

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Department of History  
Spring 2001-02

History/Anthropology 774/History 861  
3:30-5:30 Thursday  
5245 Humanities  
office hours: Tues, 3:00-4:30 & by apmt.

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### **History without Documents: Methods of Historical Research**

The seminar is an introduction to sources and techniques used by historians for reconstructing the histories of pre-literate societies, including those of groups embedded within larger literate ones. As such, the focus will be more on a critical understanding of methodology rather than on historical analysis. Our goals will thus be to understand the different kinds of archaeological, linguistic, ethnographic, and oral data available, some of the ways these are interpreted by archaeologists, linguistics, anthropologists, and historians, and how we as historians can interpret and employ their data and interpretations for our own purposes. While the main focus will be on African materials, the techniques are applicable to other areas and peoples, and you are encouraged to range broadly in your reading.

#### **Requirements**

(1) an extended overview and critique of the literature (8-10 pp) on a given weekly topic. Each member of the seminar will be assigned a topic in week 1. Papers are to be distributed to all members of the seminar by Tuesday before the relevant class and presented orally in class.

(2) Four short essays (3-4 pp) on archaeology (due in class 2/7), ethnography and history (due in class 3/21), oral traditions (due in class 4/11), and oral history (due in class 4/25) or women's history (due in class 5/2). [Note: you may write on either oral history (4/17) or women's history (4/24), but not both.] I have suggested books and topics in the relevant sections of the syllabus, but you may substitute others if you clear them with me in advance. You should not choose books/topics you have read previously, but use the opportunity to explore new materials.

#### **Readings**

The readings range from broad surveys and theoretical statements to individual case studies. I have tried to alternate explicit methodological statements with examples of work employing that methodology wherever possible, and encourage you to assess both the theory and the practice. The 'required' reading is extensive, and the bibliography on each of these topics is virtually endless. I will survey the upcoming reading weekly, and encourage you to use your own judgement in discriminating among it. The 'recommended' reading is for people writing extended critiques of that topic or who wish to pursue a particular methodology at greater length, now or in the future.

Required texts are available in the University Book Store and/or on reserve in Helen C. White. Articles are included in a course packet available from the Humanities Copy Center (1650 Humanities) or on reserve.

## Abbreviations

<u>AEH</u>	<u>African Economic History</u>
<u>APS</u>	<u>The African Past Speaks</u> , Joseph Miller (ed.) (on reserve)
<u>ASR</u>	<u>African Studies Review</u>
<u>CSSH</u>	<u>Comparative Studies in Society and History</u>
<u>ESSA</u>	'European Sources for Sub-Saharan Africa before 1900,' A. Jones & B. Heintze (eds.), <u>Paideuma</u> , 33(1987).
<u>HA</u>	<u>History in Africa</u>
<u>IJAHS</u>	<u>International Journal of African Historical Studies</u>
<u>IJOH</u>	<u>International Journal of Oral History</u>
<u>JAH</u>	<u>Journal of African History</u>
<u>OH</u>	<u>Oral History</u>
<u>OT</u>	<u>Oral Tradition</u>

## General methodological handbooks (all dated)

- History in Africa (foremost journal of historical method in Africa)  
 C. Adenaike & J. Vansina (eds.), In Pursuit of History: Fieldwork in Africa (1996)  
 S. Biobaku (ed.), Sources of Yoruba History (1973)  
 C. Ehret & M. Posnansky (eds.), The Archaeological and Linguistic Reconstruction of African History (1982)  
 D. Henige, Oral Historiography (1982)  
 I.M. Lewis (ed.), History and Social Anthropology  
 T. Spear, Kenya's Past (1981) (on reserve)  
 B. Trigger, Beyond History

