Seminar #16,  Africa: Colony to Freedom

Prof. William Brown, Tuesday, 3:30 p.m.

This course is an introduction to new issues and discourses on the impact of colonialism on Africa. Africa south of the Sahara is our focus for this term. The 20th Century is our principal timeline. Recent studies of intimate power and of biopolitics inform our approach. Is this what is meant by the term “Modernity?”

Our resources include Robert Collins’ standard work on the problems of colonial African history in the Imperial Era. We are also indebted to the extraordinary scholarship of researchers who have raised the most interesting questions about the nature of “modern” society, notably Michel Foucault. We explore the recently published or completed investigations of scholars who have examined aspects of the colonial experience in the light of freshly raised questions about the nature of colonialism and of its “power”.