RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Honors Program in Non-American History: Race and Colonialism in Africa
(21:510:396)
Fall 2016
Class Time/Location: T/R 11:30 am-12:50 pm, Hill 106

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Course Description

“Race and Colonialism” is a history of South Africa from the seventeenth through twentieth centuries emphasizing social, political, and economic change. It pays particular attention to colonial encounter, white political hegemony, land alienation, African nationalism, and democratization.

Two major themes and concerns inform History 396—race and colonialism and the relations between the two. The course sees South African history as dominated by European colonial powers, by the capitalist economy, which originated in the West, and by racial ideology, which has its origin in Western cultural and intellectual traditions. It traces the impact of European colonial domination through the era of the formal racial regime of apartheid to the post-apartheid era, in which dominance is primarily economic and cultural. The course will explore how colonialism and the idea of race created institutions, which, in turn, affect the relationships between colonists and indigenous peoples, between classes and other social groups within south Africa, and between individuals. It treats colonialism and race, by and large, as economic and political phenomena with consequent social and cultural effects. The course views both colonialism and race as inherently dynamic and therefore emphasizes both change and development.

History 396 equally sees South African history as characterized by African resistance to colonial and racial domination and by the interaction between African and European cultures. It pays special attention to African resistance to apartheid and South Africa’s complex transition to democracy in the post-apartheid era. The works selected for reading and discussions represent the various approaches and methodologies used to interpret and conceptualize South African history.

Learning Goals: History 396 seeks to:
• encourage the development of critical thinking and of writing skills.
• introduce students to basic concepts in the study of south African history
• provide them with a basic historical outline of South African history since the 17th century

Instructional format combines lecture and discussion with audiovisual and electronic aids.
Course Requirements and Evaluation

Grading in the course will be based on an evaluation of student performance in the term paper, class attendance, participation in discussion and weekly written responses. Points will be available as follows:

- Presentations: 10%
- Responses/reflections: 25%
- Research paper: 40%
- Participation in discussion: 20%
- Class Attendance: 5%

Grading Scale

In the final determination of the letter grades, I will use “+” and “-”. Grading for the course will be as follows:

- A grades (90-100);
- B grades (80-89);
- C grades (70-79);
- D grades (60-69); and
- F grade (below 60).

**EVALUATION DETAILS**

**Attendance (5%)**

**ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED – and rewarded,** since active engagement in class will contribute significantly to your final grade. I will take attendance every week. One unexcused absence is acceptable. If you miss class more than once for reasons such as illness and family emergency, you need to produce a document explaining your absence. You will lose 1% of your attendance and participation grade every time you miss class without a valid reason. Five [5] consecutive, unexcused, absences will result in failure in this course. Take note also that a total of eight [8] excused and unexcused absences will result in failure in this course.

**Participation (20%)**

The Thursday class meetings will be devoted primarily to discussions of each week’s assigned readings. It is very important to come to class having read the required materials to be able to engage in discussions. Take notes as you read the textbooks and other assigned materials. You have to convince me that you have read the assigned materials for each week to earn the participation grade by actively participating in discussions. Good participation is displayed by comments, reflections and questions that are relevant to and informed by the assigned readings. Discussion questions will be posted to the course website well in advance of the Thursday discussion. The questions will guide your reading and our class discussion on Thursdays. Also, during discussion bring to class the reading materials for each week. The discussion, along with
the lecture, will provide you with the opportunities to analyze, synthesize and evaluate the material and engage with your classmates.

**Presentations (worth 10% of course grade)**

One special feature of this course will be student mini presentations in class. Each student is required to present once during the semester based on a sign-up sheet which will be made available in the beginning of the semester. Presentations will usually be held during the final twenty minutes of class time on Tuesdays. Student(s) should present for no more than 10 minutes on topics determined in consultation with the instructor. The topics must address an aspect of the materials covered by the Tuesday lecture “one week” prior to the presentation. The topics work best if they are narrow enough to be covered in a ten to fifteen minutes’ presentation. The most important thing to remember is that the presentation topic must be based on some aspect of the themes and issues covered in the lecture in the previous week. There should also be a short five-minute-long discussion (Q&A) following the presentation. In order to facilitate this short discussion, the presenter should come up with two to three open-ended questions.

**Response/Reflection ‘papers’ (25)**

Your evaluation is also based on writing response papers. Each student is required to write a one-to two-page response based on each week’s readings, due in the beginning of our Thursday meeting. Responses should be well thought-out and demonstrate your understanding of the assigned material. They should also refer to and build upon topics and themes we trace and develop in the course of the semester.

**Term Paper (40% of the total) Due: Saturday, December 10**

Paper Proposals: due Tuesday, October 25

There is one assigned paper for this course which is worth 40 % of your course grade. This is the exciting/fun part of the course. Paper proposals consist of a title, a one-page explanation of the topic, and a preliminary bibliography. The term paper writing guideline will be given in the course of the semester. Each student will write a well-polished and argued research paper of 15-20 pages in length.

