

HIS-204 History of Africa from 1870
 Fall 2014, MWF 9:00-9:50
 222 School of Education Building

Ian Michie—Lecturer

Office Hours: WF 10:00-11:00 (and by appointment)

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Course Objectives:

When, how, and why did European nations colonize the African continent? And, an equally important question, what is the legacy of European colonialism today? This course examines major themes in recent African history, and discusses theoretical debates in the history of Africa during the colonial period and since. Topics to be covered include: the imposition of colonial rule and wars of resistance; styles of colonial rule; theories of underdevelopment and the effects of colonial policies; Pan-Africanism; nationalism and independence movements; the creation of apartheid; decolonization; and issues facing independent Africa such as neo-colonialism and the dismantling of apartheid. These themes will be studied with reference to the regions of west, east, central, and southern Africa.

Student Learning Goals—At the completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of when and how European nations colonized Africa;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the various ways African peoples resisted colonial rule and how they went about organizing liberation movements;
- Appreciate the importance of contexts and chronologies of historical events

General College Historical Perspective (GHP) Student Learning Outcomes

- Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
- Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

General College Global Non-Western (GN) Student Learning Outcomes:

- Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures
- Describe interconnections among regions of the world.
- Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

Course Requirements:

Analytical paper (6 pp.) based on the course readings—30% of final grade

Four quizzes—10% each/40% of final grade

Class participation, attendance and writing assignments graded as **A**, **B**, and **C**, (2 pts., 4 pts., and 6 pts., respectively).

NO MAKE UP TESTS ARE ALLOWED; LATE PAPERS WILL BE PENALIZED; SHORT WRITING ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLASS PERIOD DURING WHICH THEY ARE DUE. Assignments must be handed in as typed hard copies. I

will have limited access to email and the web during the semester. Electronic submissions will not be accepted unless otherwise announced.

*****Attendance Policy: Attendance at all lectures and discussions is mandatory; students with unexcused absences will have points deducted from the participation category; excused absences such as illness or a family emergency must be documented. Laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices must be turned off. **Anyone using an electronic device in class will be ejected immediately and penalized with an unexcused absence for that day.*******

Required Books: Kevin Shillington, *History of Africa*, third edition, Palgrave Macmillan
Aimé Césaire, *Discourses on Colonialism*, Monthly Review Press, 1972, 2000.

Lectures and assignments: Readings and assignments are to be prepared for the day on which they are listed

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

August: 18th—Introduction to the course—requirements, procedures, and goals; short writing assignment.

August 20th—Africa and its history before 1800; Film: “The Road to Timbuktu.”

August 22nd—“The Road to Timbuktu.”

UNIT I: INDEPENDENT AFRICA AND PRELUDE TO COLONIAL CONQUEST

WEEK 2

August 25th—Militant Islam in the 19th century; Jihads of the Sword in West Africa; Expansion of Swahili Trade into central Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 16.

Short assignment: Construct a chronology of the four major jihads in West Africa during the 18th and 19th centuries. Using the map on page 231 of Shillington calculate the approximate distances of jihadist states.

August 27th—Slavery in Africa: Making comparisons across cultures; debates over definitions

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 17.

Short assignment: Make a thorough list of the different ways slaves were used in 19th century Africa.

August 29th—Slavery continued: the legacy of trans-Atlantic slavery; analysis of the transatlantic slavery database—discussion.

WEEK 3

September 1st—LABOR DAY; NO CLASS.

September 3rd—Women and Slavery in Africa.

Reading: “Chisi” autobiography from Wright, Strategies of Slaves and Women (Blackboard). Bring a copy of “Chisi” to class for a short in-class writing assignment.

September 5th—Abolition and the Roots of European Imperialism in Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 20.

Film: Davidson, “The Bible and the Gun.” Study guide for film will be handed out at beginning of class.

WEEK 4

September 8th—Review on Unit I

September 10th—**QUIZ ON UNIT I**

UNIT II: THE COLONIAL PERIOD AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

September 12th—Patterns of European Conquests.

Readings: Shillington, Chapter 21

WEEK 5

September 15th—Patterns of European Conquest continued.

September 17th—Patterns of African Resistance.

Film: “This Magnificent African Cake.” Study guides for the film will be handed out in class.

September 19th—Racism, “Civilization,” and Colonial Discourse

Readings: All documents in “Colonial Discourse” folder on Blackboard (bring copies to class).

