

Instructor: Susan Rosenfeld

Office Hours: H&SS 4037,

Email: surosenfeld@ucsd.edu or

Wednesday 11:30–1:30

susanrosenfeld@ucla.edu

or by appointment

Lecture: MWF 2–2:50 PM

HIAF 112. West Africa since 1880 (4)

Objectives:

This course, West Africa since 1880, examines the broad outlines of historical developments in the sub-region through the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Throughout the quarter, we will explore the religious, political, social and economic changes that occurred in colonial and postcolonial West Africa. By focusing on this region, students will gain knowledge of West Africans' roles in recent history, including colonialism, the World Wars, decolonization, Christian and Islam revivalist movements, and their intellectual contributions to West Africa and beyond. Students will be able to challenge popular misunderstandings about Africa, explore the links between Africa and the African Diaspora during this time period, and understand how historical knowledge of marginalized nations can change their viewpoints and actions as U.S. and/or global citizens.

Requirements:

This quarter, we will focus heavily on themes drawn from the readings. Therefore, each lecture, you are expected to have done the reading and to bring course materials to class. All of these reading materials will be uploaded as links in the course syllabus, located on the course webpage. You will also be required to complete a one-page primary document assignment, a take-home midterm, and a take-home final. Both the midterm and the final will consist of essay questions. Your responses to these questions must be analyses drawn from the lectures and readings. The midterm will be due **at the beginning of class** on Friday, February 10th. The final must be submitted by 12:00 PM on Thursday, March 23rd to the bin marked "HIAF 112" on the fifth floor of HSS. **No finals will be accepted by email.** All assignments are subject to change at my discretion.

Due to the fact that the reading involves many case studies and excerpts, attendance in lecture is important in order to grasp the "bigger picture" for the course. If you are unable to attend a lecture, please come to my office hours for assistance, or arrange for another student's notes. Further, some days there will be more reading than others; use the days that you have less reading to get ahead for the few days that there is additional reading.

ASSIGNMENT: You will read a few primary sources over the course of the quarter. You will be required to write a **one-page (approx. 500 words), single-spaced analysis of one of these**

documents. You may decide which one you would like to analyze. The response should not be a summary of the document; rather, it should be a reflection on the themes, ideas, and importance of the document to our area of study. What did the document convey as a historical text? How did it shed light on the themes we discussed in the course? What were the document's faults? How did the document illuminate (or not illuminate) African voices? Each response is **due at the beginning of class, one week** from the day we read the document. **No assignments will be accepted by email.**

Grading:

Your grade will be comprised of your one-page primary document assignment, the midterm, and the final. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Primary Document Analysis Assignment	25%
Midterm Exam	35%
Final Exam	40%

Academic Integrity:

It is your responsibility to know and observe all of the UCSD rules concerning academic integrity and plagiarism. You should familiarize yourself with your responsibilities and rights under the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship <http://senate.ucsd.edu/Operating-Procedures/Senate-Manual/Appendices/2>. Any student found to have committed a substantial violation of the university rules concerning academic integrity will fail the entire course and the professor will initiate a charge of academic misconduct that may be noted on your academic record. A second offense will generally result in suspension or permanent expulsion from the university. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, how to credit the work of others properly, or how to evaluate sources for quality and reliability and how to avoid it, please see me.

Schedule of Class Meetings:

WEEK 1

January 9—Introduction

January 11—African History and the World: How (Not) to Write about Africa

READING:

Binyavanga Wainaina, "How to Write About Africa," *Granta* 92 (2005),
<http://granta.com/how-to-write-about-africa/>

Binyavanga Wainaina, "How to Write About Africa II: The Revenge," *Bidoun* 21 (2010),
<http://bidoun.org/issues/21-bazaar-ii-how-to-write-about-africa-ii>

January 13—The Power and Limits of the Archive in African History

READING:

Achille Mbembe, "The Power of the Archive and Its Limits," in *Refiguring the Archive*, eds. Carolyn Hamilton, Verne Harris, Jane Taylor, Michele Pickover, Graeme Reid, and Razia Saleh (Dordrecht, Boston, and London: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002), pp. 19–26.

