AFH 3200: AFRICA SINCE 1800

Dr. Philip Janzen
Office: 494 Grinter Hall
Office Hours: Mon/Wed 2:00-3:30
Email: pjanzen@ufl.edu

Course Schedule:
MWF period 4
0005 Matherly Hall

Course Overview
This course surveys the history of Africa since the early nineteenth-century. We will focus on political, social, economic, and cultural changes across four thematic units: Africa in the 19th century; Colonialism and Decolonization; Health and Development; and Postcolonial Africa. We will pay particular attention to the ideas and actions of Africans, at times engaging with large scale narratives, and at other times focusing in on stories of individual lives and places. Because the continent contains a remarkable array of languages, societies, and peoples, we cannot hope for exhaustive coverage. Instead, we will consider a variety of case studies and will visit almost every major region at least once during the semester.

Learning Objectives
This course has two main objectives. The first is to provide you with an understanding of the complexities of historical and contemporary Africa. You may not remember every date or name that comes up, but it is more important is that you leave the course with a grounding in how to think about Africa as well as a better idea of why this is important. The second goal is to introduce you to the methodological challenges (and advantages!) of studying African history. You will have the opportunity to work with primary sources and will learn to assess and think critically about evidence. You will also learn how to construct your own arguments about the past.

Required Course Texts


Binyavanga Wainaina, One Day I Will Write About this Place (Graywolf Press, 2011)

Both the Getz and Mutongi books are on reserve at Library West. Links to all other readings can be found on the Canvas course website.
Evaluation

- Map Quiz (5%) 1/17
- Assignment #1: Article Précis (20%) 2/14
- Midterm Exam (15%) 2/26
- Assignment #2: Blame Me on History (15%) 4/10
- Assignment #3: One Day I Will Write… (25%) 4/29
- Reading quizzes (20%) - - -
- Extra Credit: Harn Museum Report (5%) 4/22

Procedure
The course will consist of lectures and informal class discussions. Students must finish the assigned readings by the dates noted in this syllabus. There will be periodic reading quizzes. I will provide detailed instructions for the assignments in the coming weeks.

Need Help?
If you have questions about the course, please first consult this syllabus. You may also contact me by email or come to my office hours. If you do contact me by email, use your @ufl.edu email address and adhere to professional email etiquette. I will do my best to respond within one business day.

Course Schedule

Week 1  Introduction to the Course

1/6-1/8  Lectures: Review Syllabus; The Image of Africa

1/10  Reading: Binyavanga Wainaina, “How to Write About Africa”

AFRICA IN THE 19th CENTURY

Week 2  Islam and Trans-Saharan Trade

1/13-1/15  Lectures: Trans-Saharan Trade; Spread of Islam in West Africa


MAP QUIZ IN CLASS ON FRIDAY 1/17
Week 3  Slavery and “Legitimate” Trade

1/22  Lecture: Slavery in West Africa; Creeping Imperialism

1/24  Reading: Trevor Getz, Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History.

Week 4  East Africa in the 19th Century

1/27-1/29  Lectures: Swahili Coast; Caravans and Communities


PART II: COLONIALISM AND DECOLONIZATION

Week 5  Colonial Occupations

2/3-2/5  Lectures: Colonization; Central Africa

2/7  Reading: Kenda Mutongi, Worries of the Heart: Widows, Family, and Community in Kenya, Part I.

Week 6  Impacts of Colonialism I

2/10-2/12  Lectures: Colonialism and the Family; Work and Gender

2/14  Reading: Mutongi, Worries of the Heart, Part II.

ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE 2/14

Week 7  Impacts of Colonialism II

2/17-2/19  Lectures: Colonialism, Language, and Identity

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Review and Midterm Exam</td>
<td>2/24</td>
<td>Review for Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>2/26</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS</td>
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<td>2/28</td>
<td>No Class – Visit the Harn Museum of Art for extra credit assignment SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Decolonization</td>
<td>3/9-3/11</td>
<td>Lectures: Decolonization in Guinea and Angola</td>
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<td>PART III: HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Colonial Medicine</td>
<td>3/16-3/18</td>
<td>Lectures: Colonial Medicine in Uganda and Congo</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>3/23-3/25</td>
<td>Lectures: Debt, Aid, and NGOs; Global Health</td>
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PART IV: POSTCOLONIAL AFRICA

Week 12  Apartheid in South Africa
3/30-4/1  **Lectures:** Establishing and Ending Apartheid
4/3  **Reading:** Extracts from Bloke Modisane, *Blame Me On History* (1986), 94-101; 214-229; and 299-311.

Week 13  Postcolonial Violence
4/6-4/8  **Lectures:** Genocide in Rwanda

ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE 4/10

Week 14  Popular Culture
4/13-4/15  **Lectures:** Music, visual art, literature
4/17  **Readings:** Wainaina, *One Day I Will Write about this Place*, 1-127.

Week 15  Urban Africa
4/20-4/22  **Lectures:** African Cities; Course Wrap Up

**Reading:** Wainaina, *One Day I Will Write about this Place*, 128-253.

ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE 04/29
OTHER NOTES

Late Policy
I do not accept late work. If you do not expect to meet a deadline, come see me in advance.

Attendance
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Students with Disabilities
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Health and Wellness Resources
U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Grading Scale

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For information regarding current UF policies for assigning grade points, see: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Course Evaluations
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation
period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/