

HIS 115B
Eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean World
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Course Description

What are the origins of cultural, political, and economic connections between East Africa and the Indian Ocean? When and how did Eastern Africans adopt Christianity and Islam? What are the legacies of slavery and European colonialism? This course investigates these and other questions about the history of human trafficking, Arab and European colonization, nationalism, genocide, religious missions, and human rights. We will address changing experiences of race, class, gender, sexuality, age, and ethnicity. This course focuses primarily on Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Ethiopia, but we will also discuss neighboring countries in Africa.

Required Texts

Emily Ruete (“Princess Salme”), *Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar* (Dover, 2009 [1888]), also available online at <https://archive.org/details/memoirsofarabian00ruetuoft>
Nega Mezlekia, *Notes from the Hyena’s Belly: An Ethiopian Boyhood* (Picador, 2002)
Additional readings available on Canvas, as indicated in the Schedule below

Recommended Texts (on reserve in Shields Library)

Robert Maxon, *East Africa: An Introductory History* (West Virginia University Press, 2009)
Henri Médard and Shane Doyle, eds., *Slavery in the Great Lakes Region of East Africa* (Ohio University Press, 2007)

Course Requirements

Class and Online Participation	15%
Geography Test	10
Reading Quizzes (lowest score dropped)	25
Term Paper	25
Final Exam	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	100%

Class and Online Participation: The 15% for class participation reflects your engagement in class discussions and your participation on Canvas Discussions. Every week you are required to post one discussion question about that week’s readings in the Discussions section of Canvas by Thursday at 12:00pm. The question should not have a simple “yes” or “no” answer, but should generate a debate about the main theme(s) of the week or another theme in Eastern African history related to the week’s readings. You are encouraged to post questions of clarification or other comments here as well, but your main entry should be a discussion question. Half of your participation grade will be based on your online submissions and the other half on your participation in class discussions.

Geography Test: The geography test, worth **10%** of the course grade, will take place on Tuesday, January 23rd. You will refer to a map and identify the countries of Eastern Africa as well as physical features, major cities, and the general location of ethno-linguistic groups.

Readings and Reading Quizzes: The two required books are available in the UCD bookstore and Shields Library Reserve. All other readings are available on Canvas Modules. The recommended texts (Maxon, *East Africa* and Médard and Doyle, *Slavery in the Great Lakes Region*) are available on reserve in Shields library. Readings for the week must be completed by Thursday. Bring your readings to class and be prepared for quizzes and class discussions. Reading quizzes will take place in class every Thursday, and they cannot be made up for any reason. The lowest quiz score will be dropped, and the scores on the remaining quizzes will be averaged together and amount to **25%** of the overall course grade.

Term Paper: The term paper, worth **25%** of the course grade, will be an analysis of primary sources that I provide, though you may also use your own primary sources with my approval. The specific prompt will be posted a couple of weeks before the paper topic is due. The paper should be between 2500 and 3000 words in length. You will be expected to read and comment on the draft paper of one of your peers. The Paper Topic and Annotated Bibliography is due Friday, February 9th. The draft is due Monday, February 19th by 5pm on Canvas Assignments, and the Final Paper is due Friday, March 2nd by 5pm on Canvas Assignments. Everyone will conduct a peer review of another student's draft paper. **The preliminary assignments (paper topic, draft, and peer review) are worth 5%, and the Final Paper is worth 20% (together totaling to 25% of the course grade).** No late papers will be accepted. Always contact the professor before the deadline in case of emergency.

Final Exam: As there is no midterm for this course, the final exam will be cumulative and is worth **25%** of the overall grade. The final exam will take place on Wednesday, March 21st 10:30am-12:30pm. Attendance at the final exam is required.

General Policies

Entering/Exiting the Classroom

- Please arrive on time to class and stay for the entire class period. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive.

Email Etiquette

- Email communication should be courteous and professional.
- Normally, you may expect a response to your email within two business days, but this is not guaranteed. If your email question is sent at the last minute it may not be possible to send you a response before an assignment is due or a test is given. The best way to contact me is to visit office hours.
- Do not post personal information about yourself or others about third parties to the class list serve or online discussions.

