Students in this course will discuss varying institutions of slavery and the slave trade on the African continent. There will be one unit on the trans-Atlantic slave trade. It does not deal with the Middle Passage or slavery in the Americas. All students must have some African background and preferably a course in African history. There is a significant amount of reading for the course.

Course requirements:

25% of the grade will be based on seminar discussion. Two students will be particularly responsible each week for leading the discussion and will have a bit more to read that week.

30% of the grade will be for two, 5 to 7 page thought papers, 15% each. These papers will be based on the readings for two separate weeks. No extra reading is required. The papers require that you think about the topic for that week and then use the readings to discuss it, comparing points of view, agreeing, disagreeing, synthesizing. You will be required to choose the two weeks that you want to write on by the second class period.

45% of the grade will be based on a fifteen to twenty page term paper, not including bibliography (1" margins).

As this course meets only once a week, attendance will be taken each week. More than one week missed without a legitimate excuse will have a negative effect on the grade.