

University of Wisconsin
Department of History
Spring 1994

History 446
2:30-3:45, Tues & Thurs
1111 Humanities
office hours: 4:00-5:00 Tues & Thurs

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History of Southern Africa

'Crisis' and 'conflict' figure prominently in recent studies of southern Africa as the past two decades have witnessed guerilla wars in Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, and escalating racial violence in South Africa. What are the sources of these conflicts? How is the situation in one area linked to others in the wider regional context? What interpretative frameworks can we use to understand these situations? The course will explore the roots of the current situations in the African and colonial past and explore some of the concepts based on race, class, and ethnicity used to explain and interpret them. By taking the region as our focus, we shall also try to compare the experiences of different countries to examine what lessons each may have for the future of the area as a whole.

Given the problems of studying Southern African history and its inherently contentious nature, we will probably raise more questions than answers, unearth more problems than solutions. No text book, or lecture, should be considered authoritative, and you are encouraged to question prevailing interpretations in order to come to your own understanding of the complex issues involved. It is therefore imperative that you read the assigned readings and think about them before the class for which they are assigned.

Course Requirements

Undergraduates: (1) Class attendance, (2) assigned readings, (3) a map quiz, and (4) two mid-term take-home exams and a final take-home exam. Students taking the course for honors or 4 credits will write an additional paper based on the recommended readings for one of the weekly topics.

Graduates: Graduate students should read more widely in the recommended reading in addition to the required reading and will write three papers on selected weekly topics in lieu of exams. Papers should focus on significant analytical issues in the reading, raise pertinent questions regarding them, and include a brief annotated bibliography summarizing the value of each source. They should be 8-10 pages, and two copies of each paper must be given to me in the class for which it is prepared.

Readings: All required readings are available from the University Bookstore and in a course packet (designated 'cp') from the Humanities Copy Center. All are also on reserve in the Helen C. White Library. Recommended readings are in the stacks of the College & Memorial Libraries. The following are available at the University Bookstore:

J.D. Omer-Cooper, A History of Southern Africa
M. Hall, Farmers, Traders, and Kings
D. Birmingham & P. Martin, History of Central Africa, Vol II
T. Mofolo, Chaka
A. Brink, A Dry White Season
D. Mattered, Sophiatown

Southern Africa to 1500

1/25 Ecology of Southern Africa

1/27 Hunters & Herders of the Cape -- San & Khoi
Omer-Cooper, History of Southern Africa, Ch 1, 1-7
Hall, Farmers, Traders & Kings, 1-45

recommended

M. Wilson & L. Thompson (eds.), Oxford History of South Africa (for all topics)
L. Thompson(ed.), African Societies in Southern Africa
R. Elphick, Khoikhoi & the Founding of White South Africa (2nd ed.)
R. Gordon, The Bushman Myth
R. Inskip, The Peopling of Southern Africa
R. Lee, The !Kung San
C. Schrire(ed.), Past & Present in Hunter Gatherer Societies
E. Wilmsen, Land Filled with Flies (San)

2/1 Farmers & Cattle in the Eastern Cape -- Bantu speakers
Omer-Cooper, Ch 1, 8-16
Hall, 46-73

recommended

B. Fagan, Southern Africa in the Iron Age
D. Phillipson, The Later Prehistory of Eastern & Southern Africa

2/3 Zimbabwe -- State Building in Southern Africa
Hall, 74-116

MAP EXERCISE -- due in class

recommended

D. Beach, The Shona and Zimbabwe
H. Bhila, Trade & Politics in a Shona Kingdom
P. Garlake, Great Zimbabwe

Southern Africans & Europeans in the Era of the Slave Trade (16-19th c)

2/8 Portuguese in Angola
Birmingham & Martin, History of Central Africa, Vol. I, Ch 4, 118-159 (cp)

recommended

D. Birmingham, Trade and Conflict in Angola
J. Miller, Kings and Kinsmen (Mbundu) & Way of Death (slave trade)

2/10 Portuguese in Mozambique
Birmingham & Martin, History of Central Africa, Vol I, Ch 6, 205-244 (cp)
Hall, 117-124, 129-136

recommended

E. Alpers, Ivory & Slaves in E. Central Africa
T. Elkiss, The Quest for an African Eldorado
A. Isaacman, Mozambique: The Africanization of a European Institution
M. Newitt, Portuguese Settlement on the Zambezi

