

African History II  
21:510: 264  
Class Time/Location: T/Th: 10:00 AM- 11:20 AM, Conklin 319  
Spring 2018

Dr. Habtamu Tegegne  
Office: Conklin 329  
Office Hours: T/TR 11:30 AM-1:00 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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, map assignment, one term paper, mid-term and final exams.

Points will be available as follows:

Final Exam: 30%

Midterm Exam:	25%
Participation in discussions:	20%
Term paper:	10%
Map Assignment	10%
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. University policy requires me to take attendance. Your attendance record can potentially affect your scholarship grants and other benefits. 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 (20%)

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.

**Map assignment** (Worth 10% of total grade). Due Tuesday, January 30 when your section meets. Details are provided lower down.

## **Term Paper (10%)**

There is one assigned paper for this course which is worth 10% of your course grade. Please note submission of the 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. Due date: Your paper is due on February 8. Turn your paper on blackboard.

## **Late Policy**

**Five points will be deducted for each day your assignment, including the term paper, is late.** No assignments will be accepted after two days past their deadlines for any credit. In other words, if your paper is late by 2 days, you automatically receive a zero and a failure in the course. You may only ask for an extension at least 48 hours before the due date and only if you have a valid reason and valid documentation. 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. Once again, late papers will not be accepted for any credit if your paper is late by 2 days without any documented valid excuse.

## **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. The final exam must be taken based on the university official final exam schedule. You may only ask for taking the midterm exam on a date different from the official (syllabus-stated) day at least 36 hours before the due date and only if you have a valid reason and valid documentation.

## **Exam and Paper Due Dates:**

Map Assignment: Tuesday, January 30

Term Paper: Thursday, February 8

Midterm Exam: Thursday, March 8

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 8

## **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. You need to login to the course site the nights before Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as on Sundays.

## **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**

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.

## **Disruptive Activities**

You have the right to be in class, but take note also that you have 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.” Texting and walking in to classroom late and leaving classroom during discussion and lecture is unacceptable and very disruptive. 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/>.

## **Accommodation**

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) <<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](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, *The River Between*, ISBN: 978-0435905484

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

Chinua Achebe, *A Man of the People*, ISBN 978-0385086165

Mariama Ba, *So Long a Letter*, ISBN 978-1577668060

Richard J. Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, 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 16/18):** 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 23/25):** "The European partition of Africa: 1880s, 1890s"

Readings:

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

**Week 3 (T/R, January 30/February 1):** African Response to the Partition:

Readings:

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

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

Map Assignment due January 30.

**Week 4 (T/R, February 6/8):** European colonial rule

Readings:

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

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

Term paper is due on February 8

**Week 5 (T/R, February 13/15)** 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 20/22):** African Nationalism I

Readings:

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

**Week 7 (T/R, February 27/ March 01):** African Nationalism II

Readings:

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

**Week 8 (T/R, March 6/8):** Building New States and Societies

Readings:

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

Mariama Ba, *So Long a Letter*

Midterm Exam, March 8

**Week 9 (T/R, March 13/15):** No class

**Spring break**

**Week 10 (T/R, March 20/22):** The Challenges to New States

Reading:

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

Chinua Achebe, *A Man of the People*

**Week 11 (T/R, March 27/29):** Africa and the Cold War

Readings:

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

**Week 12 (T/R, April 3/5): "The Organization of African Unity"**

Readings: TBA

**Week 13 (T/R, April 10/12):** Building Apartheid

Readings:

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

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 17/19):** Dismantling Apartheid

Readings:

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 24/26):** 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 8 at 8:30 am-11:30 am, in the lecture room. Students must take the final exam based on the official university schedule.

## Contract

By returning to class on Thursday, January 18 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 \_\_\_\_\_