unjustifiable and unverifiable reasons.

Participation in Discussion (20%) (Ongoing)

Participation in class discussions is essential for the successful completion of this course. On Thursdays the class time will be devoted primarily to discussions of each week's assigned readings. Discussion questions will be posted to the course website well in advance of the Thursday discussion. The questions will guide your reading and our class discussion on Thursdays. Every student is placed in a group for the semester for the purpose of discussion. Each group will be assigned one discussion question to answer. That means, Group 1 answers question 1, Group 2 answers question 2; and so on. The list of the questions for each group will be projected to the class on a slide projector.

The class will break into groups at the beginning of each discussion. Each group reads, discusses, and answers a discussion question for 15-20 minutes, noting the group's findings and conclusions on a piece of paper. Each group should agree a note taker who also serves as a spokesperson. Group members take turns learning to serve spokesperson and note taker and lead discussion within that group. At the end of class discussion I will collect the notes each group jotted down from the readings. The work distribution of each team must be indicated on the note by identifying the spokesperson and the notetaker. Once the groups have completed their discussion, I will call them for a general class discussion. The spokespersons of each group will present to the class in 2-4 minutes what the group discussed and concluded from the reading, inviting discussion.

Class participation is more than showing up to class. I value how actively involved you are in class discussion. Active participation is displayed by verbally commenting, reflecting and asking questions that are relevant to and informed by the assigned readings. I will watch both participation in general class discussion and in small groups closely. Students who contribute significantly to their group's work and to the general class discussion will get correspondingly higher scores for their participation grade. Participation in discussions are the easiest points to earn in the class. Finish all assigned readings before the beginning of the Thursday class. One of the textbooks assigned for this course is longer than usual, but it not so much to complete in time if you plan ahead. The discussion will help you to extend and enhance your understanding of the readings and the material delivered in lectures which in turn, will help you prepare for the midterm and final exams.

Procedures/Format

Lecture and discussion (both small-group work and general class discussion) will be the twin emphasis of the course. On Tuesdays I will give lecture on the topic for that week. The lecture on Tuesday and the textbook will provide you the background information you need to a deeper understanding of the assigned readings. On Thursdays we will complete unfinished lecture (if any) and devote the remaining class time to discussion of assigned readings. The textbook has at least four primary sources for each chapter. These primary sources will be largely the basis of the class discussion. The questions for analysis listed at the end of each primary source will guide your reading of the sources and the class discussion on Thursdays.

On Thursdays bring to class the assigned readings upon which the week's class discussion is based. It won't also hurt to bring the textbook on Tuesdays to help you take note and attend the lecture better. You should also always bring to class a pen/pencil and notebook to

take notes. Unless you have a compelling reason to use it, I discourage you from bringing your laptops to class. Take notes as you read the textbooks and other assigned materials outside class.

Term Paper

There is one assigned paper for this course which is worth 15 % of your course grade. The writing guideline and the topics will be given in the course of the semester. You have to turn in your papers on the due date. Late papers will not be accepted for full credit without any documented valid excuse. Your paper is due February 16. The term paper is a turn it in assignment and must be turned in via blackboard. Use the correct format for submitting via blackboard. If you run into difficulty submitting your paper from your personal computer take screenshot of your failed submission and reach out to me immediately via email. In addition, please note, submission of a term paper and of a final exam are course requirements. Failure to submit them, regardless of total points accrued for other assignments, will result in an “F” grade for the course.

Late Policy

It is your responsibility to turn in the correct and final version of your assignments on the due date (as stated officially on the syllabus) via blackboard unless you have obtained prior approval for a different date due to special extenuating circumstances. Five points will be deducted for each day your term paper is late. You may only ask for an extension of your term paper at least 48 hours before the due date and only if you have a valid reason backed by documentation. None will be accepted 10 days past the deadline. Doctor’s notes that are dated either more than 24 hours after the onset of illness or after the due date will not be accepted. Even if you have obtained a doctor’s note, you will be penalized until the day I receive your doctor’s note.

Exams (55%)

The midterm exam will be held on **13 March**. The midterm will cover the topics that we have learned in class during the semester’s first half. The final will be a non-cumulative examination and will cover topics we learned during the second half of the semester. The final exam will be held on tentatively **May 12, 3:00-6:00 pm**. Students are required to take the exams based on the schedule indicated in the course syllabus and university schedule. The term paper and the final exams are course requirements. Irrespective of the total points you earned in other assignments, failure to submit the term paper and the final exam will result in overall failure in the course.