## Historiography

- American Historical Association, Guide to Historical Literature, 'Africa'  
 R. Bates, V. Mudimbe & J. Barr (eds.), Africa and the Disciplines (1993)  
 C. Fyfe (ed.), African Studies since 1945 (1976)  
 B. Jewsiewicki & D. Newbury (eds.), African Historiographies (1986)  
 B. Jewsiewicki, 'African Historical Studies: Academic Knowledge as "Usable Past" and Radical Scholarship,' ASR, 32/3(1989), 1-77.  
 V. Mudimbe & B. Jewsiewicki (eds.) 'History Making in Africa,' special issue of History and Theory, 32(1993).  
 C. Neale, Writing 'Independent' History (1985)  
 A. Temu & B. Swai, Historians and Africanist History (1981)

### Schedule of Classes

#### 1/24 Travelers Accounts, Maps, Photos & Other 'Documentary' Evidence: Theory

*A wide range of issues arise here, from the sources for putative 'original' accounts, to their historical contexts, perspectives, genres, and forms of reproducing information, not to mention the difficulties of interpretation and meaning.*

C. Wright Mills, 'On Intellectual Craftsmanship' in his The Sociological Imagination, appendix. (a critical prolegomena on research, analysis and writing)

R. Bridges, '19th c East African Travel Records' in ESSA, 179-196.

A. Jones, 'Four Years in Asante: One Source or Several,' HA, 18(1991), 173-203.

J. Vansina, 'The Ethnographic Account as a Genre' in ESSA, 433-444.

A. Jones, 'Decompiling Dapper: A Preliminary Search for Evidence,' HA, 17(1990), 171-209. (plagiarism)

A. Hilton, 'European Sources for the Study of Religious Change in 16th and 17th c Kongo' in ESSA, 289-312. (interpretation)

#### recommended

J. Fage (ed.), A Guide to Original Sources for Precolonial Western Africa Published in European Languages (1987; rev. ed., 1994) (supplement: HA, 19(1992), 201-36)

A. Jones (ed.), German Sources for West African History, 1599-1699 (1983)

A. Jones, Raw, Medium, Well-Done (1987)

J. Hanson, 'African Testimony Reported in European Travel Literature,' HA, 18(1991), 143-158.

R. Baesjou, 'The Historical Evidence in Old Maps and Charts of Africa...,' HA, 15(1988), 1-83.

T. Bassett & P. Porter, "'From the Best Authorities': The Mountains of Kong in the Cartography of West Africa,' JAH, 32(1991), 367-414.

C. Geary, 'Photographs as Materials for African History,' HA, 13(1986), 89-116.

C. Geary, Images from Bamum & (ed.) special issue of African Arts, 24(1991)

B. Heintze, 'In Pursuit of a Chameleon,' HA, 17(1990), 137-56.

N. Monti (ed.), Africa Then: Photographs 1840-1918

A. Roberts (ed.), Photographs as Sources for African History (SOAS, 1988)

E. Allina, 'Falacious Mirrors: Colonial Anxiety & Images of African Labor in Mozambique, ca. 1929,' HA, 24(1997), 9-52.

#### 1/31 Archaeology and Prehistory: Theory

*What constitutes archaeological data? How do these relate to historical 'facts'? More specifically, how do archaeologists define 'cultures' and explain changes in them? What are the main dating methods and what are their problems? What are some of the problems of correlating archaeological data and interpretations with other evidence?*

M. Hall, Farmers, Traders, and Kings (2nd ed., 1990)

J. Vansina, 'Historians, Are Archaeologists Your Siblings?' HA, 22(1995), 369-408.

P. Robertshaw, 'Sibling Rivalry? The Intersection of Archaeology and History,' HA, 27(2000), 261-86.

J. Robertson & R. Bradley, 'A New Paradigm: The African Early Iron Age without Bantu Migrations,' HA, 27(2000), 287-323.

recommended

- G. Connah, African Civilizations (1987)  
 M. Hall, Archaeology Africa (1996)  
 S. McIntosh (ed.), Beyond Chiefdoms: Pathways to Complexity in Africa (1999)  
 D.W. Phillipson, African Archaeology (2nd ed., 1993)  
 P. Robertshaw (ed.), A History of African Archaeology (1990)  
 B. Trigger, A History of Archaeological Thought  
 B. Trigger, 'Paradigms in Sudan Archaeology,' IJAHS, 27/2(1994), 323-345.  
UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. I, Chaps. 9, 19-28.

