

African History II
21:510: 264
Class Time/Location: T/Th: 2:30 pm- 3:50 pm, Hill 107
Spring 2017

Dr. Habtamu Tegegne
Office: Conklin 329
Office Hours: Thursdays 1:00 pm-2:00 pm, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm
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Office Hours

I am present, during office hours which are scheduled *for you*, to talk about any questions, or concerns regarding the course. 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 goal

The course has the following main goals: (1) to introduce students to the major developments in modern African history; (2) to provide them with relevant information for further inquiry; (3) to enable them to formulate research questions and arguments in writing and make critical use of material assigned throughout the semester.

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 papers:	20%

Participation in discussions:	20%
Class Attendance	5%

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 (80-89);
- C grades (70-79);
- D grades (60-69); and
- F grade (below 60).

EVALUATION DETAILS

Attendance (5%)

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED – and rewarded, since active engagement in class will contribute significantly to your final grade. I will take attendance every week. One unexcused absence is acceptable. If you miss class more than once for reasons such as illness and family emergency, you need to produce a document explaining your absence. You will lose 1% of your attendance and participation grade every time you miss class without a valid reason. Five [5] consecutive, unexcused, absences will result in failure in this course. Take note also that a total of eight [8] excused and unexcused absences will result in failure in this course.

Participation (15%)

The Thursday class meetings will be devoted primarily to discussions of each week’s assigned readings. It is very important to come to class having read the required materials to be able to engage in discussions. You have to convince me that you have read the assigned materials for each week to earn the participation grade by actively participating in discussions. Good participation is displayed by comments, reflections and questions that are relevant to and informed by the 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. **During discussion bring to class the reading materials for each week.** The discussion, along with the lecture, will provide you with the opportunities to analyze, synthesize and evaluate the material and engage with your classmates.

Term Papers (20%)

There are two assigned papers for this course which are worth 10 % of your course grade each (20% of the course grade in total). Please note submission of the two term papers and of a final exam are course requirements. Failure to submit them, regardless of total points accrued for other assignments, will result in an “I” grade for the course.

Due date: Your papers are due on February 9 and February 23. Turn your paper on blackboard. Late papers will not be accepted for full credit without any documented valid excuse. **Five points will be deducted for each unexcused day the paper is late.**

Exams (55%)

The midterm exam will be held on Thursday, March 9. The final exam will be held on Tuesday, May 9. Students are required to take the exams based on the schedule indicated in the course syllabus. The term paper and the exams are course requirements. Despite the total points you earned, failure to submit the assignments or unexcused absence from any of the exams will result in overall failure in the course.

Exam and Paper Due Dates:

Term Paper I: Thursday, February 9

Term Paper II: Thursday, February 23

Midterm Exam: Thursday, March 9

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 9.

COURSE WEBSITE

Blackboard is our best means of communication. You will need access to the website in order to complete some of the readings, to download assignments, lectures, and other relevant files.

Decorum

I value and welcome all kinds of comments and opinions in discussion and lecture sessions. Feel free to express your opinion in a way which is professional and does not offend anyone. My important and simple course rule is that we respect each other. Avoid any rude, or inappropriate comments and disruptive activity. Arrive promptly and remain in classroom for the ENTIRE lecture or discussion. Turn off all noisy devices including cell phones during class sessions. Texting and leaving class during discussion and lecture is not only plain rude, disrespectful and unacceptable, but also very disruptive.

Rutgers adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The university will provide academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability that affects your academic performance be sure to register with the Office of Disability Services and contact me early in the semester. 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>> <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's 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>> <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information please contact Kate Torres at (973)353-5375 <tel:(973)353-5375> or in the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219 or by contacting odsnewark@rutgers.edu <<mailto:odsnewark@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 failure in this course. 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.

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

Required texts

Five books have been ordered for textbook purchase:

Ngugi waThiong'o, *Weep Not Child*, ISBN: 978-0143106692

Ngugi waThiong'o, *The River Between*, ISBN: 978-0435905484

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*, ISBN: 978-0385474542

Collins, Robert, *Documents from African Past*, ISBN: 978-1558762893

Richard J. Reid, *A History of Modern Africa, 1800 to the Present, 2nd ed. (2012)*, ISBN: 978-0470658987

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.

The journal articles are available via the Rutgers library website (JSTOR).

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 17/19): Introduction to the course and Transformation in Imperialism

Reading:

THIS SYLLABUS IN ITS ENTIRETY

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Introduction plus Chaps 8-10.

Week 2 (T/R, January 24/26): “The European partition of Africa: 1880s, 1890s”

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chap 11.

Week 3 (T/R, January 31/February 2): African Response to the Partition:

Readings:

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chap 11

Collins, *Documents from the African Past*, 282-284, 301-311.

Week 4 (T/R, February 7/9): European colonial rule

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 12 and 13

Collins, *Documents from the African Past*, 285-301, 316-319.

Film: *White King, Red Rubber and Black Death*.

Term paper I is due on February 9.

Week 5 (T/R, February 14/16) African Response to Colonial Rule

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 14- and 15

Ngugi waThiong’o, *The River Between*

Week 6 (T/R, February 21/23): African Nationalism I

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 16 and 17

Collins, *Documents from the African Past*, 320-330.

Term Paper II due Thursday, February 23.

Week 7 (T/R, February 28/ March 02): African Nationalism II

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 18 and 19

Ngugi waThiong’o, *Weep Not Child*

Collins, *Documents from the African Past*, 331-338.

Week 8 (T/R, March 7/9): Building New States and Societies

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 21

Midterm Exam, March 9.

Week 9 (T/R, March 14/16): No class

Spring break

Week 10 (T/R, March 21/23): The Challenges to New States

Reading:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chaps 21

Week 11 (T/R, March 28/30): Africa and the Cold War

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chapter 20.

Week 12 (T/R, April 4/6): “The Organization of African Unity”

Readings: TBA

Week 13 (T/R, April 11/13): Building Apartheid

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, 267-269, 285-287

Collins, *Documents from the African Past*, 339-346 and 362-369

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 18/20): Dismantling Apartheid

Readings:

Documents from the African Past, 347-369; 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 25/27): The Legacy of Late Colonialism, Review and Evaluation

Readings:

Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, Chap 22.

Bahru Zewde, "The 1994 Genocide in Rwanda: Historical Context," 383-399.

The final will be held on Tuesday, May 9 at 3:00 pm-6:00 pm, in the lecture room.
Students must take the final exam based on the official university schedule.