Participation and Courtesy in Class Discussions

- Because participation is counted as part of your grade, missing class could negatively impact your grade. Disrupting class or not participating in class discussion could also lower your participation grade.
- Complete all readings for the week by the time of class discussion.
- Keep on the topic at hand. If you have questions off the current topic, address these outside of class at office hours or by email with the instructor.
- Show respect for me and fellow classmates. Do not interrupt another who is speaking. It is okay to disagree with an idea but not okay to ridicule others. Raised voices, derogatory language, name-calling, and intimidating behavior will NOT be tolerated.

Electronic Devices

- No taping, filming, or photography in class without my prior permission (whether by camera, cell phone, or other means). These activities are distracting and inhibiting to faculty and other students, may infringe upon privacy or copyright, and have a chilling effect on classroom discussion.
- Cell phones should be turned off. No talking on cell phones, text messaging, or emailing on laptops during class.
- Do not use headphones during class.

Other Policies

- No late papers will be accepted. Weekly quizzes cannot be made up for any reasons. Exams missed due to an unexcused absence cannot be made up. If you have an emergency that prevents you from fulfilling a course requirement, contact the professor as soon as possible prior to the due date of the assignment. In case of family emergency, serious illness, or other circumstance that interrupts your work in this course, contact the professor *and* the Student Health and Counseling Services (SHCS), <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/services/counseling.html>, located in North Hall, phone: (530) 752-2349.
- Cheating on exams and plagiarism in papers will not be tolerated. Familiarize yourself with UCD's definition of and policies regarding plagiarism (see <https://cieuniv.ucdavis.edu/student-life/what-is-plagiarism/>). Any incident of plagiarism will result in a failure for the assignment and possibly for the course, and will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.
- By enrolling in this course, you agree to the terms of this syllabus as described above and outlined in the schedule below.

History and African Studies Links

<http://history.ucdavis.edu/>, UCD's Department of History page (for information about the history major, minor, the history honors program, events, etc.)

<http://aas.ucdavis.edu>, UCD's Program in African American and African Studies

www.allafrica.com, collection of current news stories on Africa

<http://africasacountry.com/>, a blog that challenges the portrayal of the African continent and its people in Western media and features work by Africans and non-Africans that does the same.

SCHEDULE (See also Canvas Modules):

Week 1, 1/9-1/11: History and Historiography

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Robert Maxon, *East Africa: An Introductory History* (West Virginia University Press, 2009), pp. 69-74
2. Bethwell A. Ogot, "The Construction of Luo Identity and History," in White, Miescher, and Cohen, eds., *African Words, African Voices* (Indiana University Press, 2001), pp. 31-52

Recommend Reading: Maxon, *East Africa*, pp. 1-34 (Canvas)

Assignment

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Week 2, 1/16-1/18: Kings, Queens, and Communities

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Maxon, *East Africa*, pp. 53-68 & pp. 81-102
2. Holly Hanson, "Queen Mothers and Good Government in Buganda: The Loss of Women's Political Power in Nineteenth-Century East Africa," in Allman, Geiger, and Musisi, eds., *Women in African Colonial Histories* (Indiana University Press, 2002), pp. 219-236
3. Jomo Kenyatta, *Facing Mount Kenya* (Vintage Books, 1962 [orig.1938]), Ch. 2, pp. 21-51

Assignment

Reading Quiz #1 on 1/18

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Week 3, 1/23-1/25: Slavery, Spices, and Ivory

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Selections from Médard and Doyle, eds., *Slavery in the Great Lakes Region of East Africa*: Ch. 2, Jan-Georg Deutsch, “Notes on the Rise of Slavery & Social Change in Unyamwezi c.1860-1900”; Ch. 6, Holly Hanson, “Stolen People & Autonomous Chiefs in Nineteenth-Century Buganda: The Social Consequences of Non-Free Followers”; and Ch. 7, Michael Tuck, “Women’s Experiences of Enslavement & Slavery in Late Nineteenth- & Early Twentieth-Century Uganda”, pp. 76-110, and 161-188
2. “Bwanikwa: Ten Times a Slave” (1895) in Lihamba and Moyo, Mulokozi, Shitemi, and Yahya-Othman, eds., *Women Writing Africa: The Eastern Region* (The Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 2007), pp. 89-92
3. David Livingstone, *The Last Journals of David Livingstone, in Central Africa, From 1865 to His Death, Vol. I* (John Murray, 1874), Chapter IX, pp. 224-249

Assignment

Geography Test on 1/23

Reading Quiz #2 on 1/25

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Week 4, 1/30-2/1: Zanzibar in the 19th Century