2/7 Archaeology and Prehistory: Practice

*Individual paper: choose one of the following and assess the nature of archaeological data and how the author(s) use it to make historical interpretations. Substitution of another text is possible if you consult me in advance. Paper (3-4 pp.) and possible oral presentation due in class.*

- W. Adams, Nubia: Corridor to Africa (1977/1986)  
 J.D. Clark, Kalambo Falls  
 N. Chittick, Manda (1984) or Kilwa (2 vols., 1974)  
 G. Connah, The Archaeology of Benin (1975) or Kibiro (1996)  
 J. Devisse, Vallées du Niger  
 B. Fagan, Iron Age Cultures in Zambia (2 vols, 1967-9)  
 J. Feely, The Early Farmers of Transkei, South Africa  
 L. Fouché, Mapungubwe  
 P. Garlake, Great Zimbabwe (1973)  
 M. van Gunderbeek, Le premier age du fer au Rwanda et au Burundi  
 R. Haaland, Socio-Economic Differentiation in the Neolithic Sudan  
 J. de Heinzelin, Les Fouilles d'Ishango  
 J. Hiernaux & E. Maquet, L'Age du Fer à Kibiro  
 M. Horton, Shanga (1996)  
 J. Kinahan, Pastoral Nomads of the Central Namib Desert  
 P. de Maret, Fouilles archéologiques dans le vallée du Haut-Lualaba  
 R. & S. McIntosh, Prehistoric Investigations in the Region of Jenne (1980)  
 R. McIntosh, The Peoples of the Middle Niger (1998)  
 S. McIntosh, Excavation at Jenne-Jeno, Hambarketolo and Kaniana (1993)  
 S. Munro-Hay, Excavations at Aksum (1989)  
 J. Nenquin, Excavations at Sanga  
 F. Van Noten, Archaeology of Central Africa or Histoire archéologique du Rwanda  
 D. Phillipson, Archaeology at Aksum (2000)  
 P. Robertshaw, Early Pastoralists of South-western Kenya (1990)  
 T. Shaw, Igbo Ukwu (1970)  
 P. Shinnie, Meroe, The Capital of Kush or Debeira West  
 J. Sutton, Archaeology of the Western Highlands of Kenya (1973)  
 J. Vogel, Great Zimbabwe

2/14 Library Exercise & Paleoecology, Disease, and the Environment

Note: We will convene initially in Memorial Library 443A for a library exercise conducted by Emile Ngo-Nguidjol and David Henige. We will then adjourn to Humanities 5245 for a discussion of disease and the environment. The whole class will last from 3:30 to 6:30.

*A potpourri on reconstructing changes in climate, the environment, disease, and population together with their social dimensions. To what extent are these changes natural or social? How can we understand the relations between the two?*

- D. Schoenbrun, 'Treating an Interdisciplinary Allergy: Methodological Approaches to Pollen Studies for the Historian of Early Africa,' HA, 18(1991), 323-48.  
 S. Nicholson, 'The Methodology of Historical Climate Reconstruction and its Application to Africa,' JAH, 20(1979), 31-49.  
 J. Giblin, 'Trypanosomiasis Control in African History,' JAH, 31(1990), 59-80.  
 J. Miller, 'The Significance of Drought, Disease and Famine in the Agriculturally Marginal Zones of West-Central Africa,' JAH, 23(1982), 17-61.

recommended

- L. Cavalli-Sforza, et al., The History and Geography of Human Genes  
 J. Hiernaux, The Peoples of Africa  
 R. Newman, The Peopling of Africa (1995)  
 P. Rosa, 'Physical Anthropology & the Reconstruction of Recent Precolonial History in Africa,' HA, 12(1985), 281-305 & 14(1987), 229-256.  
UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. I, 13-14.