- 2/15 The Dutch at the Cape
Omer-Cooper, Ch 2, 17-34

recommended

R. Elphick & H. Giliomee(eds.), The Shaping of South African Society
W. MacMillian, The Cape Coloured Question
S. Marks & A. Atmore(eds.), Economy & Society in Pre-Industrial South Africa
J. Marais, The Cape Coloured People
R. Ross, Cape of Torments & Beyond the Pale
R. Shell, Children of Bondage
R. Watson, The Slave Question
N. Worden, Slavery in Dutch South Africa

- 2/17 Expanding Frontiers: Trekboers, Griquas, Xhosa & British
Omer-Cooper, Ch 3, 35-51
J. Peires, "'Soft' Believers and 'Hard' Unbelievers in the Xhosa Cattle-Killing,"
JAH, 27(1986), 443-461 (cp)

recommended (see above)

C. Crais, White Supremacy & Black Resistance in Preindustrial South Africa
W. de Klerk, The Puritans in Africa
J. Galbraith, Reluctant Empire
J. Gerstner, The Thousand Generation Covenant
M. Legassick, 'The Griqua, Sotho-Tswana, and Missionaries' (Ph.D., UCLA)
J. MacCrone, Race Attitudes in South Africa
S. Neumark, Economic Influences on the South African Frontier
S. Newton-King & V. Malherbe, The Khoikhoi Rebellion in the Eastern Cape
R. Ross, Adam Kok's Griquas
L. Switzer, Power & Resistance in an African Society (Xhosa)
J. Peires, The House of Phalo (Xhosa) & The Dead Will Arise (Xhosa)
P. van Duin & R. Ross, The Economy of the Cape in the 18th c
M. Wilson, Reaction to Conquest

- 2/22 The Zulu State & Mfecane
Omer-Cooper, Ch 4, 52-70
Hall, 124-128, 136-147
T. Mofolo, Chaka

recommended

J. Cobbing, 'The Mfecane as Alabai,' JAH, 29(1988), 487-519
A. Duminy & B. Guest(eds.), Natal & Zululand
C. Hamilton, 'The Character & Objects of Shaka,' JAH, 33(1992), 37-63.
J. Omer-Cooper, The Zulu Aftermath
J. Peires (ed.), Before and After Shaka
E. Walter, Terror and Resistance
W. Lye & C. Murray, Transformations on the Highveld
P. Bonner, Kings, Commoners & Concessionaires (Swazi)
H. Kuper, An African Aristocracy & The Swazi
R. Rasmussen, Migrant Kingdom (Ndebele)
S. Burman, Chiefdom Politics & Alien Law (Lesotho)
E. Eldridge, A South African Kingdom (Lesotho)
P. Sanders, Moshoeshoe: Chief of the Sotho
L. Thompson, Survival in Two Worlds (Lesotho)

- 2/24 The British, the Great Trek & the Afrikaner Republics
Omer-Cooper, Ch 4, 70-81; Ch 5, 82-100

MID-TERM EXAM -- questions handed out in class

recommended

J. Guy, The Destruction of the Zulu Kingdom

E. Walker, The Great Trek

Colonialism North of the Limpopo (20th c)

- 3/1 Violence of Empire
Birmingham & Martin, History of Central Africa, Vol II, 1-26

MID-TERM EXAM -- due at beginning of class

- 3/3 Angola & Mozambique
Birmingham & Martin, II, 163-199, 200-218, 231-238

recommended

G. Bender, Angola under the Portuguese

W. Clarence-Smith, Slaves, Peasants & Capitalists in S. Angola

F. Heimer(ed.), Social Change in Angola

L. Henderson, Angola

A. & B. Isaacman, The Tradition of Resistance in Mozambique

A. & B. Isaacman, Mozambique: From Colonialism to Revolution

L. Vail & L. White, Capitalism & Colonialism in Mozambique

- 3/8 Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) & Nyasaland (Malawi)
Birmingham & Martin, II, 218-231, 238-250

