

African American & African Studies xxx/History 552: History of South Africa

Instructor: Ahmad Sikainga

This course examines political and social developments in South Africa from the establishment of European settlement in mid-seventeenth century to the end of the apartheid system in mid-1990s. It will explore such topics as European colonization of South Africa; the mineral revolution in the nineteenth century and its impact; industrialization and social change; the establishment of the apartheid regime; African resistance; and the political reforms of the 1990s.

Required Texts

1. Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa, 1995.
2. William Beinart, Twentieth-Century South Africa, Oxford, 1994.

The Following Required Readings are on Reserve in the Main Library

1. Luli Callinicos, Working Life, 1886-1940, Raven Press, 1987.
2. Luli Callinicos, A Place In the City, Raven Press, 1993
3. Shula Marks and Richard Rathbone, eds., Industrialization and Social Change in South Africa, 1982.
4. Shula Marks and Stanley Trapido, eds., The Politics of Race, Class, & Nationalism in Twentieth Century South Africa, 1987.

Course Requirements

Students are required to:

1. The class will be conducted in a lecture/seminar format. Assigned readings will be discussed in class. Each student is required to write a short summary of the readings. These summaries must be typed and will be collected by the instructor at the end of the class.
- 2.
3. Take a midterm and a final exam.
3. Write a term paper of approximately 2000 words. The paper must be typed and the format should follow the MLA guidelines. Failure to follow this format will severely affect your

grade. The topic for the paper should be decided after consultation with the instructor. An outline of the paper and a bibliography are due in class on xxx. The final version is due on xxx.

Grading

Attendance and class participation: 25%
Midterm 25%
Final: 25%
Term paper: 25%

Course Outline

Week 1: Pre-Colonial South African Society

Readings

Leonard Thompson, pp. 1-30

Week 2: Nineteenth Century Developments: Mfecane and the Great Trek

Readings

Leonard Thompson, pp. 31-109

Week 3 -4: Mineral Discovery and Its Impact

Readings

Leonard Thompson, pp. 110-153

William Beinart, Twentieth-century South Africa, chapters 1&2

Rob Turrell, "Kimberley: Labor and Compounds, 1871-1888," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp. 45-76.

Kevin Shillington, "The Impact of the Diamond Discoveries on the Kimberley Hinterland," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp. 99-118.

J. Guy, "The Destruction and Reconstruction of Zulu Society," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp. 167-194.

Peter Richardson and Jean Jacques Van-Helton, "Labor in the South African Gold Mining Industry, 1886-1914," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp. 77-98.

Luli Callinicos, Working Life, chapters 1, 2 & 3

Week 5: Political and Social Developments, 1910-1948

Readings

Leonard Thompson, pp. 154-186

Beinart, Twentieth Century South Africa, chapters 3 & 5.

Callinicos, A Place in the City, chapters 4 & 5.

Week 6: African Resistance

Readings

Beinart, Twentieth-century South Africa, chapter 4 & 5.

Brian Willan, "An African Kimberley," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp.238-258.

Luli Callinicos, Working Life, chapters 4-8.
A Place in the City, chapters 1-3.

Philip Bonner, "The Transvaal Native Congress, 1917-1920," in Industrialization and Social Change, pp. 270-313.

Maureen Swan, "Ideology in organized Indian politics, 1891-1948," in The politics of race, class and nationalism, pp.182-208

Tom Lodge, "Political mobilization during the 1950s," in The political of race, class and nationalism, pp.310-335.

Week 7: South Africa in the 1960s and 1970s

Readings:

Leonard Thompson, pp.187-220

William Beinart, pp. 6-7

Week 8: Political Developments in the 1980s

Readings

Leonard Thompson, pp. 221-240

Beinart, Twentieth-century South Africa, chapter 8-9

Week 9: Political Reforms in Early 1990s

Readings:

William Beinart, chapter 10

Thompson, pp. 242-277

Week 10: Review