- Centre of African Studies, African Historical Demography, I(1977), II(1981)  
 D. Cordell & J. Gregory, African Population and Capitalism (2nd ed, 1994)  
 D. Cordell, 'Af. Hist. Demography in the Years since Edinburgh,' HA, 27(2000), 61-89.  
 B. Fetter, Demography from Scanty Evidence  
 J. Gregory, D. Cordell & R. Gervais, African Historical Demography  
 D. Zeitlyn & J. Bagg, 'Mambila Demography,' HA, 27(2000), 423-36.

- J. de Wet, 'Domestication of African Cereals,' AEH, 3(1977), 15-32.  
 J. Harlan, et al., Origins of African Plant Domestication (1976)  
 R. Blench & K. MacDonald (eds.), The Origins & Develop. of Af. Livestock (2000)

- P. Curtin, The Image of Africa (1964) & Death by Migration (1989)  
 S. Feierman, 'Struggles for Control: The Social Roots of Health and Healing in Modern Africa,' ASR, 28(1985), 73-145.  
 S. Feierman & J. Janzen (eds.), The Social Basis of Health and Healing in Africa(1992)  
 J. Ford, The Role of Trypanosomiasis in African Ecology (1971)  
 J. Giblin, 'East Coast Fever in Socio-Hist. Context,' IJAHS, 23(1990), 401-421.  
 G. Hartwig & K.D. Patterson (eds.), Disease in African History (1978)  
 J. Janzen, Limba (1983)  
 M. Lyons, The Colonial Disease (1992)  
 J. McKelvey, Man Against Tsetse  
 R. Packard, White Plague, Black Labor (1989)  
 K.D. Patterson, Health in Colonial Ghana (1981)

- G. Brooks, Landlords and Strangers (1993)  
 D. Cohen & A. Odhiambo, Siaya (1989)  
 J. Fairhead & M. Leach, Misreading the African Landscape (1996)

- J. Giblin, The Politics of Environment Control in Northeastern Tanzania (1992)  
 M. Glantz (ed.), Drought and Hunger in Africa  
 R. Harms, Games Against Nature (1987)  
 J. Iliffe, Africans: The History of a Continent (1995)  
 D. Johnson & D. Anderson (eds.), Ecology of Survival (1988)  
 F. MacKernzie, Land, Ecology and Resistance in Kenya (1998)  
 J. McCann, From Poverty to Famine in Northeast Ethiopia (1987)  
 J. McCann, Green Land, Brown Land, Black Land (1999)  
 G. Maddox, J. Giblin, I. Kimambo (eds.), Custodians of the Land (1996)  
 T. Ranger, Voices from the Rocks (1999)  
 P. Richards, Coping with Hunger or Fighting for the Rainforest  
 D. Schoenbrun, A Green Place, A Good Place (1998)  
 D. Schoenbrun, 'We are What We Eat,' JAH, 34(1993), 1-31.  
 M. Tiffen, M. Mortimer & F. Gichurki, More People, Less Erosion (1994)  
 M. Vaughn, The Story of an African Famine (1987)  
 M. Watts, Silent Violence (1983)  
 J. Webb, Desert Frontier (1995)

2/21 Historical Linguistics: Lexicostatistics and the Comparative Method

*The focus here is on interpreting relationships among languages and the study of words, both inherited and borrowed, to chart historical developments and interactions with others. Why is lexicostatistics so widely used and what are its inadequacies?*

- D. Nurse, 'The Contribution of Linguistics to the Study of History in Africa,' JAH, 38(1997), 359-91.  
 J. Vansina, "New Linguistic Evidence and 'The Bantu Expansion'," JAH, 36(1995), 173-195.  
 T. Spear, 'Early Swahili History Reconsidered,' IJAHS, 33(2000), 257-90.

recommended

- C. Ehret & M. Posnansky (eds.), The Archaeological and Linguistic Reconstruction of African History (1982)  
 C. Flight, 'The Bantu Expansion & the SOAS Network,' HA, 15(1988), 261-301.  
 D. Nurse & T. Hinnebusch, Swahili and Sabaki: A Linguistic History (1973)  
 D. Nurse & T. Spear, The Swahili (1985).

