

ANTH 80D - AFRICA TODAY

Summer 1, 2009

Instructor: Melissa Hackman

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Office Hours: Monday 2-3 pm, SS 1, Room 339 and by appointment

Class Goals: This class engages with contemporary issues in sub-Saharan Africa. We will begin with mapping the continent, its early history and then move onto discussions of colonialism and African independence. We will focus topically on child soldiers in civil war, African religions (traditional and Christian), changes in gender and sexual norms over time, the AIDS epidemic, culture and food.

Class Requirements: Students are **required to attend all classes**. No exceptions. If you miss more than 2 classes, you will automatically fail. Any absence significantly decreases your grade. In the case of an emergency or illness, you must contact the instructor immediately.

This course is structured as a lecture course with a large amount of student participation. You are expected to read the materials closely before you come to class. Students must submit **2 sets of discussion questions** during the quarter, which you will sign up to do. There will also be occasional **in class or take home reading responses** or **quizzes** (counted as part of your participation grade). You must bring all readings to each class. Points will be deducted if you come to class without the readings and are unprepared to discuss them.

A **map quiz, take-home midterm and final exams** constitute the written work for this course. A guide on writing anthropological essays will be distributed and discussed in class to assist you in writing well organized and ethnographically supported exam answers. All papers must be submitted in hard copy, with your name on the top of each page, stapled and with page numbers. No emailed papers or disks will be accepted. There are no extensions. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Papers are late 10 minutes after class starts and points will be deducted.

Your final mark will be calculated according to the following percentages:

- Mid-Term Exam 25%
- Final Exam 35%
- Map Quiz 10%
- Classroom Participation and Attendance 30%

Textbooks and a **Course Reader** are available in downtown Santa Cruz at the Literary Guillotine at **204 Locust St.**

Ishmael Beah. 2007. *A Long Way Gone: The True Story of a Child Soldier*. Sydney: Harper Perennial.

John Parker & Richard Rathbone. 2007. *African History: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

Disability Disclosure Statement: Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. You should also contact UCSC's Disability Resource Center.

Reading List (Assignments must be read before class on the day listed.)

Week 1

June 22 (Meeting 1): Introduction and Mapping Africa

- Film: A History Denied (VT8930)

June 24 (Meeting 2): Colonialism

Readings:

- John Parker & Richard Rathbone. "Africans: Diversity and Unity" pp. 25-47, "Africa in the World" pp. 70-90 and "Colonialism in Africa" pp. 91-113. From *African History*.
- Rachel Holmes. "Venus Rising" pp. 33-47 and "Freewoman, or Slave?" pp. 48-57. From *African Queen: The Real Life of the Hottentot Venus*. (Reader)

In Class Map Quiz Study Guide Handed Out

Week 2

June 29 (Meeting 3): Apartheid and Struggles for Independence

Readings:

- John Parker & Richard Rathbone. "Imagining the Future, Rebuilding the Past" pp. 114-134 and "Memory and Forgetting: Past and Present" pp. 135-149. From *African History*.
- Alfred Mbeba. "Rhodesia Road" pp. 1-9 and Henry Nxumalo "Mr. Drum Goes to Jail" pp. 39-47. From *The Drum Decade: Stories from the 1950s*. (Reader)
- Film: Amandla! A Revolution in Four Part Harmony (DVD 2440)

IN CLASS MAP QUIZ

July 1 (Meeting 4): Displacement and Civil War in Sierra Leone

Readings:

- Ishmael Beah. Chapters 1-14. From *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.
- Film: Blood Diamonds (DVD 4807)

Week 3

July 6 (Meeting 5): Child Soldiers and Violence

Readings:

- Ishmael Beah. Chapters 15-21. From *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.

MID-TERM HANDED OUT

July 8 (Meeting 6): Witchcraft and Religion

Readings:

- Adam Ashforth. “On Believing, and Not Believing in Witchcraft” pp. 111-130 and “Poison, Medicine, and the Power of Secret Knowledge” pp. 133-153 and “Death, Pollution, and the Dangers of Dirt” pp. 154-169. From *Witchcraft, Violence, and Democracy in South Africa*. (Reader)
- Film: *Witches in Exile* (DVD 5942)

MID-TERMS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS (Papers are late 10 minutes after class starts and points will be deducted)

Week 4

July 13 (Meeting 7):

Readings: Changing Gender Norms

- Isak Niehaus. “Masculine Domination in Sexual Violence: Interpreting Accounts of Three Cases of Rape in the South African *Lowveld*.” pp. 65-88. From *Men Behaving Differently: South African Men Since 1994*. (Reader)
- Helen Moffett. “Gender.” pp. 104-115. From *New South African Keywords*. (Reader)
- Film: *No Past to Speak Of*

July 15 (Meeting 8): “Homosexuality” in Africa?

Readings:

- Marc Epprecht. “Cities” pp. 50-82. From *Hungochani: The History of a Dissident Sexuality in Southern Africa*. (Reader)
- T. Dunbar Moodie with Vivienne Ndatshe. “Sexualities: Variations on a Patriarchal Theme” pp. 119-158. From *Going for Gold: Men, Mines and Migration*. (Reader)
- Marie Nagadya with Ruth Morgan. “‘Some Say I am Hermaphrodite Just Because I Put on Trousers:’ Lesbians and Tommy Boys in Kampala, Uganda” pp. 65-75. From *Tommy Boys, Lesbian Wives and Ancestral Wives: Female Same-Sex Practices in Africa*. (Reader)

Week 5

July 20 (Meeting 9): Beyond Statistics: HIV/AIDS

Readings:

- Eddie Vulani Maluleke. “Nobody Ever Said AIDS” pp. 17-20; Lesley Emanuel “Confetti” pp. 73-77; Teboho Raboko “Sefela-Migrant Worker’s Poem” pp. 90; Tonye Stuurman “Everybody’s Got It, Don’t They” pp. 114-115; Angifi Proctor Dladla “She Became the Mother Again (Wa Phenduka Umdlezane Futhi)” pp. 123-124; Antjie Krog “Visit to the Eastern Cape” pp. 145-148; Vivienne Ndlovu “Lady Killer” pp. 164-168. From *Nobody Ever Said AIDS: Stories and Poems from Southern Africa*. (Reader)
- Stephanie Nolan. “Why 28?” pp. 1-28; “Mohammed Ali” pp. 45-55; “Noé Sebisaba” pp. 87-103; “Manuel Cossa” pp. 121-132; “Cynthia Leshomo” pp. 135-144; “Andualem Ayalew” pp. 151-165; “Zackie Achmat” pp. 179-197;

“Agnes Munyiva” pp. 241-253; “Moleen Mudimu” pp. 321-331. From 28: *Stories of AIDS in Africa*. (Reader)

July 22 (Meeting 10): Food, Power, and Culture

- Susanne Freidberg. “Burkina Faso: Rural Development and Patronage” pp. 61-91; “Zambia: Settler Colonialism and Corporate Paternalism” pp. 93-125. From *French Beans and Food Scares: Culture and Commerce in an Anxious Age*. (Reader)

TAKE-HOME FINAL HANDED OUT