WEEK 2

January 16—Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

NO CLASS

January 18—Background to West Africa: West African Social and Political Dynamics in the Nineteenth Century

READING:

Richard J. Reid, *A History of Modern Africa: 1800 to the Present*, Second Edition (Malden, MA: John Wiley & Sons Ltd., 2012), pp. 35–41 and 97–102.

Kevin Shillington, “West African States and Societies, to the Eighteenth Century,” in *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 187–200.

January 20—Precursors to Colonial Rule: The Slave Trade and Abolition in West Africa

READING:

Kevin Shillington, excerpt from “West Africa in the Nineteenth Century and the Ending of the Slave Trade,” in *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 237–40.

In addition, choose one primary source to read:

PRIMARY SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano, excerpt from *An Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African*, 6th ed. (London, 1793), pp. 31–33, 45–49, 51–53. [in David Northrup, pp. 66–70].

PRIMARY SOURCE: “An Abolitionist’s Evidence,” in *The Atlantic Slave Trade*, Second Edition, ed. David Northrup (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2002), pp. 71–80.

PRIMARY SOURCE: Thomas Fowell Buxton, “The Principles of Abolition,” in *Documents from the African Past*, ed. Robert O. Collins (Princeton, NJ: Marcus Wiener Publishers, 2001), pp. 228–33.

Explore <http://slaveryimages.org/>

WEEK 3

January 23—Social and Economic Change in West Africa: The Impact of Abolition and the Introduction of “Legitimate Trade”

READING:

Robin Law, “The Transition from the Slave Trade to ‘Legitimate’ Commerce,” in *From Chains to Bonds: The Slave Trade Revisited*, ed. Dondon Diène (Paris and New York: UNESCO Publishing and Berghahn Books, 2001), pp. 22–35.

January 25—The Scramble for Africa

READING:

Kevin Shillington, excerpt from *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 311–21.

Adebayo Oyeibade, “Euro-African Relations to 1885,” in *Africa: African History before 1885*, Vol. I, ed. Toyin Falola (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2000), pp. 419–30 (marked paragraphs only).

January 27—Colonial Rule and Colonial Economy in West Africa

READING:

Alice Conklin, *A Mission to Civilize: The Republican Idea of Empire in France and West Africa, 1895–1930* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997), pp. 11–38.

WEEK 4

January 30—Colonial Rule and Colonial Economy: The Variability of Conquest in West Africa

READING:

Eugene L. Mendonsa, *West Africa: An Introduction to Its History, Civilization, and Contemporary Situation* (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2002), pp. 357–74.

Michael Crowder, “Indirect Rule: French and British Style,” *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute* 34, no. 3 (1964): 197–205.

February 1—African Responses to Colonial Rule

READING:

Susan Rosenfeld, excerpt from dissertation chapter, “Murder at the Margins: African Interpretations of Nascent Colonialism in Late-Nineteenth-Century Lagos, Nigeria.”

PRIMARY SOURCE: Associated primary newspaper articles and case file. ***Not to be quoted or referenced without permission.***

February 3—African Responses to Colonial Rule

READING:

David Pratten, “The District Clerk and the ‘Man-Leopard Murders’: Mediating Law and Authority in Colonial Nigeria,” in *Intermediaries, Interpreters, and Clerks: African Employees in the Making of Colonial Africa*, eds. Benjamin N. Lawrance, Emily Lynn Osborne, and Richard Roberts (Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006), pp. 221–247.

WEEK 5

February 6—The “Practice” of Colonial Administration

READING:

PRIMARY SOURCES: Mary Kingsley, “The Crown Colony System in West Africa, 1897,” and Lord F. D. Lugard, “Indirect Rule in Tropical Africa, 1900,” in *Documents from the African Past*, ed. Robert O. Collins (Princeton, NJ: Marcus Wiener Publishers, 2001), pp. 285–97.

February 8—Colonial Transformations

READING:

Excerpt from A.I. Asiwaju, *West African Transformations: Comparative Impact of French and*

British Colonialism (Ikeja: Malthouse Press, 2001).

February 10—Spiritual Battlegrounds: Religion's Role in Identity Transformation and Resistance in the Colonial Era

MIDTERM PAPER DUE

READING:

Robert Launay and Benjamin F. Soares, "The Formation of an 'Islamic Sphere' in French Colonial West Africa," *Economy and Society* 28, no. 4 (1999): 497–519.