2/28 Historical Linguistics: Words and Things

*Given that we can reconstruct historical forms of languages and trace their relations with others, can we also reconstruct historical meanings for these forms? historical ethnographies? How?*

- J. Vansina, Paths in the Rainforest, Ch 1-4, 9

recommended

- C. Ehret, An African Classical Age (1998)  
 G. Rossel, Taxonomic-Linguistic Study of the Plantain in Africa (1998)  
 D. Schoenbrun, A Green Place, A Good Place (1998)  
 J. Vansina, 'Linguistic Evidence and Historical Reconstruction,' JAH, 40(1999), 469-73.

3/7 Ethnography

*Evans-Pritchard's The Nuer stands as a monument of functionalist ethnography, so much so that it is now a subject of endless reinterpretation itself. The following selection stresses the analysis of relationships between structural forms and processes.*

- E. Evans-Pritchard, The Nuer, pp 94-150.  
 M. Sahlins, 'The Segmentary Lineage System as an Organization of Predatory Expansion,' American Anthropologist, 63(1961), 322-44.  
 K. Gough, 'Nuer Kinship,' in Beidelman, The Translation of Culture (1971), 79-121.  
 M. Glickman, 'The Nuer and the Dinka,' Man, 7(1972), 586-94; 9(1974), 141-42; 12(1977), 342.  
 A. Southall, 'Nuer and Dinka are People,' Man, 11(1976), 463-91.

recommended

- A. Kuper, Anthropologists and Anthropology (1973)  
 S. Moore, Anthropology and Africa (1994)  
 S. Ortner, 'Theory in Anthropology since the Sixties,' CSSH, 26/1(1984), 126-66.

More works inspired by The Nuer:

- P. Howell, A Manual of Nuer Law (1954).  
 G. Lienhardt, Divinity and Experience (1961)  
 T. Beidelman, 'The Ox and Nuer Sacrifice,' Man, 1(1966), 453-67.  
 F. Deng, Tradition and Modernization (1971).  
 P. Newcomer, 'The Nuer are Dinka: An Essay on Origins and Environmental Determinism,' Man, 7(1972), 5-11; 8(1973), 109-10.  
 J. Burton, 'Some Nuer Notions of Purity and Danger,' Anthropos, 69(1974), 517-36.  
 I. Karp and K. Maynard, 'Reading The Nuer,' Current Anthro., 24(1983), 481-503.  
 R. Kelly, The Nuer Conquest (1985).  
 F. Deng, The Man Called Deng Majok (1986).  
 D. Johnson, Nuer Prophets (1994).

3/14 Historical Ethnography

- S. Hutchinson, Nuer Dilemmas (1996)

recommended

- B. Cohn, 'History and Anthropology,' CSSH, 22(1980), 198-221.  
 J. & J.L. Comaroff, Ethnography & the Historical Imagination, Intro.  
 J. Vansina, 'Is Elegance Proof?' HA, 9(1982), 307-48.  
 J. Beattie, The Nyoro State (1971)  
 D. Donham, Marxist Modern (1999)  
 G.I. Jones, Trading States of the Oil Rivers (1963)  
 W. MacGaffey, Custom and Government in the Lower Congo (1970)  
 W. MacGaffey, Kongo Political Culture (2000)  
 J. Peel, Ijeshas and Nigerians (1983)  
 M.G. Smith, Government of Zazzau (1964)  
 V. Turner, Schism and Continuity in an African Society (1957)  
 R. Willis, A State in the Making (1981)

3/21 Ethnographic History: Practice

*Individual papers: Choose one of the following and assess how the author uses ethnographic data and models in reconstructing history. Substitution of another text is possible if you consult me in advance. Paper (3-4 pp) and possible oral presentation due in class.*