recommended

M. Channock, Law, Custom & Social Order

K. Fields, Revival & Rebellion in Colonial Central Africa

R. Palmer & N. Parsons(eds.), The Roots of Rural Poverty in Central Africa

I. Linden, Catholics, Peasants & Chewa Resistance in Nyasaland

E. Mandela, Work and Control in a Peasant Economy

J. McCracken, Politics & Christianity in Malawi

B. Pachai (ed.), Malawi

G. Shepperson & T. Price, Independent African

M. Vaughn, The Story of an African Famine

L. White, Magomero

E. Berger, Labour, Race & Colonial Rule

M. Burawoy, The Color of Class on the Copper Mines

K. Hanson, Distant Companions: Servants & Employers in Zambia

H. Langworthy, Zambia before 1890

N. Long, Social Change and the Individual

H. Moore & M. Vaughan, Cutting Down Trees: Gender, Nutrition & Agri. Change

J. Parpart, Labor & Capital on the African Copperbelt

C. Perrings, Black Mineworkers in Central Africa

G. Prins, The Hidden Hippopotomus

A. Roberts, History of Zambia

R. Rotberg, Christian Missionaries & the Creation of Northern Rhodesia

K. Vickery, Black and White in Southern Zambia

- 3/10 Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)
Birmingham & Martin, II, 251-290

recommended

- J. Cobbing, 'The Absent Priesthood,' JAH, 18(1977), 61-84
 M. Daneel, Old & New in Shona Independent Churches & God of the Matopo Hills
 T. Gray, The Two Nations
 C. Leys, European Politics in S. Rhodesia
 I. Linden, The Catholic Church & the Struggle for Zimbabwe
 P. Mason, The Birth of a Dilemma
 R. Palmer, Land & Racial Domination in Rhodesia
 C. Perrings, Black Mineworkers in Central Africa
 J. Phimister, An Economic & Social History of Zimbabwe
 T. Ranger, The African Voice in S. Rhodesia & Revolt in Southern Rhodesia
 J. Ranger & T. Weller(eds.), Themes in the Christian History of Central Africa
 S. Samkange, The Origins of Rhodesia
 E. Schmidt, Peasants, Traders & Wives: Women in the History of Zimbabwe
 N. Sithole, Obed Mutezo
 C. Van Onselen, Chibaro: African Mine Labour in Southern Rhodesia

South Africa

- 3/15 Diamonds & Gold
Omer-Cooper, Ch 6-7, 101-157

recommended

- R. Davies, Capital, State & White Labour in South Africa
 J. Galbraith, Crown and Charter
 S. Greenberg, Race & State in Capitalist Development
 F. Johnstone, Class, Race and Gold
 R. Rotberg, The Founder: Cecil Rhodes & the Pursuit of Power
 K. Shillington, The Colonisation of the Southern Tswana
 R. Turrell, Capital & Labour on the Kimberly Diamond Fields
 W. Worger, South Africa's City of Diamonds

- 3/17 Political Economy of Apartheid
Omer-Cooper, Ch 8-9, 158-236

recommended

- H. Adam, Modernizing Racial Domination
 H. Adam & H. Giliomee, Ethnic Power Mobilized
 J. Butler, The Black Homelands of South Africa
 J. Butler, R. Elphick & D. Walsh(eds.), Democratic Liberalism in South Africa
 G. Carter, The Politics of Inequality
 G. Carter, T. Karis, & N. Stultz, South Africa's Transkei
 S. Dubois, Racial Segregation & the Origins of Apartheid
 H. Giliomee & A. du Toit, Afrikaner Political Thought
 J. Golden, Making Race (Coloureds)
 P. Lambley, The Psychology of Apartheid
 T. Moody, The Rise of Afrikanerdom
 D. O'Meara, Volkskapitalisme
 N. Stultz, Afrikaner Politics in South Africa
 L. Thompson, The Political Mythology of Apartheid
 P. Warwick, The South African War & Black People and the South African War

3/22 Rural South Africa

- C. Bundy, 'The Emergence & Decline of a South African Peasantry,' African Affairs, 71/285(1972), 369-388 (cp)
 C. Murray, Black Mountain, 246-288 (cp)

