

HI268

Politics & Society in Eastern Africa 1800-1989



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H0.12, Humanities Building

Office Hours:

10-12am Wednesday

This handbook should be read in conjunction with the course website
(www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/undergraduate/modules/hi268)

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Course Details

Overview

This course is an introduction to the modern history of Eastern Africa (defined here as present-day Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda). Beginning in the period prior to the onset of colonial rule at the end of the 19th century, the course examines the establishment of colonial rule, the effects of colonialism upon colonised societies, the growth of anti-colonial sentiments and the formation of post-colonial states. The final lectures explore the post-colonial period up to the end of the Cold War.

Weekly lectures will provide a chronological framework. Seminars will follow a similar pattern but concentrate on key debates within the historiography. Seminars will be based around the analysis of primary source materials.

The course will encourage consideration of changing historiographical and methodological approaches to the study and research of African history. The course will also introduce literature from the fields of political science and anthropology.

Assessment

Assessment of this course differs depending on whether the student is in their first or second year.

First year students are assessed on the basis of the best 2 of 3 2000 word essays completed over the duration of the course (worth 50% of the overall mark) and one extended 4500 word essay (worth 50% of the overall mark).

Second year students have two options available to them. Under the first option, students complete 1 2 hour examination (worth 50% overall) AND 1 extended 4500 word essay (again worth 50% overall). Under the second option, students are assessed entirely on the basis of their performance in 1 3 hour examination (worth 100% of the overall mark). While not counting towards final assessment, second year students must complete three short essays through the year.

Short essay (of 2000 words) deadlines are as follows:

Term 1, week 7, Tuesday 18 November 2010

Term 2, week 2, Tuesday 20 January 2011

Term 2, week 10, Tuesday 17 March 2011

Essay questions

1. How useful is the nationalist paradigm to the writing of African history?
2. To what extent was Eastern Africa integrated into an Indian Ocean world in the nineteenth century?
3. Assess the significance of slavery to society in nineteenth century Eastern Africa.
4. To what extent did states exist in Eastern Africa prior to colonial rule?
5. What significance did ethnicity play in pre-colonial Eastern Africa?
6. What role did colonised peoples play in the expansion of colonial rule?
7. How and why have historians' explanations of the Maji Maji rebellion changed?
8. Why did attempts to restrict the practice of clitoridectomy cause such controversy in colonial Kenya?
9. To what extent were ethnicities invented under colonial rule?
10. To what extent did the nature of colonialism differ in Kenya from neighbouring states without sizeable settler communities?
11. How did ideas of race inform notions of identity on the part of colonial subjects?
12. How did the nature of colonialism change after World War II?
13. How important were the reactions to colonial development projects to the growth of nationalism in Tanganyika?
14. To what extent was the Mau Mau war a civil war?
15. Assess the lasting effects of colonialism for post-colonial states.
16. To what extent did post-colonial development strategies differ from their colonial predecessors?
17. How did African Socialism differ in Kenya from that in Tanzania?
18. Why did post-colonial states preserve so many of the structures of colonial rule?
19. Why did genocide occur in Burundi?
20. Explain the rise of military rule in Uganda.
21. Why had nationalist coalitions collapsed by the mid-1970s?
22. Is the Lord's Resistance Army best understood as a religious movement?
23. Assess the social and political effects of structural adjustment.
24. To what extent can we trace the origins of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda to colonial rule?
25. Can we use the Rwandan genocide to understand developments in other states in Eastern Africa?

Timetable

Lectures are held weekly on Tuesday in the Humanities building, H0.58 between 9.00 and 10.00am.

Seminars are held weekly **except** for weeks 1, 6 & 7 in terms 1 & 2. There is only 1 seminar in Term 3, which will be in week 1. Full details are on the course website.

Seminar group A meets on Tuesdays 2-3pm, in the Humanities building, H0.44.

Seminar group B meets on Tuesdays 3-4pm, in the Humanities building, H3.03.

Seminar group C meets on Tuesdays 4-5pm, in the Humanities building, H0.44.

