

Semester I 1983-1984

History 377

Africa Since 1800

Feierman

Course Description

This course is intended to serve a double purpose. The lectures will give an overview of modern African history; at the same time students will use readings, discussions, and assignments to come to their own conclusions on two important issues in African history. Assigned readings include authentic historical source materials on these issues, along with the writings of selected scholars. Students will work with the professor and with one another in creating their own interpretations of important social trends.

The first issue for study is the Nigerian women's war of 1929. This was a rebellion against British rule in which only women fought. Source materials include transcripts of oral testimony by participants, along with first-hand descriptions of village life in the years before and after the women's war. The second issue is race, class, and the organization of labor in South Africa between 1918 and 1948. On this, students will read both first-hand accounts and background materials in order to understand the crucial period in which South Africa hardened into its contemporary form. A third issue for briefer consideration is nationalism, socialism, and underdevelopment in Tanzania.

Written Assignments will be two short papers on the first two topics described above. The final examination will test the students on general knowledge derived from the lectures, with one question on the semester's third topic.

Textbook: Oliver and Atmore, Africa since 1800, 3rd ed. (referred to in the syllabus as O&A) must be read in its entirety during the semester, even though not all the pages are listed in the weekly readings. The text is helpful as a supplement to the lectures in giving an overview of modern African history.

Grades: Each paper will count for 35% of the grade; the final examination will be worth 20%; classroom participation will be the final 10%.

ASSIGNED READINGS

Week 1, August 31 and September 1

O&A pp. 1-41, 114-121, 129-136, 222-234, 333-339. M. Ferham, *Native Administration in Nigeria*, pp. 201-218.

Week 2, September 6 and 8

Notes of Evidence, pp. 2-9, 24-44, 421-425, 588-589, 732-753, 794-808. Commission report, pp. 18-20. For those who want to read more, the notes of evidence and the commission's report are available in the Memorial Library microfilm room. Notes of evidence is film 4611.

Week 3, September 13 and 15

M.M. Green, *Ibo Village Affairs*, pp. 32-48, 169-232. Kamene Okonjo, "The Dual-Sex Political System in Operation."

Week 4, September 20 and 22

Elizabeth Isichei, *The Ibo People and the Europeans*, pp. 44-70. J. Harris, "Some Aspects of the Economics of Sixteen Ibo Individuals." The Harris reading will be handed out in class.

Week 5, September 27 and 29

Judith Van Allen, "'Aba Riots' or Igbo 'Women's War?'"
Caroline Ifeka-Moller, "Female Militancy and Colonial Revolt." A.E. Afigbo, "Revolution and Reaction in Eastern Nigeria."

Week 6, October 4 and 6

PAPER DUE THURSDAY OCTOBER 6

Week 7, October 11 and 13

O&A, pp. 53-65, 186-199, 288-314. Colin Bundy, "The Emergence and Decline of a South African Peasantry."

Week 8. October 18 and 20.

Buell, The Native Problem in Africa, vol. 1, pp. 58-70.
 Jack Cell, The Highest Stage of White Supremacy, pp.
 192-229. Brian Bunting, The Rise of the South African
 Reich, pp. 13-46

Week 9. October 25 and 27

Thomas Karis and Gwendolen Carter, From Protest to
 Challenge, vol. 1, pp. 166-172; this document is the
 proceedings of a meeting between Africans chosen by the
 government and the all white Native Affairs Commission.
 Pp. 227-230; this document is part of the report of an
 inter-racial conference sponsored by the Dutch Reformed
 church. Monica Hunter (Wilson), Reaction to Conquest,
 pp. 554-574. William Beinart and Colin Bundy, "State
 Intervention and Rural Resistance: The Transkei,
 1900-1965."

Week 10, November 1 and 3

Union of South Africa, Report of the Native Laws Commission,
 1946-48 (Fagan Commission Report), pp. 33-48. Dan
 O'Meara, "The 1946 African Mine Workers' Strike and the
 Political Economy of South Africa." Karis and Carter,
 From Protest to Challenge, vol. 2, pp. 300-306,
 318-319.

Week 11, November 8 and 10

South Africa: Time Running Out, pp. 48-66, 80-100, 169-206.
 This book is on reserve in Helen White library.

Week 12, November 15 and 17

PAPER DUE THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17

Week 13, November 22, Happy Thanksgiving

O&A, pp. 66-77, 200-221, 256-267, 315-353.

Week 14, November 29 and December 1

Julius K. Nyerere, The Arusha Declaration Ten Years After.
Jannik Boesen, "Tanzania: from ujamaa to
villagization." John Saul, "The State in Post-Colonial
Societies: Tanzania."

Week 15, December 6.

No assignment. Time for review.