

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 1990-91

History 751

TOPICS IN CENTRAL AFRICAN HISTORY

Mr. Vansina

PRACTICAL

The proseminar aims at making graduate students aware is focused on Angola, Zaire, Zambia, and on the 19th and 20th centuries.

The course is run as a seminar. Students will prepare a paper on a topic listed below. The paper will be distributed by Monday of the week in which it is presented. A reworked final version of the paper is to be handed in to the instructor by Monday of week 14.

All students are expected to prepare for the topics to be discussed by preliminary reading. The required reading is Birmingham, D., Martin, Ph., History of Central Africa, London (Longman) 1983. 2 vols. (leave out Mozambique and Zimbabwe chapters). The following bibliographical orientation is intended not only to assist students who prepare papers, but also to help other students to choose their readings. There are therefore no books on reserve. We will often stress issues that are so far neglected in the general overviews (like the textbooks) but that is all the more reason to know the background.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ORIENTATION

The textbook lists the major works extant to c. 1982 for the area. In addition the reference material in the following works is suggested for a rapid orientation.

Slave Trade and 19th c. Trade

Miller, J.C., Way of Death, Madison 1988

Postma, J., The Dutch in the Atlantic Slave Trade, Cambridge 1990.

Vellut, J., 'L'economie internationale des Cotes de Guinee Inferieure au XIX e siecle'-Madeira Santos, M.E., (ed):

1 Reuniao internacional de Historia de Africa: Actas, Lisbon 1989:135-206. [See also others for Angola]

Angola

Pelissier R., Les guerres grises, Orgeval 1977 [1845-1941]

Pelissier R., La colonie du Minotaure, Orgeval 1978 [1926-1961]

Moreira Henriques Serrano, Carlos Angola 1961-1976: Bibliografia
After 1976: current bibliography in Africa

Zaire

Delathuy, A.M. Het verloren paradijs: De Kongo-staat van Leopold II: 1876-1900, Antwerpen 1989 and E.D. Morel tegen Leopold II en de Kongo-staat, Antwerpen 1985 [1900-1912] and two other volumes by him supersede all previous work on Leopold's Congo. Unfortunately the bibliographical references are in notes.

Higginson, J., A working class in the making, Madison 1989 [1907-1951: Shaba and copperbelt].

- Schatzberg, M.G., The Dialectics of Oppression in Zaire, Bloomington 1988 [1960-1987]
 Van Groenweghe, D., Du sang sur les lianes, Paris 1986 [French approximate translation of Dutch original 1985 [1979-1908 and only Equateur].

Zambia

- Burdette, M.M., Zambia: Between two Worlds, Boulder 1988 [Political history post 1964, *have not yet checked its bibliography]
 Hansen, K.T., Distant Companions: Servants and Employers in Zambia 1900-1985, Ithaca 1989 [*have not yet checked its bibliography]
 Higginson, J. See above.

Note: K. Fields 1985 [cf.infra] does not have a bibliography

Current bibliography:

African Affairs [in each issue]
Blackhurst, H., (ed.), Africa Bibliography: (through 1989)
International Journal of African Studies: Look at the book reviews

TOPICS

Block 1: Introductory

- Week 1. Background
 Week 2. C. Skidmore, Queen Nzinga: a research project
 Week 3. W. Robertson, The Central African Slave Trade: c.1750-1830

Block 2: Transition to the Colonial Period

- Week 4. An Aspect of Economic History: c.1830-1920.
 Week 5. Snapshot: The Uses of Ethnography in History: The early colonial experience of the Lozi.
 Week 6. Conquest as A Process (Zaire or Angola)

Block 3: The Colonial Period

- Week 7. The Nature of the Colonial State and Ideology in Zambia
 Week 8. The New Rural Customary Society in Zaire
 Week 9. The Typical Colonial Economy of Labor (Central Angola)

Block 4: Independence and after

- Week 10. Who Benefitted from the Process of Independence and How?
 Week 11. Political Issues after Independence.

Block 5: Long Term Change

- Week 12: History and Ecology in Zaire
 Week 13: A Sample of Social History (Zaire: e.g. health, women)
 Week 14: Town and Country (Zambia)
 Week 15: Popular Art and Urban Consciousness (Zaire and Zambia)