

University of Calgary
Department of History

HTST 397.01
Sub-Saharan Africa (c.500 BCE to the present)
Winter 2016

Instructor: Dr. T. Stapleton

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10am to 10:50am (and by appointment)

Course Description:

This course presents an introduction to the history of Sub-Saharan Africa from the Early Iron Age to the present. African History is usually divided into three periods; pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial (or independent). Important themes for the pre-colonial period include the spread of Early Iron Age agriculture and metallurgy, Later Iron Age developments such as expansion of trade and state formation, and African involvement in inter-continental trade networks such as the Trans-Sahara, Indian Ocean and Trans-Atlantic networks. For the brief but transformative era of European colonial rule, which began in the late nineteenth century for most parts of Africa, the course will look at conquest and resistance, economic and social change, the impact of the world wars and decolonization. Focusing on the period after the withdrawal of European colonial rule around 1960, the course will conclude with a look at the impact of the Cold War on Africa, the rise and fall of apartheid in South Africa, and recent issues such as the AIDS pandemic and conflicts over valuable resources.

Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 11am to 11:50am

Location: SA 104

Text: Erik Gilbert and Jonathan T. Reynolds, Africa in World History: From Prehistory to the Present, Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson, 3rd edition, 2011.

Evaluation:

Mid-term Test = 30% (12 February 2016)

Research Paper = 40% (due 7 March 2016)

Final Exam = 30% (see exam schedule)

MID-TERM TEST: This test will be written in class. It will consist of TWO parts: a map quiz on the African countries of today (2016); and a series of short answer questions. There will be more discussion of the test in preceding classes.

RESEARCH ESSAY: Producing a research paper is a central activity of this course. While students are free to select any topic relating to the history of Sub-Saharan Africa, they are strongly advised to consult with the instructor before finalizing their topics. The paper should be

roughly 2000 words long with footnotes or endnotes (not both) and a bibliography. Research papers are expected to make extensive use of appropriate secondary sources such as academic journal articles and books. Students should avoid using course texts, lecture notes or websites (online academic resources like JSTOR are fine) as cited sources in essays. Late assignments will NOT BE ACCEPTED. If a student has a problem meeting a deadline, he or she is invited to discuss it with the instructor. Extensions can be granted when appropriate. Hard (paper) copies of essays should be handed directly to the instructor on or before the class of 7 March. Please do not send email copies to the instructor unless prior arrangements have been made.

FINAL EXAM – Written during the exam period, this will consist of a series of broad essay questions. This is a registrar-scheduled final examination.

Lecture Outline:

Week 1: 11-15 January 2016

Course Introduction - Historiography of Africa

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, preface and chapters 1 and 2.

Week 2: 18-22 January 2016

Pre-Colonial Africa: The Expansion of Bantu Languages, Early Iron Age and Later Iron Age (to c.1600 CE)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Week 3: 25-29 January 2016

Pre-Colonial West Africa: Trans-Sahara Trade, Trans-Atlantic Trade and Jihads (c.500-1900 CE)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapters 7, 8 and 9.

Week 4: 01-05 February 2016

Southern Africa: Early Colonization and Mineral Revolutions (1600-1900)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapter 13.

Week 5: 08-12 February 2016

Pre-Colonial Central and East Africa: the Expansion of Empires and Trade (1600-1900)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapters 10, 11 and 12.

Mid-term Test – Friday 12 February 2016 (written in class)

Reading Week (14 – 21 February 2016)

Week 6: 22-26 February 2016

The Scramble for Africa and Colonial Rule (1880-1939)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapters 14 and 15.

Week 7: 29 February – 4 March 2016

Africa in the Era of the World Wars (1914-45)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapters 16 and 17.

Week 8: 07-11 March 2016

African Nationalism and Decolonization (1945-80)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapter 18.

Monday 07 March – Submit research papers

Week 9: 14-18 March 2016

The Rise and Fall of Apartheid in South Africa (1948-94)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapter 18.

Week 10: 21-25 March 2016

Africa in the Cold War Era (1960-90)

Reading: Gilbert and Reynolds, chapter 19

Friday 25 March 2016 – Holiday – no class

Week 11: 28 March – 01 April 2016

Africa and the End of the Cold War (1990+)

Readings: See chapter 19

Week 12: 04-08 April 2016

Conflict in the Great Lakes Region (1990+)

Week 13: 11-13 April 2016

Course conclusion

Final Exam to be scheduled by registrar

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your formation resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns. For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>. For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Need help coming up with a thesis statement? Confused about the proper way to use footnotes? Just want to ask someone about your written assignment for this or any other history class? The Department of History offers small-group and individual writing support for all students registered in a History class from some of our top graduate students. Check with your instructor for the scheduled weekly drop-in times, sign-up for one of the writing workshops, or arrange to meet with our writing tutors individually. More information about this program will be posted on the Department of History web site (hist.ucalgary.ca) and will be announced by your course instructor.

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyright material

may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve in the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will assess the nature of the plagiarism and, if appropriate, apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Other Useful Information:

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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