Term 1

Week 1	No lecture	No seminar
Week 2	Introduction	Introduction
Week 3	The Swahili Coast	The Swahili Coast
Week 4	States & Stateless Societies	Authority & Identity in the 19 th Century
Week 5	The Colonial Conquest	Scramble or Conquest?
Week 6	Reading week	Reading week
Week 7	The Maji Maji Rebellion	
Week 8	World War I	The Maji Maji Rebellion
Week 9	The Civilising Mission	The Civilising Mission
Week 10	The Invention of Ethnicity	The Invention of Ethnicity

Term 2

Week 1	Race & Colonialism	
Week 2	World War II	Race & Colonialism
Week 3	The Second Colonial Occupation	Development & Colonialism
Week 4	The Mau Mau Rebellion	The Mau Mau Rebellion
Week 5	Revolution in Zanzibar & Rwanda	Legacies of Colonialism
Week 6	Reading week	Reading week

Week 7	African Socialism & Neo-Colonialism	
Week 8	The Cold War in Eastern Africa	Development & Post-Colonialism
Week 9	Military Rule in Uganda	The State in Crisis I: The 1970s
Week 10	Democratisation & Structural Adjustment	The State in Crisis II: The 1980s & 1990s

Term 3

Week 1	The HIV/AIDS Pandemic	The Rwandan Genocide
Week 2	The Rwandan Genocide	
Week 3	Youth & Popular Culture	
Week 4	Conclusion	

Lecture topics & reading (all readings available online through course website)

Term 1, Week 2: Introduction

No compulsory reading for this week's lecture. However, further discussion of some of the themes discussed in the first lecture can be found in readings suggested on the course website.

Term 1, Week 3: The Swahili Coast

Jeremy Prestholdt, 'On the Global Repercussions of East African Consumerism', *The American Historical Review*, 109, 3 (2004), 755-782

Term 1, Week 4: States & Stateless Societies

Richard Reid, 'The Ganda on Lake Victoria: A Nineteenth-Century East African Imperialism', *Journal of African History*, 39, 3 (1998), pp.349-63

Term 1, Week 5: The Colonial Conquest

John Lonsdale, 'The Conquest State of Kenya, 1895-1905', in Bruce Berman & John Lonsdale, *Unhappy Valley: Conflict in Kenya & Africa* (Oxford, 1992), 13-44

Term 1, Week 7: The Maji Maji Rebellion

Jamie Monson, 'Relocating Maji Maji: The Politics of Alliance and Authority in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania, 1870-1918', *Journal of African History*, 39, 1 (1998), pp.95-120

Term 1, Week 8: World War I

John Iliffe, *A Modern History of Tanganyika* (Cambridge, 1979), chapter 8, 240-73

Term 1, Week 9: The Civilising Mission

Justin Willis, 'The Nature of a Mission Community: The Universities' Mission to Central Africa in Bonde', *Past and Present*, 140, 1 (1993), pp.127-54

Term 1, Week 10: The Invention of Ethnicity

Thomas Spear, 'Neo-Traditionalism and the Limits of Invention in British Colonial Africa', *Journal of African History*, 44, 1 (2003), pp.3-27

Term 2, Week 1: Race and Colonialism

David Anderson, 'Master and Servant in Colonial Kenya, 1895-1939', *Journal of African History*, 41, 3 (2000), pp.459-85

Robert Gregory, 'Co-Operation and Collaboration in Colonial East Africa: The Asians' Political Role, 1890-1964', *African Affairs*, 80, 319 (1981), 259-73

Term 2, Week 2: World War II

Joanna Lewis, *Empire State-Building: War and Welfare in Kenya 1925-52* (Oxford, 2000), chapter 4, 187-243.

Term 2, Week 3: The Second Colonial Occupation

Steven Feierman, *Peasant Intellectuals: Anthropology and History in Tanzania* (University of Wisconsin Press, Madison WI: 1990), chapter 6

Term 2, Week 4: The Mau Mau Rebellion

David Throup, 'The Origins of Mau Mau', *African Affairs*, 84, 336 (1985), pp.399-433

Term 2, Week 5: Revolution in Zanzibar & Rwanda

M. Catharine Newbury, 'Colonialism, Ethnicity, and Rural Political Protest: Rwanda and Zanzibar in Comparative Perspective', *Comparative Politics*, 15, 3 (1983), pp.253-80

