

History 443
Spring 1994

W.A. Brown
Office: 5108 Humanities
Hours: Tuesday, 3-5 p.m.

WEST AFRICA SINCE 1800

Description:

In this course we will survey the political and social evolution of West Africa from ca. 1750 to about 1980. The richness and complexity of West African history will compel us to focus on a few major developments: religious and commercial change in the early nineteenth century; the European invasions and occupation; colonialism and the rise of nationalism; independence followed by economic stagnation and the continuing quest for democracy.

Course Requirements:

There will be no distinction between three - and four - credit workloads. The following requirements apply to all undergraduates:

1. A short paper (ca. 1200 words) on an assigned topic, due on MONDAY, MARCH 7. (20% of grade)
2. A review of Mary Smith's *Baba of Karo* (ca. 1500 words), discussed and due on FRIDAY, MARCH 25. (20% of grade)
3. Participation in a class debate, or submission of a critique of the debate, on FRIDAY, APRIL 22. The critique should be ca. 1200 words, due on MONDAY, APRIL 25. (20% of grade)
4. A final exam on MONDAY, MAY 16. (40% of grade)

The requirements for Honors and Graduate students will be individually negotiated, but will include reading all optional assignments and taking the final exam. Negotiations should be completed by FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Assigned Readings:

The following books should be purchased:

J.B. Webster and A du Boahen, *The Revolutionary Years: West Africa Since 1800*. New Edition. 1980.

Mary F. Smith, *Baba of Karo: A Woman of the Muslim Hausa*. Yale University Press. 1981.

Other assigned readings will be found in the College Library Reserve Room.

I. INTRODUCTION

Jan. 24-28

II. RELIGIOUS REVOLUTION IN THE SUDAN

Jan. 31-Feb. 4

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 1-54

DT/471/W36/1980. (1 copy in reserve). JEAN HAY, The Caliph's Sister: Nana Asma'u, 1793-1865, XIX-64. BP/80/A834/B69/1989.

Optional: J.F.A. Ajay: & M. Crowder, History of West Africa. Vol. II (2nd ed) chapter 1.

DT/475/A77/1987. DAVID ROBINSON, Holy War of Umar Tal, 47-92.

DT/532.25/T35/R63/1985.

III. "COMMERCIAL REVOLUTION" IN GUINEA

Feb. 7-11

Feb. 14-18

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 55-110. N.J. HAFKIN & E.G. BAY, Women in Africa, GEORGE BROOKS, "The Signares of Saint-Louis and Gorée: Women Entrepreneurs in Eighteenth-Century Senegal." 19-44. HQ/1788/W58

Assignment: M.D. McLEOD, Asante, 1-111. DT/507/M35.

Optional: AJAYI & CROWDER, 48-85. McLEOD, Asante, 112-182. OBARO IKIME, The Fall of Nigeria, 3-36. DT/515.7/138.

IV. THE EUROPEAN INVASIONS

Feb. 21-25

Feb 28-Mar 4

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 111-196 General History of Africa, Vol. VII, 114-148. DT/20/G45/7

Optional: DANIEL R. HEADRICK, Tools of Empire, 58-79; 96-114. T/19/H4.

Wm. G. HYNES, Economics of Empire, 1-27; 92-103; 116-126. HF/1534.5/A4/H95.

OBARO IKIME, Fall, 36-86.

****ESSAYS ARE DUE ON MARCH 7****

V. COLONIALISM

Mar 7-11

Mar 14-18

Mar 21-27

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 197-274. JANET G. VAILLANT, Black, French and African: A Life of Leopold Sedar-Senghor, 34-86. PQ/3989/S47/Z95/1990.

MARY F. SMITH, Baba of Karo.

Optional: F.J.D. LUGARD, The Dual Mandate in Tropical Africa, 193-230.
DT/32.5/L8/1965. ROBERT DELAVIGNETTE, Freedom and Authority in French West Africa, 34-84. JQ/3195/A1/D43. RHODA HOWARD, Colonialism and Underdevelopment in Ghana, 94-145. HC/517/G6/H68/1978.

****MAR 27: DISCUSSION: REVIEW OF BABA OF KARO**

SPRING RECESS MAR 28-APR 3

VI. NATIONALISM

Apr. 4-8

Apr. 11-15

Apr. 18-22

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 275-325. HAFKIN & BAY, Women in Africa, 45-85. BASIL DAVIDSON, Black Star: A View of the Life and Times of Kwame Nkrumah, 9-83. DT/512.3/N57/D38/1981 or 1974. VAILLANT, Senghor, 214-242; 272-299.

Optional: AJAYI & CROWDER, West Africa, II, 665-773.

April 22: DEBATE: What should be history's final judgment on colonialism in West Africa?

VII. INDEPENDENCE OR NEO-COLONIALISM?

Apr. 25-29

May 2-6

May 9-13

Assignment: WEBSTER & BOAHEN, 326-389. DAVIDSON, Black Star, 84-218. VAILLANT, Senghor, 300-346. J. Gus Liebenow, Liberia: The Quest for Democracy, 161-193. DT/631/L53/1987.

Optional: DAVID K. FIELDHOUSE, Black Africa, 1945-1980, 187-247. (Fieldhouse) HC/800/F54/1986. MICHAEL WATTS, Silent Violence: Food, Famine, and Peasantry in Northern Nigeria, 299-372. HC/1055/27/N679/1983.