Make-up Exam Policy

In fairness to other students who are not given the same opportunity, make-up exams are not given as a matter of principle unless there is extreme extenuating circumstances. Since exam schedules are given in the beginning of the semester, please plan your work and other non-academic responsibilities accordingly. Make up for missed exams will not be given especially because they are given online, and you will have ample window of time in which to take them. If you start your online exam after it was too late and your internet “goes out”, it is not a valid excuse to warrant a retake on the exam. Do not wait until it is too late. If you do not have a personal laptop or desktop connected to the internet, there are many computers available at multiple locations across campus which you can use for the exams. I will never reschedule midterm and final exams for the sake of accommodating another class.

Make up will be given if absence involved athletic event, scholastic obligations, call for military service, medical emergencies, valid personal or family emergencies, death in family, natural disasters, and jury duty. You must request and get my consent to your absence if you want to take a makeup exam. If you know you will miss the midterm and final exams for valid reason, be sure to pre-schedule a make-up exam at least 10 days in advance. You will be given a midterm exam on a date different from the official (syllabus-stated) day only if you have a valid reason and valid documentation. Your proof should be dated and written on letterhead paper. If your absence involved death of family member, be sure to bring a document that indicates that you are related to the deceased person. If granted, I will prepare a make-up exam more difficult than the originally scheduled exam. Failure to take the scheduled make-up will result in a zero on the exam. Final exams cannot be made up past the end of the semester unless you miss it for university excused reason.

Pop Quizzes and in-class Assignments

Unspecified number of pop quizzes and in-class assignments will be administered at various points throughout the semester. Quizzes and in-class assignments will count towards your participation grade. Since they will not be announced in advance, regular attendance is in your best interest. Quizzes will be based on course lectures and assigned readings. Their purpose is to evaluate how well you understand the material covered in the week's lecture and assignments. There will be no make-up quizzes given to students who are absent or who arrive late to lecture. Pop quizzes will be given particularly if the class is not actively following the lectures and participating in class discussions.

Exam and Paper Due Dates

Term Paper: Sunday, February 16

Midterm Exam: Friday, March 13

Final Exam: May 12

Course Website

Blackboard is our best means of communication. Be sure to check blackboard and your university email account on a regular basis. You will need access to the website in order to know your grade, complete some of the readings, to get paper topics, exams, announcements, and other information of interest and importance. You will need to be able to access the website at least three times a week; on the evenings before TR and on Saturdays in order to download the weekly assignments, lectures, PowerPoints, and other relevant files. Please use only blackboard to submit your term paper.

Copyright

Lecture notes, slides, handout materials, examinations and assignments developed for this course are the intellectual property of the course instructor. These materials have been developed for student use only and they are not intended for wider dissemination outside of the course. Posting, selling and providing course material to third-party websites violates an instructor's intellectual property rights, and the American Copyright Law. Failure to follow these instructions violates the university's Code of Student Conduct, and will result in disciplinary measures.

Decorum

Classroom decorum is a university requirement every student must fulfil. As university students you are expected to behave as adults and act with courtesy and professionalism at all times. Express your thought and opinion in a way which is professional and does not offend anyone. Avoid any rude, or inappropriate comments and disruptive activity. My important and simple classroom rule is that we respect each other. Arrive promptly and remain in classroom for the entire lecture or discussion. If you have a compelling reason to leave class early, please let me know in advance of time and take a seat very close to the exit. Turn off cell phones and all other noisy electronic devices during class sessions. Laptops must be used only for note taking. You need to respect the course rules stated in the syllabus and conduct yourself within the bounds of the University Student Code of Conduct. Here is the link to the code:

<http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/disciplinary-processes/university-code-of-student-conduct/>

Disruptive Activities

You have the right to be in class, but you have also the obligation to respect the right of others to be in class and refrain from any disruptive activity. A disruptive activity as stated in the Student Code of Conduct include “[e]ngaging in classroom conduct prohibited by the faculty member or in violation of the law or University policy.” Surfing the internet during lecture, talking when someone else is speaking, playing games on your laptop or cell-phone, texting, sleeping, arriving late, and leaving class early are extremely disruptive. These disruptive activities affect my thought process, my teaching, and my health. You will be asked to leave the room if you engage in disruptive activities. If you arrive late and leave early without advance notice, you will be marked absent and lose your participation grade for that day.

Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>

If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus' disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information please contact the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219, by phone at 973-353-5375 or by email at odsnewark@newark.rutgers.edu

Plagiarism

You are expected to follow the student guideline concerning academic honesty and conduct. All work must be your own. If you have questions about plagiarism, you can see me. Plagiarism is a serious offence and is punishable, under the university code of conduct. Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero grade and will be reported to the Dean's Office for disciplinary

hearing. There is a very good statement on plagiarism on the American Historical Association's webpage. The American Historical Association's definition of plagiarism can be found at:

http://historians.org/governance/pd/Curriculum/plagiarism_defining.htm

Be sure to read it carefully and closely. For a full discussion of Rutgers University's policies regarding academic integrity consult the following website: <http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/oas/ai>.

