This course is meant as a survey of African history from the early 19th century to the present-day. Due to the variety of histories, cultures, religions, and experiences throughout the continent, it will be impossible to cover the entire scope of the African narrative with the detailed focus that each area truly deserves. However, we will cover the developments, people, and themes that have had some of the greatest influences on African history and the current make-up of the continent.

While the course will move in a chronological trajectory it will be divided by thematic categories. These themes will include slavery, religion, labor, European colonization, Pan-Africanism, decolonization, the fall of South African apartheid, the 2011 creation of Africa’s youngest country, (the Republic of South Sudan), and extremist movements Boko Haram and the Lord’s Resistance Army. The course will be based on primary sources, articles, chapters, and complete monographs that will be manageable for students to complete in one week. To this end scholarship produced in the last ten years will be paired with works from canonical figures in African scholarship from the mid to late twentieth century. This will be done so that students can trace the ways in which the historiography—along with the history of the continent—has changed over time.

**Grading:** Assignments will include weekly quizzes, a map quiz, mid-term exam, and final exam.

- 10% -- Map of Africa Quiz
- 30% -- Mid-Term Exam
- 35% -- Final Exam
- 25% -- Participation and Quizzes:
  - 10% Quizzes
  - 5% Attendance
  - 10% Participation

**Policies:**

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. While students are expected to attend every class, each student will be allowed two unexcused absences. Each subsequent absence will result in a significant blow to your final grade. Thus, not turning up to class is entirely sufficient for a bad grade. Two late arrivals (entering class after the attendance sheet has gone out) or early departures will count as an unexcused absence.

You must provide written, official documentation to excuse your absence; this documentation will be accepted at my discretion. As classes will focus on close readings of assigned texts, assigned readings must be brought to class. Failure to bring assigned readings can negatively influence your participation grade.
Participation: It is important that you come prepared to actively participate! It should be clear that participation is critical to your learning, understanding, and success in this course. Ten percent of your final grade is assigned according to your performance in section, so it should also be clear that not participating is sufficient for a high grade. If you believe that I would have difficulty accounting for your contribution to class discussions, you should naturally be concerned and seek to correct this.

Even if you are unsure of what a particular reading is getting at, asking specific questions that showed that you tried to engage with the material will benefit you. I will make sure that everyone gets a chance to talk and will ask questions of people who are not talking in order to give them a chance to express themselves. If you think that you are not getting a fair opportunity to participate in the discussion, please come and talk to me.

Quizzes: Throughout the term there will be quizzes testing reading comprehension and general aptitude of what we have covered. Unless otherwise stated, they will always be on Thursdays and cover that week’s readings and lessons. Your lowest quiz will be dropped. The map quiz is given in addition to these quizzes and cannot be dropped. Quizzes will consist of multiple choice and short identification answers based on lectures and assigned readings. If you miss a quiz due to an excused absence, you are allowed to come see me in office hours and make it up within a week of that quiz—otherwise, it will count as a zero. If you miss a quiz due to an unexcused absence, you will earn a zero for that quiz.

Academic Integrity: Academic Integrity is assumed and will be enforced. In brief, cite other people when you use or reference their work! When citing a reading or lecture, make absolutely sure to use footnotes including the name, book/article title, location, publisher, and specific page number(s) used. For example,


When taking someone else’s words verbatim, use quotation marks and footnotes! I will elaborate on this in class, and if you have more questions please do not hesitate to ask. Simply put, plagiarism is an extremely serious offence.

The College’s standards for academic conduct are provided at the following link: https://www.macalester.edu/studentaffairs/studenthandbook/03academicpolicies/03-05academicintegrity.html

Grading Policy: Any requests for reconsideration or grade changes must be submitted to me after 24 hours and within a week of receiving the grade. In order to have a grade reconsidered you must submit, in writing, your one-page, single-space justification for a higher grade. After submitting the justification your grade will be assessed and may result in a higher or lower grade than the original. Late work will be penalized. If you foresee a time conflict, you must consult with me via email or in person prior to the assignment’s deadline. I will personally decide if and/or when your assignment deadline will be changed.
Religious Holidays: Students who expect to miss class or examinations because of religious holidays must inform me by the add/drop deadline. You must reschedule your exam time before your absence.

Accommodation: I am deeply committed to supporting your learning! If you are meeting challenges to your learning that I can assist you with, please bring them to my attention. If you need adjustments or accommodations in light of a disability, please let me know at your earliest convenience. Academic adjustments and accommodations should be accompanied by notification from the Student Affairs Office at 119 Weyerhaeuser Administration Building.

_There is a no cell-phone, no laptop policy in the classroom. Please turn your cell phones to vibrate or silent. If you are seen typing on a cell phone during class, you should expect your participation grade to suffer._

Book to Purchase:

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_The Subjugation of Africans and the Early Nineteenth Century_

**Tuesday, September 8:** Ty M. Reese, ‘‘Sheep in the Jaws of So Many Ravenous Wolves’: The Slave Trade and Anglican Missionary Activity at Cape Coast Castle, 1752-1816” _Journal of Religion in Africa_, Vol. 34, Fasc. 3 (Aug., 2004), pp. 348-372. [JSTOR]


Binyavanga Wainaina, “How to Write About Africa” _Granta_ 92


_The Founding and Settlement of Liberia_

**Tuesday, September 15:** William E. Allen, ‘Liberia and the Atlantic World in the Nineteenth Century: Convergence and Effects’ _History in Africa_ Vol. 37 (January 2010), pp. 7-49. [JSTOR]

Frederick Douglass, ‘Colonization.’ *The North Star*, 26 January 1849.

*The North African Nineteenth-Century*


**Thursday, September 24:** **Map of Africa Quiz**


*The Politics of Nineteenth-Century Mission Work*


*The Berlin Conference and European Colonization, 1882-1918*


**Thursday, October 8:** Haim Shaked, ‘Chapter VI: The Mahdi’s First Battle with the Turks and His Victory Over Them’ in *The Life of the Sudanese Mahdi*. New Brunswick: Transaction, 1978; 76-90.


**Week Seven**

**Tuesday, October 13:** Midterm Review

**Thursday, October 15:** Midterm Exam

**Thursday, October 22:** **No class—Fall Break**


*After the First World War: the Dual Mandate, Education, and Labor*

**Tuesday, October 27:** Michael Crowder, ‘Indirect Rule: French and British Style’ *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute* Vol. 34 No. 3 (July 1964): 197-205. [JSTOR]

American Historical Association, ‘England’s Indirect Rule in Its African Colonies’


*Pan-Africanism, Nationalism, Decolonization*


Julius Nyerere, ‘Speech by the President of the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere’ 20 July 1964.


‘Nkrumah’s Speech at the Inaugural Ceremony of the OAU’


20th Century South Africa and the Fall of Apartheid


Tuesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday, December 1: “The Island” in *Statements*, 45-78.

Nelson Mandela, ‘I Am Prepared to Die’ speech transcript

Nelson Mandela, “Acceptance Speech at The Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony”

*The Birth of Africa’s Newest Nation, South Sudan*


Week Fourteen


Religious Extremism in Africa: Case Studies


Midterm Review during Exam Week TBA
Final Exam held Thursday, December 17 from 10:30am-12:30pm