Department of History

HTST 637
Topics in Military History: Conflict in Africa
Fall, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Tim Stapleton
Email: timothy.stapleton@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours and Method: Monday and Wednesday 1000-1050 via Zoom (or by appointment)
Course Delivery: Online
Synchronous Class Times: Wednesday 1400-1645 via Zoom

Description
This course represents a graduate level seminar on the history of armed conflict and military structures in Africa from pre-colonial times to the present. Most of the focus will be on the colonial and post-colonial periods. Adopting a war and society approach, the course will discuss a wide variety of themes such as colonial conquest, the world wars in Africa, African colonial military service, women in African conflicts, child soldiers, post-colonial civil wars, state vs. state conflicts, counter-insurgency and insurgency, peacekeeping and genocide.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students should be expected to:
1. Display an advanced comprehension of issues related to the history of armed conflict and military structures in Africa.
2. Critically assess major scholarly works in the field of African military history.
3. Research, write and present a graduate level academic paper on a topic related to African military history.

Required Texts for Purchase
All required course texts are available online via the University of Calgary Library website.

Recommended Texts [optional]
Reid, Richard, *Warfare in African History* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) – online access via U of C Library website
Reno, William, *Warfare in Independent Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)
Stapleton, Timothy, *Africa: War and Conflict in the Twentieth Century* (London: Routledge, 2018)

Assessment

Assessment Method	Weight	Due Date
Book Review 1	10%	7 October
Book Review 2	10%	4 November
Book Review 3	10%	9 December
Book Presentation	10%	Schedule TBA
Participation	20%	
Paper Presentation	10%	Schedule TBA
First Draft Paper	10%	One week (7 days) before presentation
Final Paper	20%	13 December

Book Reviews: Each student must submit three written book reviews on any of the books listed below. Each review should be around 800 words long.

Book Presentation: Each student will give a 20 minute presentation to the class on one of the books listed below.   These presentations will take place during the regularly scheduled sessions conducted on Zoom. The book that a student presents can also form the subject of one of the written book reviews. The book presentation will be conducted on the date given below for the discussion of the relevant book. The presentation will be followed by a discussion of the book and the broad themes it relates to. Students will sign up for book presentations either during Zoom sessions or via email, there will be no duplications and the instructor will circulate a schedule via email.

Participation: Students are expected to prepare for each seminar by reading the assigned book for that day and (during the second half of the course) the pre-circulated student papers. All the books listed below are available online through the university library. Students are also expected to contribute to the discussions of books and papers that will happen during the sessions on Zoom.

Paper Presentation: During the second half of the semester, each student will present a research paper to the class during one of the sessions on Zoom. The presentation should be around 20 minutes long and will be followed by a discussion. The instructor will circulate (via email) a

schedule of student paper presentations. We will try to avoid having the same student present a book and a paper on the same day.

First Draft Paper: One week prior to the paper presentation, the student doing the presentation will circulate the first draft of his or her research paper to the class and the instructor via email. All students are expected to read each other's research papers and be prepared to discuss them during the appropriate Zoom session. The first draft of the paper should be around 3000 words long and supported by endnotes/footnotes and a bibliography.

Final Paper: Based on seminar discussions and the instructor's written comments, students will revise their first draft papers for final submission at the end of the course (due date is **13 December**). The final paper should be around 3500-4000 words long and supported by endnotes/footnotes and a bibliography. Students will submit the final paper via email.

Paper Topics: Students are free to select any research topic that broadly relates to the theme of the course. That said, all topics must be approved by the instructor so it is essential to email or talk to the instructor on Zoom about your paper. <u>This should be done no later than 14 October</u>. While the nature of this course means that primary sources will unavailable for many possible topics and are not required for the papers, it would be useful if students made use of some primary source material in their research. For this course, most available primary sources will be online material such as colonial era newspapers, published diaries and collections of documents, UK parliamentary papers and UN reports. Many of these are accessible through the University of Calgary Library website (see databases). As this will be a graduate level paper, students are expected to make thorough use of relevant secondary sources and to demonstrate historiographical awareness. Given the current library limitations related to the pandemic, students should make the best use of articles and books available online. Problems accessing sources should be discussed with the instructor.

