

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

SEMESTER Fall YEAR 1974

COURSE NO.

COURSE TITLE

INSTRUCTOR

History 283

Honors Seminar: Studies in History

Stanley Shaloff

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The subject will be European imperialism and specifically the European partition of Africa in the late-nineteenth century. We shall examine the standard theories of imperialism postulated by thinkers such as Lenin, Hobson, Schumpeter, and others and see how they relate to the realities of the scramble for African colonies. In this respect, we shall consider the role of Bismarck, Leopold II of Belgium, Jules Ferry, William E. Gladstone, and a host of other political leaders and diplomats. Moreover, we shall examine the influence of missionaries, explorers, merchants, militarists, Social-Darwinists, writers and journalists.

LECTURES No formal lectures.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMS

Everyone will be required to write a research paper on some aspect of the partition. It is possible that instead of one paper a number of shorter projects will be assigned.

GRADING SYSTEM

Class discussion will count for 50 per cent of the grade and the paper for 50 per cent.

REQUIRED READINGS

Robin W. Winks, British Imperialism: Gold, God, Glory

Ronald Robinson,

John Gallagher &

Alice Denny Africa and the Victorians: The Official Mind of Imperialism

John D. Hargreaves, Prelude to the Partition of West Africa

Henri Brunschwig, French Colonialism 1871-1914: Myths and Realities

There will be additional library assignments