Term 2, Week 7: African Socialism & Neo-Colonialism

Paul Nugent, *Africa Since Independence: A Comparative History* (Basingstoke, 2004), chapter 5

Term 2, Week 8: The Cold War in Eastern Africa

Jamie Monson, 'Liberating Labour? Constructing Anti-Hegemony on the TAZARA Railway in Tanzania, 1965-76', in Chris Alden, Ricardo Soares de Oliveira & Daniel Large (eds), *China Returns to Africa: A Rising Power and a Continent Embrace* (New York, 2008)

Term 2, Week 9: Military Rule in Uganda

Samuel Decalo, 'Military Coups and Military Regimes in Africa', *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 11, 1 (1973), 105-27

Term 2, Week 10: Democratisation and Structural Adjustment

Paul Collier, 'Why Has African Grown Slowly?', *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 13, 3 (1999), 3-22

Term 3, Week 1: The HIV/AIDS Pandemic

James Putzel, 'The Politics of Action on AIDS: A Case Study of Uganda', *Public Administration and Development*, 24, 1 (2004), 19-30

Term 3, Week 2: The Rwandan Genocide

Helen Hintjens, 'Explaining the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda', *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 37, 2 (1999), 241-86

Term 3, Week 3: Youth & Popular Culture

Joyce Nyairo & James Ogude, 'Popular Music, Popular Politics: *Unbwogable* and the Idioms of Freedom in Kenyan Popular Music', *African Affairs*, 104, 415 (2005), 225-49

Term 3, Week 4: Conclusion

Stephen Ellis, 'Writing Histories of Contemporary Africa', *Journal of African History*, 43, 1 (2002), pp.1-26

Seminar topics & readings (all readings available online through course website)

Seminar A (term 1, week 2): Introduction

Robert Kaplan, 'The Coming Anarchy: How Scarcity, Crime, Overpopulation, Tribalism, and Disease are Rapidly Destroying the Social Fabric of Our Planet', *The Atlantic Monthly*, February 1994.

Binyavanga Wainaina, 'How to Write About Africa', *Granta*, winter 2005.

Seminar B (term 1, week 3): The Swahili Coast

- To what extent was Eastern Africa integrated into an Indian Ocean world in the nineteenth century?
- In the past why were historians and archaeologists reluctant to acknowledge the significance of Africans to historical developments in coastal Eastern Africa?
- Assess the significance of slavery to society in nineteenth century Eastern Africa.

Thomas Spear, 'Early Swahili History Reconsidered', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 33, 2 (2000), 257-90.

Jeremy Prestholdt, 'On the Global Repurcussions of East African Consumerism', *The American Historical Review*, 109, 3 (2004), 755-782

Seminar C (term 1, week 4): Authority & Identity in the 19th Century

- To what extent did states exist in Eastern Africa prior to colonial rule?
- How were stateless societies politically organised?
- What significance did ethnicity play in pre-colonial Eastern Africa?

Richard Waller, 'Ecology, Migration, and Expansion in East Africa', *African Affairs*, 84, 336 (1985), 347-70.

David Newbury, 'Precolonial Burundi and Rwanda: Local Loyalties, Regional Loyalties', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 34, 2 (2001), 255-314

Seminar D (term 1, week 5): Scramble or Conquest?

- Why did European powers annex territory in Eastern Africa at the end of the nineteenth century?
- What role did colonised peoples play in the expansion of colonial rule?
- How violent was the colonial conquest?

David Anderson, 'Massacre at Ribo Post: Expansion and Expediency on the Colonial Frontier in East Africa', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 37, 1 (2004), 33-54

And either

Richard Meinertzhagen, *Kenya Diary (1902-1906)* (various editions)

Or

Hamed bin Muhammed el Murjebi (aka Tippu Tip), *Maisha ya Hamed bin Muhammed el Murjebi*, trans. W.H. Whiteley, supplement to *East African Swahili Committee Journals*, 28, 2 & 29, 1 (1958/9).

Seminar E (term 1, week 8): The Maji Maji Rebellion

- What was the Maji Maji rebellion?
- How and why have historians' explanations of the Maji Maji rebellion changed?
- How significant was religion to the Maji Maji rebellion?