Required Reading

1. Emily Ruete (“Princess Salme”), *Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar* (Dover, 2009[orig. 1888]), available online at: <https://archive.org/details/memoirsofarabian00ruetuoft>

Assignment

Reading Quiz #3 on 2/1

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Week 5, 2/6-2/8: The Scramble for East Africa

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Maxon, *East Africa*, pp. 139-173
2. Irma Taddia, “Ethiopian Source Material and Colonial Rule in the Nineteenth Century: The Letter to Menilek (1899) by Blatta Gäbrä Egzi'abeḥēr,” *The Journal of African History* 35:3 (1994), pp. 493-516
3. World Affairs Institute, “Europe in Africa,” *The Advocate of Peace* 58:5 (1896), pp. 102-103

Assignment

Reading Quiz #4 on 2/8

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Term Paper Topic and Annotated Bibliography due 2/9 by 5:00pm (see Canvas Assignments)

Week 6, 2/13-2/15: Colonial Policies and Technologies of Rule

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Luise White, “‘Bandages on Your Mouth’: The Experience of Colonial Medicine in East and Central Africa,” Ch. 3 of *Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in Colonial Africa* (University of California Press, 2000), pp. 90-121
2. Lawrence E.Y. Mbogoni, “Colonial Tanganyika on Film, 1935-1961,” Ch. 6 of *Aspects of Colonial Tanzania History* (Mkuki Na Nyota Publishers, 2013), pp. 81-102
3. Lord Delamere, “White Man’s Country” 1903 & 1907
4. The Devonshire White Paper, “The Indians in Kenya,” 1923

Assignment

Reading Quiz #5 on 2/15

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Draft Term Paper due Monday 2/19 by 5:00pm on Canvas Assignments

Week 7, 2/20-2/22: Gender, Sexuality, and Marriage in Colonial East Africa

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Elisabeth McMahon, “The Value of a Marriage: Missionaries, Ex-slaves, and the Legal Debates over Marriage in Colonial Pemba Island,” in Stiles and Thompson, eds., *Gendered Lives in the Western Indian Ocean* (Ohio University Press, 2015) 60-84
2. Heike Schmidt, “Colonial Intimacy: The Rechenberg Scandal and Homosexuality in German East Africa,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 17:1 (2008), pp. 25-59
3. Margot Lovett, “‘She Thinks She’s Like a Man’: Marriage and (De)constructing Gender Identity in Colonial Buha, Western Tanzania, 1943-1960,” in Hodgson and McCurdy, eds., *‘Wicked’ Women and the Reconfiguration of Gender in Africa* (Heinemann, 2001), pp. 47-66

Assignment

Reading Quiz #6 on 2/22

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Peer Review due Friday 2/23 by 5:00pm

Week 8, 2/27-3/1: Mau Mau and Nationalism in Kenya

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. George Ndege and Chima J. Korieh, “East, Central, and Equatorial Africa” in Falola, ed., *Africa Vol. IV: The End of Colonial Rule: Nationalism and Decolonization* (Carolina Academic Press, 2002), pp. 361-378
2. Caroline Elkins, “Detention, Rehabilitation & the Destruction of Kikuyu Society” in Odhiambo and Lonsdale, eds., *Mau Mau and Nationhood: Arms, Authority & Narration* (Ohio University Press, 2003), pp.191-226
3. Jomo Kenyatta, Speech at the Kenya African Union Meeting at Nyeri, July 26, 1952, accessible at <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1952kenyatta-kau1.html> (copy on Canvas)

Assignment

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Final Paper due Friday, 3/2 by 5:00pm (see Canvas Assignments)

Week 9, 3/6-3/8: Ethiopian Revolution

Required Reading

1. Nega Mezlekia, *Notes from the Hyena’s Belly: An Ethiopian Boyhood* (Picador, 2002)

Assignment

Reading Quiz #7 on 3/8

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

Week 10, 3/13-3/15: Human Rights and Development Debates

Required Reading

Canvas:

1. Sylvia Tamale, “A Human Rights Impact Assessment of the Ugandan Anti-homosexuality Bill of 2009”
2. Dorothy L. Hodgson, “‘These Are Not Our Priorities’: Maasai Women, Human Rights, and the Problem of Culture,” in Hodgson, eds., *Gender and Culture at the Limit of Rights* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011), pp. 138-157

Assignment

Reading Quiz #8 on 3/15

Post a discussion question on Canvas Discussions by Thursday 12:00pm

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, March 21st 10:30am-12:30pm