

History 115: Africa Since 1800 (Fall 2015)

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009 Old Main

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:40am-11:10am

Office Hours: Mondays, 10am-2pm, 308 Old Main

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,

Diane Bjorklund, *Interpreting the Self: Two Hundred Years of American Autobiography*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999; 7-8.

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.mcalester.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:

Statements. New York: Theatre Communications Group, Inc., 1993 [originally published 1974]

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]

J.F.A. Ajayi, ‘Africa at the beginning of the nineteenth century: issues and prospects’ in *UNESCO General History of Africa Vol. VI: Africa in the Nineteenth Century until the 1880s*; pp. 1-22.

Binyavanga Wainaina, “How to Write About Africa” *Granta* 92

Thursday, September 10: Daniel Domingues da Silva, David Eltis, Philip Misevich and Olatunji Ojo, ‘The Diaspora of Africans Liberated from Slave Ships in the Nineteenth Century’ *The Journal of African History*, Vol. 55 Iss. 3 (November 2014), pp. 347-369.

S. Daget, ‘The abolition of the slave trade’ in *UNESCO General History of Africa Vol. VI*, pp. 64-89.

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]

Thursday, September 17: Marie Tyler-McGraw, ‘Virginians in Liberia’ in *An African Republic: Black and White Virginians in the Making of Liberia* (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture). Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2007: pp. 127-150.

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

The North African Nineteenth-Century

Tuesday, September 22: P.M. Holt, 'Egypt and the Nile Valley' in *The Cambridge History of Africa, Vol. 5; c. 1790-c. 1870*, ed. John E. Flint. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976; pp. 13-50.

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

Abdallah Laroui, 'Colonial Pressure and Primary Resistance' in *The History of the Maghrib: An Interpretive Essay*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1977; 295-326.

The Politics of Nineteenth-Century Mission Work

Tuesday, September 29: Thomas Prasch, "Which God for Africa? The Islamic-Christian Missionary Debate in Late Victorian England." *Victorian Studies* 33 (1989): 51-73. [JSTOR]

Angelo Vinco, 'First Christian to live among the Bari. His Journeys 1851-1852' in *The Opening of the Nile Basin: Writings by Members of the Catholic Mission to Central Africa on the Geography and Ethnography of the Sudan, 1842-1881*. Ed. Elias Toniolo and Richard Hill. London: C. Hurst & Co., 1974; pp. 74-105.

Thursday, October 1: Viera Pawliková-Vilhanová, "Christianity, Islam and the African World. Edward Wilmot Blyden (1832-1912) and Contemporary Missionary Thought" *Asian and African Studies*, 2 (2002): 117-128.

George Shepperson, "David Livingstone 1813-1873: A Centenary Assessment" *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 139, No. 2 (Jun., 1973), 205-219. [JSTOR]

The Berlin Conference and European Colonization, 1882-1918

Tuesday, October 6: J.F.A. Ajayi, 'Conclusion: Africa on the eve of the European conquest' in *UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. VI*, pp. 773-791.

Kevin Shillington, 'The European "Scramble"' in *History of Africa*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995; 301-331.

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.

Kelly Duke Bryant, "The Color of the Pupils': Schooling and Race in Senegal's Cities, 1900-10' *The Journal of African History*, Vol. 52 Iss. 3 (November 2011), pp. 299-319.

Week Seven

Tuesday, October 13: Midterm Review

Thursday, October 15: Midterm Exam

Tuesday, October 20: Shula Marks, 'Class, Culture, and Consciousness in South Africa, 1880-1899' in *The Cambridge History of South Africa, Vol. 2:1885-1994*. Eds. Robert Ross, Anne Kelk Mager, and Bill Nasson; 102-156.

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

Shula Marks, 'War and Union, 1899-1910' in *The Cambridge History of South Africa, Vol. 2:1885-1994*, 157-210.

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'

Thursday, October 29: Alhajo Sir Ahmadu Bello, "Preface" and "Chapter 3: School and College" in *My Life*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1962; viii-ix, 20-33.

