

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History  
Semester II, 1986-87

History 377

Africa Since 1800

Brown

This course is an introductory survey of African history since 1800. Concentrating largely on Africa south of the Sahara, we pursue three major themes: European conquests and occupation; the colonial era; and, the struggles for independence, development, and unity.

FORMAT:

The class meets three times per week. Two sessions will consist of formal lectures; ordinarily, the third meeting will be devoted to discussion.

REQUIREMENTS:

In addition to reading assigned selections and attending class meetings, students are expected to:

a) read at least one modern African novel. A listing of some suggested authors and titles will be distributed, but students are at liberty to read works by any modern African writer, whether listed on the handout or not. (Volumes of poetry may be substituted.)

b) submit short papers (5 to 7 pages) evaluating the literary merits of the works. Papers will be due by Friday, May 1st.

c) attend the unique exhibition of African art at the Madison Art Center, 211 State Street, 257-0158, during the month of January. (The exhibition is scheduled to open on Friday, January 23, 1987.) Shorter papers (4 to 5 pages) evaluating the artistic merits of outstanding pieces will be due by Friday, February 20, 1987. (See Jan Vansina, Art and History in Africa.)

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be three examinations: a) a one-hour six-weeks essay and ID exam on Friday, March 13, worth 20% of the final grade; b) a one-hour essay exam on Friday, April 23, also worth 20% of the course grade; and c) a two-hour final essay exam due on Friday, May 15 (format to be determined) worth 30% of the course grade.

The book review is worth 20% and the exhibition review is worth 10% of the course grade.

TEXTS:

Required textbooks for the course are to be found at the University Bookstore.

CALENDAR:

A detailed calendar of lectures and assigned readings will be distributed. **During this first week of introductory lectures, class members are asked to read the first three chapters of Robert July, A History of the African People, part II, "The Revolution of Modernization."**