WEEK 6

February 13—Spiritual Battlegrounds: Religion's Role in Identity Transformation and Resistance in the Colonial Era

READING:

J.D.Y. Peel, "The Cultural Work of Yoruba Ethnogenesis," in *History and Ethnicity*, eds. Elizabeth Tonkin, Maryon McDonald, and Malcolm K. Chapman (London and New York: Routledge, 1989), pp. 198–215.

February 15—Women and Power in West Africa during the Colonial Era

READING:

Jean Allman, Susan Geiger, and Nakanyike Musisi, eds., excerpts from "Introduction," in *Women in African Colonial Histories* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2002), pp. 1–2, 4–7.

Misty L. Bastian, "'Vultures of the Marketplace': Southeastern Nigerian Women and Discourses of the *Ogu Umunwaanyi* (Women's War) of 1929," in *Women in African Colonial Histories*, eds. Jean Allman, Susan Geiger, and Nakanyike Musisi (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2002), pp. 260–72.

February 17—Colonialism and Resistance: Protest, Hardship, and Identity in West Africa during the First Half of the Twentieth-Century

READING:

Excerpt from Barbara Bush, *Imperialism, Race, and Resistance: Africa and Britain, 1919–1945* (London and New York: Routledge, 1999).

WEEK 7

February 20—Presidents' Day Holiday

February 22—West African Involvement in World War I

READING:

C.M. Andrew and A.S. Kanya-Forstner, "France, Africa, and the First World War," *Journal of African History* 19, no. 1 (1978): 11–23.

February 24—The Interwar Period and World War II: Pan-Africanism and Negritude in West Africa

READING:

Kevin Shillington, excerpt from *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp.

374–75.

R.L. Okonkwo, “The Garvey Movement in British West Africa,” *Journal of African History* 21, no. 1 (1980): 105–17.

WEEK 8

February 27—African Paths to Independence

READING:

Shillington, excerpt from *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 443–46.

PRIMARY SOURCE: Kwame Nkrumah’s [speech](#) to the All-African People’s Conference, 8 December 1858.

March 1—Nationalist Movements and Decolonization

READING:

John D. Hargreaves, *The End of Colonial Rule in West Africa: Essays in Contemporary History* (London and Basingstoke: The MacMillan Press Ltd., 1979), pp. 1–23.

March 3—Independence in West Africa: An Overview

READING:

Shillington, excerpt from *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 389–96.

WEEK 9

March 6—The Postcolonial Era in West Africa

READING:

Eugene L. Mendonsa, *West Africa: An Introduction to Its History, Civilization, and Contemporary Situation* (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2002), pp. 401–17.

March 8—Legacies of Colonialism: Underdevelopment, Debt, and International Aid

READING:

Kevin Shillington, excerpts from *History of Africa, Third Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2012), pp. 433–43; 447–57.

March 10—The Political Economy of Contemporary West Africa

READING:

Celestin Monga, “Commodities, Mercedes-Benz and Structural Adjustment: An Episode in West African Economic History,” in *Themes in West Africa’s History*, ed. Emmanuel Kwaku Akyeamong (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2006), pp. 227–264.

WEEK 10

March 13—Defining the Nation: Ethnicity and Conflict in West Africa

READING:

Cyril K. Daddieh, “Ethnicity, Conflict and the State in Contemporary West Africa,” in *Themes in West Africa’s History*, ed. Emmanuel Kwaku Akyeamong (Athens, OH: Ohio University

Press, 2006), pp. 265–285.

March 15—Religious Movements in Contemporary West Africa

READING:

Brian Larkin and Birgit Meyer, “Pentecostalism, Islam and Culture: New Religious Movements in West Africa,” in *Themes in West Africa’s History*, ed. Emmanuel Kwaku Akyeamong (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2006), pp. 287–312.

March 17—Into the Future: West African Development and Globalization in the 21st Century

READING:

Wole Soyinka, “Millennial Challenges for Contemporary African Affairs: Restructuring from Within,” in *Reframing Contemporary Africa*, eds. P. Soyinka-Airewele and R.K. Edozie (2009): 321–33.

Eugene L. Mendonsa, *West Africa: An Introduction to Its History, Civilization, and Contemporary Situation* (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2002), pp. 507–513.

**FINAL MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE BIN ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF HSS,
MARKED “HIAF 112” BY MARCH 23 AT 12:00 PM.**