- C. Ambler, Kenyan Communities in the Age of Imperialism (1988)
- L. Cassanelli, The Shaping of Somali Society (1982)
- D. Cohen, Womunafu's Bunafu (1977) & APS, Ch 8
- D. Donham & W. James (eds.), The Southern Marches of Imperial Ethiopia (2002)
- S. Feierman, The Shambaa Kingdom (1974)
- J. Glassman, Feasts and Riots (1995)
- E. Herbert, Red Gold (1984) or Iron, Gender and Power (1993)
- D. Johnson, Nuer Prophets (1994)
- C. Kriger, Pride of Men (1999)
- D. Lan, Guns and Rain (1985)
- R. Launey, Beyond the Stream (1992)
- J. Miller, Kings and Kinsmen (1976)
- H. Moore & M. Vaughan, Cutting Down Trees (1994)
- D. Newbury, Kings and Clans (1991)
- R. Packard, Chiefship and Cosmology (1981)
- T. Spear & R. Waller (eds.), Being Massai (1993)
- T. Spear, Mountain Farmers (1997)
- J. Vansina, The Tio Kingdom of the Middle Congo (1973)
- E. Wilmsen, Land Filled with Flies (1989)

## 3/28 Spring Break

4/4 Oral Tradition: Theory

*While oral traditions are now generally accepted as a source, the debate continues on their meaning, interpretation, and significance.*

- J. Vansina, Oral Tradition as History (esp. chs. 1, 4-7)
- L. Vail & L. White, Power and the Praise Poem, 1-83.
- T. Spear, 'Neo-Traditionalism and the Limits of Invention in British Colonial Africa,' forthcoming.

recommendedHistory in Africa (journal)

- K. Barber & P. de Moreas Farias (eds.), Discourse and its Disguises (1989)
- K. Barber, I Could Speak Until Tomorrow
- S. Feierman, Peasant Intellectuals (1990)
- R. Finnegan, Oral Traditions and the Verbal Arts (1992)
- D. Henige, Oral Historiography (1982) Ch 3-5
- B. Jewsiewicki & D. Newbury (eds.), African Historiographies (1986)
- J. Miller (ed.), The African Past Speaks (1980)
- H. Moore, Space, Text and Gender
- UNESCO General History of Africa, Vol. I, Ch 2, 7, 8
- E. Akyeampong & P. Obeng, 'Spirituality, Gender and Power in Asante History,' IJAHS, 28(1995), 481-508.
- D. Beach, A Zimbabwean Past: Shona Dynastic Histories and Oral Traditions



- T. Beidelman, 'Myth, Legend, and Oral History,' Anthropos, 65(1970), 74-97.  
 E. Cohen, 'The Undefining of Oral Tradition,' Ethnohistory, 33(1989), 9-18.  
 D. Cohen, et al (eds.), African Words, African Voices (2001)  
 C. Hamilton, Terrific Majesty: The Powers of Shaka Zulu and the Limits of Historical Invention (1998)  
 C. Kratz, "'We've always done it like this... expect for a few details': 'Tradition' and 'Innovation' in Okeik Ceremonies," CSSH, 36(1993), 30-65.  
 P. Larson, 'Multiple Narratives, Gendered Voices: Remembering the Past in Highland Central Madagascar,' IJAHS, 28(1995), 295-325.  
 W. MacGaffey, 'African History, Anthropology, and the Rationality of Natives,' HA, 5(1978).  
 L. Malkki, Purity and Exile (1995)  
 J. Miller, 'The Dynamics of Oral Tradition in Africa' in B. Bernardi, et al. (eds.), Fonti Orali  
 J. Monson, 'Memory, Migration and the Authority of History in Southern Tanzania, 1860-1960,' JAH, 41(2000), 347-72.  
 P. de Moreas Farias, 'History and Consolation: Royal Yoruba Bards Comment on their Craft,' HA, 19(1992), 263-97.  
 J. Peel, 'Making History: The Past in the Ijesha Present,' Man, 19(1984), 111-32.  
 R. Pouwels, 'Swahili Literature and History in the Post-Structuralist Era,' IJAHS, 25/2(1992), 261-83.  
 H. Scheub, The Ntsomi: A Xhosa Performing Art  
 T. Spear, 'Oral Traditions: Whose History?' HA, 8(1981), 163-79.  
 J. Vansina, 'Historical Tales (ibiteekerezo) and the History of Rwanda,' HA, 27(2000), 375-414.