Late Submissions Policy
Late submissions will not be accepted without prior approval of the course instructor. Students are encouraged to email the instructor if there is a problem with meeting a deadline. Extensions can be negotiated.

On-Line Instruction Statement:
All classes will be conducted synchronously via Zoom. Class times are Wednesdays 1400-1645. All written work will be submitted via email to the instructor.

Learning Technologies Requirements
Scheduled course sessions will take place via Zoom and written work will be submitted to the instructor via email. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; a webcam (built-in or external); a microphone and speaker (built-in or external or headset); current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; broadband internet connection.

Guidelines for Synchronous Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community. To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission. The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/ . Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions.

Schedule

Date	Topic & Reading	Book Reading, etc
Sept 9	Course introduction – organize book presentations	Schedule of book presentations will be circulated by email after the first class
Sept 16	Pre-Colonial Warfare	Thornton, John, *Warfare in Atlantic Africa, 1500-1800* (London: UCL Press, 1999)
Sept 23	Colonial Conquest	Vandervort, Bruce, *Wars of Imperial Conquest in Africa, 1830-1914* (London: UCL Press, 1998)
Sept 30	African Colonial Military Service	Moyd, Michelle, *Violent Intermediaries: African Soldiers, Conquest and Everyday Colonialism in German East Africa* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2014)
Oct 7	World Wars in Africa	Harper, Glyn, *The Battle for North Africa: El Alamein and the Turning Point for World War II* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press,

		2017)
		*Submit Book Review 1 by email
Oct 14	Decolonization Wars	Bennett, Huw, *Fighting the Mau Mau: The British Army and Counter-Insurgency in the Kenya Emergency* (Cambridge University Press, 2013)
		*Students should have consulted with the instructor about their paper topics by this point in the course
		*A schedule of paper presentations will be circulated at the end of this week.
Oct 21	Post-Colonial Military Coups and Regimes	Siollun, Max, *Oil, Politics and Violence: Nigeria's Military Coup Culture (1966-76)* (New York: Algora Publishing, 2009).
Oct 28	Southern African Liberation Wars *Paper Presentations	Stephen Ellis, *External Mission: The ANC in Exile, 1960-1990* (Oxford University Press, 2013)
Nov 4	Women in African Conflicts and Military Regimes *Paper Presentations	Decker, Alicia, *In Idi Amin's Shadow: Women, Gender and Militarism in Uganda* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2014) ***Submit Book Review 2**
Nov 9-13	Reading Week – No Classes	
Nov 18	Post-Colonial Secessionist Wars *Paper Presentations	Thomas, Charles and Falola, Toyin, *Secessionist and Separatist Conflicts in Post-Colonial Africa* (University of Calgary Press, 2020) https://press.ucalgary.ca/books/9781773851266/
Nov 25	Post-Colonial Genocide *Paper Presentations	Straus, Scot, *The Order of Genocide: Race, Power and War in Rwanda* (Ithaca: Cornel University Press, 2006)
Dec 2	Post-Cold War Conflict in Africa	Peters, Krijn, *War and the Crisis of Youth in Sierra Leone* (Cambridge University Press,

	*Paper Presentations	2011)
Dec 9	Course Conclusion	*__Submit Book Review 3 by email__
Dec 13		*__Submit Final Papers by email__

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:
- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC). For information on how to reach the ASC team please see https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising
- For Enrolment Services advising (such as admissions, student awards, course registration support, financial aid and student fees) or registration issues, contact the Office of the Registrar. For information on how to reach their team please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/contact-us/enrolment-services-advising

- For information on Registration Changes and Exemption Requests please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.

Writing:
All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in the History Student's Handbook.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

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. Please see *The History Student's Handbook.*

Plagiarism may take several forms:
- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

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 Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar, Section K: Integrity and Conduct,* https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

Academic Accommodations:
Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright:
The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, 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. No copyrighted reading 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 course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright.

Sexual Violence Policy
The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf

Other Useful Information:
Please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines for information on:
- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Campus Security and Safewalk (220-5333)

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

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