WEEK 6

September 22th— Colonial Discourse and Styles of Colonial Rule—in class group assignment in preparation for your analytical essay.

Reading: Lugard, “The Dual Mandate in British Tropical Africa” (Blackboard) Bring a copy to class.

September 24th—Leopold II and Belgium in Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 23.

September 26th—Review of Unit II (part 1)

WEEK 7

September 29th—**QUIZ ON UNIT II—COLONIAL CONQUEST AND RESISTANCE**

October 1st—Racism, “Civilization,” and Colonial Discourse Revisited.

Reading: Cesaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*. Bring your copy to class for an in-class writing assignment and group work in preparation for your analytical paper.

October 3rd—“Assimilation” under scrutiny.

Film: Palcy, “Aime Cesaire: Where the Edges of Conquest Meet.” Study guides for the film will be handed out in class.

WEEK 8

October 6th —“The Dual Mandate” under scrutiny.

Film: “Tools of Exploitation.” Study guides for the film will be handed out in class.

October 8th—“The Dual Mandate” under scrutiny continued.

October 10th—Review: Social Impacts of Colonial Rule & Nationalism and Nationalist Movements in Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapters 24&25.

WEEK 9

October 13th—FALL BREAK; NO CLASS.

October 15th—Film: Davidson, “Rise of Nationalism.”

October 17th—Film: Davidson, discussion.

WEEK 10

October 20th—Analytical paper workshop.

October 22nd—Decolonization in French West Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 26.

Analytical paper due see instructions

October 24th—Nationalism and Apartheid in southern Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapters 18,22, and 27; and “Apartheid Laws” from Mazrui and Tidy, Nationalism and New States in Africa (Blackboard).

Assignment: explain which two laws had the greatest impact on daily life for black South Africans. Explain your choices.

WEEK 11

October 27th—Review of Unit II (part 2).

October 29th—**QUIZ ON UNIT II—NATIONALISM AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA**

UNIT III: AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE REGAINED

October 31st—Civil Wars in Independent Africa.

Reading: Shillington, Chapter 28.

WEEK 12

November 3rd—Civil Wars in Independent Africa continued.

November 5th—“National Unity” and Socialism.

Reading: Shillington Chapter 29.

November 7th—Film: “The Assassination of Patrice Lumumba.”

WEEK 13

November 10th—Mandela and the strategies of the ANC.

November 12th—Film:” Voices from Robben Island.”

November 14th— Post-Colonialism and 21st century Africa

Film: “Tsotsi.”

WEEK 14

November 17th—Film: “Tsotsi.”

November 19th—Film: Tsotsi.”

November 21th—Discussion—“Tsotsi.”

WEEK 15

November 24th—Review of Unit III

*****THANKSGIVING BREAK*****

WEEK 16

December 1st—QUIZ ON UNIT III

Required Reading on Blackboard:

“Chisi-Ndjurisiye-Sichyajunga” in Marcia Wright, Strategies of Slaves and Women (Lillian Barber, 1993).

“Africa” by Hegel, in Harlow and Carter, eds. Imperialism and Orientalism (Blackwell, 1999).

“Influence of Christianity upon Moral and Intellectual Diversity of Races” by Gobineau, in Harlow and Carter, eds. Imperialism and Orientalism (Blackwell, 1999).

“Diary of a Surgeon with the Benin Punitive Expedition” by F. Roth, in H. Ling Roth, Great Benin (Barnes and Noble, 1968).

“Recent Affairs in Matabililand,” The Illustrated London News, March 24th, 1894.

“My Impressions of Ashanti,” The Illustrated London News, March 14th, 1895.

“The Benin Disaster: The Punitive Expedition,” The Illustrated London News, March Feb. 13th, 1897.

“Africa between the upper and the nether millstones,” by Morrison, The Missionary, July, 1904.

“The Dual Mandate in British Tropical Africa” by F. Lugard, in Harlow and Carter, eds. Imperialism and Orientalism (Blackwell, 1999).

“France and West Africa” by Touré and De Gaulle, in R. Collins, ed. Western African History (Markus Wiener, 1990).

“Apartheid Laws” in Mazrui and Tidy, Nationalism and New States in Africa (Heinemann, 1984).

“The Arusha Declaration” by Julius Nyerere, in R. Collins, ed. Eastern African History (Markus Wiener, 1990).