Teresa Cruz e Silva, 'The Influence of the Swiss Mission on Eduardo Mondlane (1930-1961)' *Journal of Religion in Africa* Vol. 28 Fasc. 2 (May 1998): 187-209. [JSTOR]

Tuesday, November 3: Heather J. Sharkey, "Colonialism, Character, Building and the Culture of Nationalism in the Sudan, 1898-1956" *International Journal of the History of Sport* 15:1 (1998), 1-26.

Thursday, November 5: Obafemi Awolowo, "Chapter One: How it Began" in *Awo: The Autobiography of Chief Obafemi Awolowo*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1960; 1-33.

Tuesday, November 10: Tayeb Chenntouf, 'Tropical and equatorial Africa under French, Portuguese and Spanish domination, 1935-45' in *UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. VIII: Africa Since 1835*. Ed. Ali A. Mazrui. Pp. 58-75

Majhemout Diop in collaboration with David Birmingham, Ivan Hrbek, Alfredo Magarido and Djibril Tamsir Niane, 'Africa under British and Belgian domination, 1935-45' in *UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. VIII: Africa Since 1835*, pp. 76-104

Pan-Africanism, Nationalism, Decolonization

Thursday, November 12: Paul Darby, "Let Us Rally Around the Flag': Football, Nation-Building, and Pan-Africanism in Kwame Nkrumah's Ghana' *The Journal of African History* Vol. 54 Iss. 2 (July 2013), pp. 221-246.

Tuesday, November 17: Tom Mboya, "Chapter Three: Mau Mau: Is Violence Avoidable?" in *Freedom and After*. Boston: Little, Brown, & Company, 1963; 37-53.

Jomo Kenyatta, 'The Kenya African Union Is Not the Mau Mau.' In Sessional Paper no. 5, *The Origins and Growth of Mau Mau, 1959-1960*, edited by F.D. Corfield. Nairobi: Government Printing Office, 1960.]

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

Patrice Lumumba, Speech at the Assembly of African Peoples, 11 December 1958.

'Nkrumah's Speech at the Inaugural Ceremony of the OAU'

Thursday, November 19: Øystein H. Rolandsen, 'A False Start: Between War and Peace in Southern Sudan, 1956-62' *Journal of African History*, Vol. 52 No. 1 (March 2011): 105-123.

20th Century South Africa and the Fall of Apartheid

Tuesday, November 24: "Sizwe Bansi is Dead" in *Statements*. New York: Theatre Communications Group, Inc., 1993 [originally published 1974]: 1-45.

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

Thursday, December 3: 'Sudan' *Oxford Encyclopedia of Africa*. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Kwame Anthony Appiah. 2010.

John Ryle and Justin Willis, 'Many Sudans' in *The Sudan Handbook*, ed. John Ryle, Justin Willis, Suliman Baldo, and Jok Madut Jok. Suffolk and Rochester: James Curry Ltd., 2011; 1-9.

Week Fourteen

Tuesday, December 8: Douglas H. Johnson, 'Twentieth-Century Civil Wars' in *The Sudan Handbook*, 122-133

Denis M. Tull, 'Sudan after the Naivasha Peace Agreement: No Champagne Yet' German Institute for International and Security Affairs. *SWP Comments* 3 (February 2005): 1-8.

Jeffrey Gettleman, "After Years of Struggle, South Sudan Becomes a New Nation." *NYTimes.com*. The New York Times, 9 July 2011. Web. 8 Apr. 2012.

Religious Extremism in Africa: Case Studies

Thursday, December 10: Ruddy Doom and Koen Vlassenroot, 'Kony's Message: A New Koine? The Lord's Resistance Army in Northern Uganda' *African Affairs* (1999) 98 (390): 5-36. [JSTOR]

Abimola Adesoji, 'The Boko Haram Uprising and Islamic Revivalism in Nigeria' *Africa Spectrum* (2008) 45:2, 95-108. [JSTOR]

Midterm Review during Exam Week TBA

Final Exam held Thursday, December 17 from 10:30am-12:30pm