Thaddeus Sunseri, 'Statist Narratives and Maji Maji Ellipses', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 33, 3 (2000), 567-84.

And either

John Iliffe, *A Modern History of Tanganyika* (Cambridge, 1979), chapter 6, 168-202

Or

Jamie Monson, 'Relocating Maji Maji: The Politics of Alliance and Authority in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania, 1870-1918', *Journal of African History*, 39, 1 (1998), 95-120

Seminar F (term 1, week 9): The Civilising Mission

- What was the civilising mission?

- Why did attempts to restrict the practice of clitoridectomy cause such controversy in colonial Kenya?
- What were the lasting effects of the clitoridectomy crisis?

Tabitha Kanogo, *African Womanhood in Colonial Kenya 1900-50* (Oxford, 2005), chapter 3

And either

Jomo Kenyatta, *Facing Mount Kenya* (New York, 1965), chapter 6

or

National Archives, Public Record Office CO 533/292/10, 'Operation on Kikuyu Girl (Circumcision), 1929

NB: see also Toyin Falola, 'Mission and Colonial Documents', in John Edward Philips (ed.), *Writing African History* (Rochester NY, 2006), 266-86 for advice on handling official documentation of the sort included in the National Archives file.

Seminar G (term 1, week 10): The Invention of Ethnicity

- What is ethnicity?
- To what extent were ethnicities invented under colonial rule?
- What uses did colonial subjects make of ethnicity?

Curtis Keim, *Mistaking Africa: Curiosities and Inventions of the American Mind* (Boulder CO, 2009), chapter 8

And either

Thomas Spear, 'Introduction', in T. Spear & R. Waller (eds), *Being Maasai: Ethnicity and Identity in East Africa* (Oxford, 1993), 1-18

or

M. Catharine Newbury, 'Ethnicity in Rwanda: The Case of Kinyaga', *Africa*, 48, 1 (1978), 17-29

Seminar H (term 2, week 2): Race & Colonialism

- Is 'parasites in paradise' an accurate description of relations between settlers and colonial subjects in Kenya?
- To what extent did the nature of colonialism differ in Kenya from neighbouring states without sizeable settler communities?
- How did ideas of race inform notions of identity on the part of colonial subjects?

David Anderson, *Histories of the Hanged: Britain's Dirty War in Kenya and the End of the Empire* (London, 2005), 77-86

Nigel Eltringham, 'Invaders Who Have Stolen the Country': The Hamitic Hypothesis, Race and the Rwandan Genocide', *Social Identities*, 12, 4 (2006), 425-446

Jonathon Glassman, 'Slower Than a Massacre: The Multiple Sources of Racial Thought in Colonial Africa', *American Historical Review*, 109, 3 (2004), 720-755

Seminar I (term 2, week 3): Development & Colonialism

- How did the nature of colonialism change after World War II?
- What is development?
- How important were the reactions to colonial development projects to the growth of nationalism in Tanganyika?

Frederick Cooper, *Decolonization and African Society: The Labor Question in French and British Africa* (Cambridge, 1996), sections on Britain and East Africa in chapters 5 & 6

And either

Steven Feierman, *Peasant Intellectuals: Anthropology and History in Tanzania* (Madison WI, 1990), chapter 7

or

Thomas Spear, *Mountain Farmers: Moral Economies of Land and Agricultural Development in Arusha and Meru* (Oxford, 1997), chapter 11, 209-35

Seminar J (term 2, week 4): Mau Mau

- What was Mau Mau?
- How have historians' explanations of Mau Mau changed over time?

- To what extent was the Mau Mau war a civil war?

Joanna Lewis, 'Nasty, Brutish and in Shorts? British Colonial Rule, Violence and the Historians of Mau Mau', *The Round Table*, 96, 389 (2007), 201-223.

And either

Daniel Branch, *Defeating Mau Mau, Creating Kenya: Counterinsurgency, Civil War, and Decolonization* (Cambridge, 2009), chapter 3, 94-116

or

Caroline Elkins, 'The Struggle for Mau Mau Rehabilitation in Late Colonial Kenya', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 33, 1 (2000), 25-57

Seminar K (term 2, week 5): Legacies of Colonialism

- Assess the lasting effects of colonialism for post-colonial states.
- What continuities can be identified in the nature of post-colonial statecraft?
- Why did post-colonial states preserve so many of the structures of colonial rule?