#### 4/11 Oral Tradition: Practice

*Individual papers: Choose one of the following and compare and assess the author's methods, theory, and practice. Paper (3-4 pp) and possible oral presentation due in class. (Do not use the same book as previously.)*

- E.J. Alagoa, The Small Brave City State (1964) and 'Oral Tradition and the History of Segmentary Societies,' HA, 12(1985), 1-10.  
 D. Beach, The Shona & Zimbabwe (1980) & A Zimbabwean Past  
 D. Cohen, The Historical Tradition of Busoga (1972) & Towards a Reconstructed Past (1986)  
 J. Ewald, Soldiers, Traders and Slaves (Part I) (1990) & 'Speaking, Writing and Authority,' CSSH, 30(1988), 199-224  
 S. Feierman, The Shambaa Kingdom (1972)  
 S. Greene, Gender, Ethnicity, and Social Change on the Upper Slave Coast (1996)  
 C. Hamilton, Terrific Majesty (1998)  
 R. Harms, River of Wealth, River of Sorrow (1981) & APS, Ch 7  
 J. Lamphear, The Traditional History of the Jie of Uganda (1976)  
 P. Irwin, Liptako Speaks (1981)  
 W. James, 'Kwanim Pa': The Making of the Uduk People  
 R. Law, The Oyo Empire (1977) & R. Law in S.O. Biobaku (ed.), Sources of Yoruba History, Ch 2 & 3.  
 J. Miller, Kings and Kinsmen (1976)  
 D. Newbury, Kings and Clans (1991)  
 R. Packard, Chiefship & Cosmology (1981) & APS, Ch 6  
 T. Reefe, The Rainbow and the Kings (1981) & 'Traditions of Genesis and the Luba Diaspora,' HA, 4(1977), 183  
 J.M. Schoffeleers, River of Blood (1992)

- T. Spear, The Kaya Complex (1978) & Traditions of Origin and their Interpretation  
 R. Tantal, 'The Early History of Kitara in W. Uganda,' Ph.D., Wisconsin, 1989.  
 J. Vansina, The Children of Woot (1978) & Kingdoms of the Savanna (1966)

4/18 Oral History and Life Histories: Theory

- L. Vail & L. White, Power and the Praise Poem (1991), 198-277.  
 E. Tonkin, Narrating Our Pasts: The Social Construction of Oral History (1992)

recommended

- I. Hofmeyr, 'We Spend Our Years as a Tale That is Told' (1994)  
 M. Klein, 'Studying the History of Those Who Would Rather Forget: Oral History and the Experience of Slavery,' HA, 16(1989), 209-217.  
 E. Loftus, Eyewitness Testimony  
 R. Roberts, 'Reversible Social Processes, Historical Memory, and the Production of History,' HA, 17(1990), 341-349.  
 P. Thompson, The Voice of the Past  
 L. White, Speaking with Vampires (2000)  
 K. Hoppe, 'Whose Life is it Anyway?' IJAHS, 26/3(1993), 623-36.  
 H. Gengenbach, 'Truth-telling and the Politics of Women's Life History Research in Africa: A Reply to Kirk Hoppe,' IJAHS, 27/3(1994), 619-27.  
 S. Geiger, "Tanganyikan Nationalism as 'Women's Work': Life Histories, Collective Biography and Changing Historiography," JAH, 37(1996), 465-478.  
 Personal Narratives Group, Interpreting Women's Lives  
 L. Townsend, 'Out of Silence: Writing Interactive Women's Life Histories in Africa,' HA, 17(1990).

