The Scramble for Africa

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Seminars meet on Wednesdays 1700-2000 in MC D 303

Overview
This seminar examines Africa’s encounter with the world, focusing on the European context to dominate the continent in the nineteenth century. Beginning with Africa before the colonial era, it will examine Western imperialism, slavery, warfare, resistance, decolonisation, and the legacy of European rule.
Requirements & Grading

nb - The writing, reading and presentation load will be heavy. You are strongly advised to keep up with the weekly assignments.

• Seminar Preparation – 30% of grade
  You will lead one seminar during the semester.

• Seminar Participation – 20% of grade
  Attendance at seminars is mandatory. You will be expected to do the required readings before your seminar meeting and to participate in the discussions.

• Prospectus – Pass/Fail
  A 1-page statement of intent for the paper to be written during the term. Must consist of 1-2 paragraphs describing your proposal as well as proper citations of at least 5 sources you plan to use. Due at the start of seminar on October 3.

• Paper – 40% of grade
  A 20-page historiographical paper on a topic relevant to the course. Due at the start of seminar on December 5. The paper will be screened by Turnitin.com. Work submitted late without our permission will be penalised by 20% for every 24 hours after it is due.

• Oral Book Review – 10% of Grade
  A 20-minute oral review of a monograph or novel relevant to the course. You must clear your choice with us ahead of time.
Seminar Texts

Sep 16 - Introduction

Sep 23 - Before Europe
_Africa and the World_, 1-135
_Scramble_, 1-14

Sep 30 - Contact
_Africa and the World_, 137-264
_Scramble_, 15-27; 94-97.
Aphra Behn, _Oronooko: Or, the Royal Slave_ (1688).
http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/b/behn/aphra/b42o/
David Richardson, "The British Empire and the Slave Trade 1660-1807
http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/On_the_Horrors_of_the_Slave_Trade
Thomas Carlyle, “Occasional Discourse on The Nigger Question”
http://homepage.newschool.edu/het/texts/carlyle/odnqbk.htm

Prospectus due at start of seminar

Oct 7 - Imperialism
_Scramble_, 122-125.
Wolfgang J. Mommsen, _Theories of Imperialism_
Kipling, Rudyard. "The White Man's Burden"
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/Kipling.html
http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/imperialism/readings/mill.html
Gallagher, John & Robinson, Ronald, "The Imperialism of Free Trade"
http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/ipe/gallagher.htm
Ronald Hyam, _Empire and Sexuality_, 200-217.

Oct 14 - The Europeans
Nicholas Canny, “The Origins of Empire”
Andrew Porter, “Britain and Empire in the Nineteenth Century”
Henri Brunschwig, _French Colonialism 1871-1914_, 82-151.
Count Joseph Arthur de Gobineau, _The Moral and Intellectual Diversity of Races_, Chapt. 15.
James W. Redfield, _Comparative Physiognomy_, Chapt. 1, 6.
Seminar Texts, cont’d.

Oct 21 - The Scramble
Africa and the World, 265-286.
Scramble, 28-93; 98-121.
Rahm. “Great Britain and France in Egypt, 1876-1882”
Daniel R. Headrick, "The Tools of Imperialism"
Jules Ferry, Speech Before the French Chamber of Deputies, March 28, 1884
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1884ferry.html
Capt. F. D. Lugard, “The Rise of Our East African Empire”
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1893lugard.html
Conference of Berlin
http://africanhistory.about.com/od/eracolonialism/l/n_BerlinAct1885.htm

Oct 28 - Extreme Encounters
Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness
Adam Hochschild, King Leopold's Ghost, chapter 8.
Isabel Hull, Absolute Destruction, 1-90.
Wilhelm II, “A Place in the Sun”
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1901kaiser.html
Gustave Freensen, In The German South African Army, 1903-1904 (excerpt)
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1904freesen.html

Nov 4 - Small Wars
C. E. Callwell, Small Wars, 21-71.
Bruce Vandervoort, Wars of Imperial Conquest in Africa, 1-55.
Byron Farwell, Queen Victoria’s Little Wars, 163-178, 218-240, 339-353.
Anthony Trollope, “The Diamond Fields of South Africa”
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1870trollope-southafrica.html
Josephine Butler, “Native Races and the War”
http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/butler/native.html

Nov 11 - African Responses
Ronald Robinson, “European Imperialism and Indigenous Reactions”
A. S. Kanya-Forstner "Myths and Realities of African Resistance"
L. C. Brown, "The Sudanese Mahdiya"
C. C. Wrigley, “The Christian Revolution in Buganda”
John Iliffe, “The Organisation of the Maji Maji Rebellion”
Felicitas Becker, “Traders, 'Big Men' and Prophets: Political Continuity and Crisis in the Maji Maji Rebellion in Southeast Tanzania,”
Nov 18  - Black and White in Colour

+ Paper due at start of seminar on Nov 18

Nov 24  - Decolonisation

_Africa and the World_, 316-341.

Terence Ranger, “Connexions between 'Primary Resistance' Movements and Modern Mass Nationalism in East and Central Africa. Part I,”

D. A. Low, “The Asian Mirror to African's Independence,”

WR Louis and Ronald Robinson, “The United States and the Liquidation of British Empire in Tropical Africa, 1941-1951”

Jean Suret-Canale, “From Colonialism to Independence in French Tropical Africa: The Economic Background,”

Dec 2  - Impact

_Africa and the World_, 363-420.

DA Low, “The Lion Rampant”

JFA Ajayi, “The Continuity of African Institutions under Colonialism”

J. M. Lonsdale, Some Origins of nationalism in East Africa,”

A. E. Atmore, “The Extra-European Foundations of British Imperialism”

Catherine Hall. “British Cultural Identities and the Legacy of Empire”
Required Texts

All other texts are on 3-hour reserve at the Gibson Library or available on the Internet.


- Recommended. This is the History Department’s guide for writing essays.