According to the RU Academic integrity policy:

'Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course.'

As stated in the academic integrity policy, some common instances of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one's own words another person's written words or ideas as if they were one's own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one's work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other non-textual material from other sources without proper attribution.

Academic Integrity

All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. The following pledge must be listed on every assignment or exam you submit: **"On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination/assignment."**

See: <https://www.sashonors.rutgers.edu/academics/integrity-pledge>

All assigned books are on reserve in the Library, and are available for purchase in the bookstore.

Required texts

Four books have been ordered for textbook purchase:

1. Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*, ISBN: 978-0385474542
2. Mariama Ba, *So Long a Letter* 1st edition (Waveland Press, 2012) ISBN 978-1577668060
3. Ngugi waThiong'o, *The River Between*, ISBN: 978-0435905484
4. Robert Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources* (New York, Norton and Company, 2018) [9780393927573]

Additional articles and chapters will be placed on course reserve. All of the required reading for the course is contained in the above books, and the readings on course reserve.

Disclaimer

Should the need arise I reserve the right to amend this syllabus. The assignments and deadlines are subject to changes due to situations such as weather emergency.

Weekly Schedule

Below is the course schedule that we will follow in the course of the semester. The schedule is subject to revision. We might drop, add, or exchange readings according to our specific interests.

Week 1 (T/R, January 21/23): Introduction to the course and Transformation in Imperialism
Reading: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 378-384
This Syllabus in its entirety

Week 2 (T/R, January 28/30): “The European partition of Africa: 1880s, 1890s”
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 384-387, 393-398
Add/Drop Period without “W” Grades: 1/28/19 - 1/29/2020

Week 3 (T/R, February 4/6): African Response to the Partition: Resistance and Collaboration
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 388-393
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Week 4 (T/R, February 11/13): European colonial rule
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 399-417
Film: *White King, Red Rubber and Black Death*.
Term paper is due on 16 February at 11: 59 pm.

Week 5 (T/R, February 18/20) African Response to Colonial Rule: Making a Living
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 418-458
Ngugi waThiong’o, *The River Between*

Week 6 (T/R, February 25/27): Encounters with colonial modernity
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 460-501

Week 7 (T/R, March 3/5): African in the Age of Global War
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 502-547

Week 8 (T/R, March 10/12): African Nationalism
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 548-574, 582-588, 609-621
Midterm Exam, March 13

Week 9 (T/R, March 17/19): Spring Recess

Week 10 (T/R, March 24/26): Building New States and Societies
Reading: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*
Mariama Ba, *So Long a Letter*

Week 11 (T/R, March 31/April 2): The Challenges to New States and legacy of late colonialism
Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 590-601, 622-629, 675

Film: Hotel Rwanda

Week 12 (T/R, April 7/9): Africa in bipolar world and the OAU

Readings: *Charter of OAU*

Week 13 (T/R, April 14/16): Building Apartheid

Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 575-581, 589

Recommended: Alan Baldwin, "Mass Removals and Separate Development," *Journal of Southern Africa Studies*, 1, 2 (1975), 215-227; Alan Mabin, "Origins of Segregatory Urban Planning in South Africa C1900-1940," *Planning History*, 13, 3 (1991), 8-16; P. Rich, "Ministering to the White Man's Needs: The Development of Urban Segregation in South Africa, 1913-23", *African Studies*, 37, 2 (1978), 177-192; Hilary Sapire, "Apartheid's 'Testing Ground': Urban 'Native Policy' and African Politics in Brakpan, South Africa, 1943-1948," *The Journal of African History*, 35, 1 (1994), 99-123.

Week 14 (T/R, April 21/23): Dismantling Apartheid

Readings: Harms, TBA

Recommended: Steven Mufson, "South Africa in Transition: The Influence of the Political Personalities of Nelson Mandela and William de Klerk," *Foreign Affairs*, 70, 1 (1990-1991), 120-141; Morris Szeftel, "'Negotiated Elections' in South Africa, 1994," *Review of African Political Economy*, 21, 61 (1994), 457-470; and Jay A. Vora, "The Effectiveness of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Perceptions of Xhosa, Afrikaner, and English South Africans," *Journal of Black Studies*, 34,3 (2004), 301-322.

Week 15 (T/R, April 28/30): Africa in a Global World; Review and Evaluation

Readings: Harms, *Africa in Global History with Sources*, 634-677

End of Classes 4 May

Reading Days 5 May—6 May

Spring Exam 12 May (Tentative): 3: 00pm- 6:00 pm.

Students must take the final exam based on the official university schedule.

Contract

By returning to class on Thursday, January 23 after the first meeting and signing this document, I acknowledge that I have heard, read, understand, and agree to respect and follow the policies and expectations of the course.

Name Printed _____

Name Signed _____