MID-TERM EXAM -- questions handed out in class

recommended

- K. Atkins, The Moon is Dead: Cultural Origins of an African Work Ethic
 W. Beinart & C. Bundy, Hidden Struggles in Rural South Africa
 W. Beinart, P. Delius & S. Trapido(eds.), Putting a Plough to the Ground
 W. Beinart, The Political Economy of Pondoland
 C. Bundy, The Rise & Fall of the South African Peasantry
 P. Delius, The Land Belongs to Us
 T. Keegan, Rural Transformations in Industrializing South Africa
 S. Marks, Reluctant Rebellion
 C. Murray, Black Mountain
 L. Vail(ed.), The Creation of Tribalism in Southern Africa
 C. Walker(ed.), Women & Gender in Southern Africa
 F. Wilson, Farm Labour in South Africa

3/24 Migrant Labor

- C. van Onselen, 'The World the Mine Owners Made' in his Studies in the Social & Economic History of the Witwatersrand, Vol. 1, 1-43 (cp)
 C. Murray, Families Divided, 1-36, [100-177] (cp)

MID-TERM EXAM -- due at beginning of class

recommended

- H. Alverson, Mind in the Heart of Darkness
 I. Berger, Threads of Solidarity; Women in South African Industry
 B. Bozzoli, Women of Phokeng
 B. Bozzoli(ed.), Class, Community & Conflict
 B. Bozzoli(ed.), Town & Countryside in the Transvaal
 H. Bradford, A Taste of Freedom (ICU)
 J. Cock, Maids & Madams
 J. Crush, A. Jeeves & D. Yudelman(eds.), South Africa's Labor Empire
 B. du Toit, Ukubamba Amadolo: Workers Struggles
 C. Kadalie, My Life and the ICU
 L. Kuper, An African Bourgeoisie
 L. Lawson, Working Women
 S. Marks & R. Rathbone (eds.), Industrialisation & Social Change in South Africa
 S. Marks, Not Either an Experimental Doll
 P. Mayer, Townsmen or Tribesmen
 N. Mokgatle, The Autobiography of an Unknown South African
 C. Murray, Families Divided
 R. Packard, White Plague, Black Labor
 B. Pauw, The Second Generation
 H. Simons, African Women
 C. van Onselen, Studies in the Social and Economic History of the Witwatersrand
 F. Wilson, Labour in the South African Goldmines & Migrant Labour
 F. Wilson & A. Mafeje, Langa
 F. Wilson & M. Ramphele, Uprooting Poverty
 D. Yudelman, The Emergence of Modern South Africa

Independence and After

- 4/5 Zambia & Malawi
Birmingham & Martin, II, 336-340, 362-369

recommended

R. Rotberg, The Rise of Nationalism in Central Africa
C. McMaster, Malawi: The Politics of Underdevelopment
T. Williams, Malawi
R. Bates, Unions, Parties & Political Development
K. Kaunda, Zambia Shall Be Free & Letter to My Children
R. Sklar, Corporate Power in an African State
W. Tordoff, Politics in Zambia

- 4/7 Botswana, Lesotho & Swazi
Omer-Cooper, Appendix 1, 237-261

recommended (see also Mfecane)

J. Halpern, South Africa's Hostages
J. Crush, The Struggle for Swazi Labour
H. Kuper, The Uniform of Color & Sobhuza II: Ngwenyana & King of Swaziland
C. Murray, Families Divided
M. Crowder, The Flogging of Phinehas McIntosh
A. Dachs, Khama of Botswana
J. Parson, Botswana
D. Wylie, A Little God

- 4/12 Angola & Mozambique
Birmingham & Martin, II, 340-362

recommended

R. Chilcote, Emerging Nationalism in Portuguese Africa
E. Harsh, Angola: The Hidden History of Washington's War
R. Kapuscinski, Another Day of Life
A. Klinghoffer, The Angolan War
J. Marcum, The Angolan Revolution
J. Stockwell, In Search of Enemies: A CIA Story
A. & B. Isaacman, Mozambique: From Colonialism to Revolution
E. Mondlane, The Struggle for Mozambique
W. Finnegan, A Complicated War

- 4/14 Zimbabwe
Birmingham & Martin, II, 369-382

recommended

L. Bowman, Politics in Rhodesia
P. Fry, Spirits of Protest
N. Kriger, Zimbabwe's Guerilla War
A. Lake, The 'Tar Baby' Option: American Policy Towards S. Rhodesia
D. Lan, Guns and Rain
D. Martin & P. Johnson, The Struggle for Zimbabwe
R. Ranger, Peasant Consciousness & Guerilla War in Zimbabwe
M. Schatzberg, The Political Economy of Zimbabwe
N. Sithole, African Nationalism & Roots of Revolution