Term papers may address any topic covered by the course. The topics need to be approved by me. The paper must be based on both primary and secondary sources. Your paper must utilize at least ten [6] primary sources and five [8] secondary sources. Of the secondary sources, one must be an article published in a peer reviewed academic or scholarly journal. When you choose a research topic, be sure to choose well. That is make sure that you can find sufficient number of sources on the topic of your chose. If you find a topic poorly documented, choose another one on which you can find ample material. The papers will be subject to the same rigorous standard as any history paper written for any research and writing intensive course.
The instructor of this course assumes that you know what primary and secondary sources are. If you are unsure about what makes a source primary source, ask me! You may also wish to consult the following site to learn more about the characteristic of a primary source: http://www.archives.gov/education/research/history-in-the-raw.html. I also assume that you already know how to conduct original research, locate sources, and formulate research questions and so on. If you do not know where to locate primary sources, go to ask questions at the library.

Papers should be submitted on the official, syllabus stated, due date. Late papers will not be accepted for full credit without any documented valid excuse. In addition, please note, submission of a term paper is course requirement. Failure to submit them, regardless of total points accrued elsewhere, will result in an “I” grade for the course.

Extra Credit Opportunity
On Wednesday, October 26 at 2:30pm, there is an Islam/Interfaith Symposium. Here is the link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/conflict-encounter-and-interfaith-dialogue-in-islam-tickets-27034806835. Attending this symposium is encouraged and rewarded.

COURSE WEBSITE

Blackboard is our best means of communication. You will need access to the website in order to complete some of the readings, to download assignments, lectures, and other relevant files.

Decorum

I value and welcome all kinds of comments and opinions in discussion and lecture sessions. Feel free to express your opinion in a way which is professional and does not offend anyone. My simple course rule is that we respect each other. Avoid any rude, or inappropriate comments and disruptive activity. Arrive promptly and remain in classroom for the ENTIRE lecture or discussion. Turn off all cell phones and other noisy devices during class sessions. Texting and leaving class during discussion and lecture is not only plain rude, disrespectful and unacceptable, but also very disruptive.

Rutgers adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The university will provide academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability that affects your academic performance be sure to register with the Office of Disability Services and contact me early in the first week of the semester. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines> https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form> https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form. For more information please contact Kate Torres at (973)353-5375 <tel:(973)353-5375>
or in the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219 or by contacting odsnewark@rutgers.edu <mailto:odsnewark@rutgers.edu>.

**Plagiarism**

You are expected to follow the student guideline concerning academic honesty and conduct. All work must be your own. If you have questions about plagiarism, you can see me. Plagiarism is a serious offence and is punishable, under the university code of conduct. Any instance of plagiarism will result in failure in this course. There is a very good statement on plagiarism on the American Historical Association's webpage. The American Historical Association's definition of plagiarism can be found at: [http://historians.org/governance/pd/Curriculum/plagiarism_defining.htm](http://historians.org/governance/pd/Curriculum/plagiarism_defining.htm). Be sure to read it carefully and closely. For a full discussion of Rutgers University’s policies regarding academic integrity consult the following website: [http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/oas/ai](http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/oas/ai). According to the RU Academic integrity policy:

‘Plagiarism is the use of another person’s words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course.’

As stated in the academic integrity policy, some common instances of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one’s own words another person’s written words or ideas as if they were one’s own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one’s work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other non-textual material from other sources without proper attribution.

**Required Texts**

There are two required books for this course:


These two books are indicated in the lecture outline below as follows:

CSA = Collins, *Central and South Africa*

HSA = *A History of South Africa*.

Additional articles and chapters will be placed on course reserve. All of the required reading for the course is contained in the two books, the readings on course reserve, and the class notes.

**The journal articles are available via the Rutgers library website (JSTOR).**
SCHEDULE

Below is the course schedule that we will follow in the course of the semester. The schedule is subject to revision. We might drop, add, or exchange readings according to our specific interests.

Week 1, T/R, September 06/08: Introduction to the course and South African History

Required: Syllabus.


Week 3, T/R, September 20/22: Slavery and Cape Society


Week 4, T/R, September 27/29: Migrations and State Building {1836-1856}


Week 5, T/R, October 04/06: Dispossessions and Socioeconomic Restructuring


Week 6, T/R, October 11/13: Shaka: Images and Realities


Week 7, T/R/, October 18/20: Nationalism, Race, and the South Africa War


Week 8, T/R, October 25/27: The Foundations of Apartheid


Week 9, T/R, November 1/3:
Topics: **Racial Entrenchment and Urban Apartheid [switch]**


Week 10, T/R, November 8/10: ‘Bantustans’ and Segregation in comparative focus


**Week 11, T/R, November 15/17: African Nationalism**


**November 24, Thanks Giving, no class.**
Week 13, T, November 29: Mandela’s South Africa (1994-1999)


**December 01, No class (Attending conference)**

Week 14, T/R, December 06/08: Currents: Legacy of Apartheid

**Required:** HSA, Chapter 10

Week 15, T, December 13: Review, Evaluation and Valediction

**The final exam (TBA).**