4/25 Oral History: Practice

*Individual papers: Choose one of the following and assess the author's use of oral history. Paper (3-4 pp) and possible oral presentation due in class. (Note: you can write on either this topic or on life histories below.)*

- S. Berry, Fathers Work for their Sons (1984)  
 H. Codere, The Biography of an African Society  
 M. Crowder, The Flogging of Phinehas McIntosh (1988)  
 M. Echenberg, Colonial Conscripts (1991)  
 P. Harries, Work, Culture and Identity (1994)  
 A. Isaacman, Cotton is the Mother of Poverty (1996)  
 R. Kapuscinski, The Emperor (1983) & H. Marcus, 'Prejudice and Ignorance in Reviewing Books about Africa,' HA, 17(1990), 373-78.  
 J. Lunn, Memories of the Malstrom (1999)  
 J. Penvenne, African Workers and Colonial Racism (1995)  
 T. Ranger, 'Are We Not Also Men?' (1995)  
 R. Rathbone, Murder and Politics in Colonial Ghana (1993)  
 R. Werbner, Tears of the Dead (1991)  
 L. White, Magomero (1987)

5/2 Life Histories: Practice

*individual papers: Choose one of the following and assess the author's use of life histories in writing history. Paper (2-3 pp) and possible oral presentation due in class. (Note: you can write on either this topic or on oral history above.)*

- J. Boyd, The Caliph's Sister (1989)  
 B. Bozzoli, Women of Phokeng (1991)  
 J. Davison, Voices from Mutira (1989)  
 F. Deng, The Man Called Deng Majok (1986)  
 S. Geiger, TANU Women (1997)  
 T. Keegan, Facing the Storm (1988)  
 S. LeVine, Mothers and Wives  
 S. Marks, Not Either an Experimental Doll (1987)  
 H. Munson, The House of Si Abd Allah  
 C. van Onselen, The Seed is Mine (1996)  
 T. Ranger, Are We Not Also Men? (1995)  
 C. Robertson, Sharing the Same Bowl  
 C. Robertson, Trouble Showed the Way (1997)  
 E. Schmidt, Peasants, Traders and Wives (1992)  
 M. Shostak, Nisa & 'What the Wind Won't Take Away,' *IJOH*, 8(1987), 171-81.  
 M. Smith, Baba of Karo: A Woman of the Muslim Hausa  
 I. Staunton, Mothers of the Revolution (1990)  
 M. Strobel, Muslim Women in Mombasa or Three Women of Mombasa  
 M. Wright, Strategies of Slaves and Women

5/9 Africa in the Americas

*The debate over the development of African-American culture has been between the continuity of African 'survivals' (Herskovits) vs. the impact of slavery (Frazier), now partially resolved in a dialectical model of 'cultural creolization' (Mintz and Price, Joyner).*

- C. Joyner, Down by the Riverside (1984)

recommended

- S. Mintz & R. Price, The Birth of African-American Culture (1976/1992)  
 A. Raboteau, Slave Religion (1978), 43-92. (Frazier vs. Herskovits debate on survivals)  
 J. Thornton, Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World (1992)  
 M. Gomez, Exchanging our Country Marks (1998)  
 R. Price, First Time (1983) & Alabi's World (1990)  
 J. Vlatch, The Afro-American Tradition in Decorative Arts  
 S. Barnes (ed.) Africa's Ogun (2nd ed., 1997)

## Other Topics

### Genealogies, Kinglists and Chronology

*How do oral chronologies differ from written ones? Why? Can these differences be resolved? How do people we have read so far treat chronology? Are ritual and art just another form of 'tradition'? How are they different?*

D. Henige, The Chronology of Oral Tradition, 1-70, 95-144 (reserve only)

#### recommended

L. Bohannon, 'A Genealogical Charter,' Africa, 22(1952), 301-15.

G. Gibson, 'Himba Epochs,' HA, 4(1977), 67-121.

J. Spaulding, 'The Chronology of Sudanese Arabic Genealogical Tradition,' HA, 27(2000), 325-37.

### Ritual and Art as Tradition

A. Apter, Black Critics and Kings, pp 1-94

S. Blier, African Vodun

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##### African Arts

B. Herbert, Red Gold of Africa & Iron, Gender and Power

P. Mark, The Wild Bull and the Secret Forest

J. Vansina, Art History in Africa

C. Kriger, 'Museum Collections as Sources,' HA, 23(1996), 129-54.

R.F. Thompson, The Four Moments of the Sun: Kongo Art in Two Worlds

C. Schildkrout & C. Keim, African Reflections: Art of Northeastern Zaire