- 4/19 Namibia
Omer-Cooper, Appendix 2, 262-277

recommended

- H. Bley, South West African under German Rule
J. Bridgeman, The Revolt of the Hereros
P. Katjavivi, A History of Resistance in Namibia
R. Rotberg, Namibia: Political & Economic Prospects

African Nationalism in South Africa

- 4/21 Religion and Resistance in South Africa
B. Sundkler, Bantu Prophets in South Africa (2nd ed.), 53-64, 106-117, 150-156, 220-237, 302-323 (cp)

recommended

- A. Boesak, Black and Reformed & Farewell to Innocence
J. Comaroff, Body of Power, Spirit of Resistance
J. & J. Comaroff, Of Revelation and Revolution
N. Etherington, Preachers, Peasants & Politics in Southeast Africa
B. Moore, Black Theology
B. Pauw, Christianity & Xhosa Tradition & Religion in a Tswana Kingdom
B. Pauw, Bantu Christians & their Churches
B. Sundkler, Bantu Prophets in South Africa & Zulu Zion
M. West, Bishops & Prophets in a Black City

- 4/26 Passive Resistance (1912-60)
Omer-Cooper, 160-164, 178-181, 186-187 (review)
D. Mattered, Sophiatown

recommended

- T. Karis & G. Carter(eds.), From Protest to Challenge (documents)
L. Kuper, Passive Resistance in South Africa
G. Lewis, Between the Wire & the Wall
T. Lodge, Black Politics in South Africa since 1945
A. Luthuli, Let My People Go
S. Marks, The Ambiguities of Dependence in South Africa
S. Marks & S. Trapido(ed.), The Politics of Race, Class, & Nationalism
F. Meli, South Africa Belongs to Us
S. Odendaal, Vukani Bantu: The Beginnings of Black Protest Politics in S. Africa
E. Roux, Time Longer than Rope
B. Willan, Sol Plaatje: South African Nationalist
P. Walshe, The Rise of African Nationalism in South Africa

- 4/28 Active Resistance (1960-76)
Omer-Cooper, 202-210 (review)
N. Mandela, No Easy Walk to Freedom, 162-189 (cp)

recommended

- S. Davis, Apartheid's Rebels
S. Jones & H. Davis, Mandela, Tambo & the ANC (documents)
T. Karis, Treason Trial in South Africa
T. Lodge, Black Politics in South Africa since 1945

- 5/3 Black Consciousness & the Soweto Uprising (1976)
 Omer-Cooper, 219-230 (review)
 S. Biko, I Write What I Like, 19-39, 48-53 (cp)

recommended

- S. Biko, I Write what I Like & Black Consciousness in South Africa
 J. Frederikse, The Unbreakable Thread
 G. Gerhart, Black Power in South Africa
 B. Hirson, Year of Fire, Year of Ash
 J. Johnson & P. Magubane, Soweto Speaks
 J. Kane-Berman, Soweto: Black Revolt, White Reaction
 T. Lodge, Black Politics in South Africa since 1945
 M. Mathabane, Kaffir Boy
 D. Woods, Biko
- 5/5 From Soweto to CODESA (1976-93)
 Thompson, History of South Africa, 221-242 (cp)
 A. Brink, A Dry White Season
- recommended*
- K. Grundy, The Militarization of South African Politics
 N. Mandela, No Easy Walk to Freedom & The Struggle is My Life
 A. Marx, Lessons of Struggle
 F. Meer, Higher than Hope (bio. of Nelson Mandela)
 R. Price, The Apartheid State in Crisis
 R. Price & C. Rosberg(eds.), The Apartheid Regime
 T. Sechaba, Comrades against Apartheid
 A. Sparks, The Mind of South Africa
- 5/10 Free at Last? The Politics of Race & Class in Independent South Africa
 M. MacDonald, 'The Siren's Song: the Political Logic of Power Sharing in South Africa,' J. of Southern African Studies, 18/4(1992), 709-725 (cp)
- 5/12 Review

FINAL EXAM -- questions handed out in class