Andrew Burton & Michael Jennings, 'Introduction: The Emperor's New Clothes? Continuities in Governance in Late Colonial and Early Postcolonial East Africa', *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 40, 1 (2007), 1-27.

And either

Leander Schneider, 'Colonial Legacies and Postcolonial Authoritarianism in Tanzania: Connects and Disconnects', *African Studies Review*, 49, 1 (2006), 93-118.

or

David Leonard, *African Successes: Four Public Managers of Kenyan Rural Development* (Berkeley CA, 1991), chapter 5

Seminar L (term 2, week 8): Development & Post-Colonialism

- To what extent did post-colonial development strategies differ from their colonial predecessors?

- How did African Socialism differ in Kenya from that in Tanzania?
- How significant was the state to post-colonial development?

Frederick Cooper, *Africa Since 1940: The Past of the Present* (Cambridge, 2002), 91-132.

And either

Julius Nyerere, *The Arusha Declaration Ten Years After* (Dar es Salaam, 1979)

Or

Republic of Kenya, *African Socialism and its Application to Planning in Kenya* (Nairobi, 1965)

Seminar M (term 2, week 9): The State in Crisis I: The 1970s

- Why did genocide occur in Burundi?
- Explain the rise of military rule in Uganda.
- Why had nationalist coalitions collapsed by the mid-1970s?

Julius Nyerere, 'African and the Debt Crisis', *African Affairs*, 84, 337 (1985), 489-97.

And either

Rene Lemarchand, *Burundi: Ethnic Conflict and Genocide* (Cambridge, 1996), chapter 5, 76-105.

or

Ali A. Mazrui, 'Soldiers as Traditionalizers: Military rule and the Re-Africanization of Africa', *World Politics*, 28, 3 (1976), 246-72.

or

Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, 'State and Society in Kenya: the Disintegration of the Nationalist Coalitions and the Rise of Presidential Authoritarianism', *African Affairs*, 88, 351 (1989), 229-51.

Seminar N (term 2, week 10): The State in Crisis II: The 1980s & 1990s

- Is the Lord's Resistance Army best understood as a religious movement?

- What was structural adjustment?
- Assess the social and political effects of structural adjustment?

Either

Frank Van Acker, 'Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army: The New Order No One Ordered', *African Affairs*, 103, 412 (2004), 335-57

or

Catherine Dolan, 'The 'Good Wife': Struggles over Resources in the Kenyan Horticultural Sector', *Journal of Development Studies*, 37, 3 (2001), 39-70

or

Matteo Rizzo, 'Being Taken for a Ride: Privatisation of the Dar es Salaam Transport System 1983-1998', *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 40, 1 (2002), 133-57

Seminar O (term 3, week 1): The Rwandan Genocide

- To what extent can we trace the origins of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda to colonial rule?
- Can we use the Rwandan genocide to understand developments in other states in Eastern Africa?

Helen Hintjens, 'Explaining the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda', *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 37, 2 (1999), 241-86

And either

Rene Lemarchand, 'Genocide in the Great Lakes: Which Genocide? Whose Genocide?', *African Studies Review*, 41, 1 (1998), 3-16

or

Filip Reyntjens, 'Rwanda, Ten Years On: From Genocide to Dictatorship', *African Affairs*, 103, 411 (2004), 177-210

Recommended books

The following books are available for purchase in the university bookshop. It is not compulsory that you own these books, but you may find them useful. You may find these books on sale online for considerably less. In particular, look at abebooks.co.uk for second-hand editions.

Frederick Cooper, *Africa since 1940: The Past of the Present* (Cambridge, 2002)

John Iliffe, *Africans: The History of a Continent* (Cambridge, 2007)

Paul Nugent, *Africa Since Independence: A Comparative History* (London, 2004)

John Parker & Richard Rathbone, *A Very Short Introduction to African History* (Oxford, 2007)

Richard Reid, *A History of Modern Africa: 1800 to the Present* (Oxford, 2009) – highly recommended.