

HIS 204W-01/INS 233A-02: History of Africa since 1870
Spring 2003 -- T/Th 9:30-10:45, 138 McIver

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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 in Africa 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.

Course requirements include an analytical paper that will be written and revised based on course readings (6 pp., worth 30% of final grade); unit tests (15% each, for a total of 45% of final grade); and general class participation, attendance, and short writing assignments (worth 25% of final grade). **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE ALLOWED; LATE PAPERS WILL BE PENALIZED; SHORT WRITING ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLASS PERIOD DURING WHICH THEY ARE DUE.**

***** Attendance policy: Attendance at all lectures and discussions is mandatory; students with more than three unexcused absences will be dropped from the course; excused absences such as a family emergency must be documented. Pagers and cell phones must be turned off. *****

Required textbooks: Kevin Shillington, History of Africa (St. Martin's, revised edition, 1995).
Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart (Heinemann, 1996).
Sembene Ousmane, God's Bits of Wood (Heinemann, 1996).

Other required readings (on reserve) are listed in syllabus after the class calendar.
