

## **100.731 Colonial Africa Reading Seminar Fall 2005**

Plan: This seminar is designed to introduce you to recent monographs in African history, with a regional emphasis on West, East and Southern Africa (mainly the latter two) and thematic emphasis on social/cultural history. The seminar is designed as a starting point the graduate reading field you will take with me.

Everyone will read the first book mentioned and it will be the primary topic of discussion.

Beginning with September 20 the bulleted book or items will be read by one person and reported to the class in the form of a 7-10 page review to be shared with all members of the class. Each student will choose two weeks during which to read the extra material and write a review of it (i.e. two separate reviews during the course of the semester). You should choose books that are not in your African region of interest. If you let me know now which two weeks/books you would like to review I will try to apportion them out as fairly as possible.

### **September 13: Reflections on the Discipline (This is the first class meeting, but I want you to have read this material beforehand—I will make it available—so we can discuss it)**

- Martin, William G., and Michael Oliver West, eds. *Out of One, Many Africas: Reconstructing the Study and Meaning of Africa*. Urbana, Ill.: University of Illinois Press, 1999. Pp. 1-122 & 145-154.
- McCracken, John. "African History in British Universities: Past, Present and Future." *African Affairs* 92 (1993): 239-353.
- White, Luise, Stephan Miescher, and David William Cohen, eds. *African Words, African Voices: Critical Practices in Oral History*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2001. Pp. 1-27.
- Lebovics, Herman. *Bringing the Empire Back Home: France in the Global Age*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2004. Pp. 143-177.
- Feierman, Steven. "African Histories and the Dissolution of World History." In *Africa and the Disciplines: The Contributions of Research in Africa to the Social Sciences and Humanities*, edited by Robert H. Bates, V. Y. Mudimbe and Jean O'Barr, 167-212. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993.
- Moore, Sally Falk. "Changing Perspectives on a Changing Africa: The Work of Anthropology." In *Africa and the Disciplines: The Contributions of Research in Africa to the Social Sciences and Humanities*, edited by Robert H. Bates, V. Y. Mudimbe and Jean O'Barr, 3-57. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993.

All students should read several essays in: Philips, John Edward, ed. *Writing African History*. Rochester, N.Y.: University of Rochester Press, 2005. I particularly recommend those by John Edward Philips, Susan Keech McIntosh, Christopher Ehret, David Henige, Barbara M. Cooper, John Thornton, and Henry John Drewel.

**September 20:** Frederick Cooper. *Colonialism in Question: Theory, Knowledge, History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

- Magubane, Zine. *Bringing the Empire Home: Race, Class, and Gender in Britain and Colonial South Africa*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

**September 27:** Thomas, Lynn M. *Politics of the Womb: Women, Reproduction, and the State in Kenya*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.

- Lindsay, Lisa A., and Stephan Miescher, eds. *Men and Masculinities in Modern Africa*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2003.

**October 4:** Glaser, Clive. *Bo-Tsotsi: The Youth Gangs of Soweto, 1935-1976*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2000.

- McClendon, Thomas V. *Genders and Generations Apart: Labor Tenants and Customary Law in Segregation-Era South Africa, 1920s to 1940s*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2003.

**October 11:** Willis, Justin. *Potent Brews: A Social History of Alcohol in East Africa, 1850-1999*. Oxford, U.K.: James Currey, 2002.

- Weiss, Brad. *Sacred Tree, Bitter Harvests: Globalizing Coffee in Colonial Northwest Tanzania*. Westport, Conn.: Heinemann, 2003.

**October 18:** Anderson, David M. *Histories of the Hanged: The Dirty War in Kenya and the End of Empire*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2005.

- Elkins, Caroline. *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya*. New York: Henry Holt, 2005.

**October 25:** Crais, Clifton C. *The Politics of Evil: Magic, State Power, and the Political Imagination in South Africa*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

- Witz, Leslie. *Apartheid's Festival: Contesting South Africa's National Pasts*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2003.

**November 1:** Peterson, Derek R. *Creative Writing: Translation, Bookkeeping, and the Work of Imagination in Colonial Kenya*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2004.

- Hofmeyr, Isabel. *The Portable Bunyan: A Transnational History of The Pilgrim's Progress*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004.

**November 8:** Larson in London, no class.

**November 15:** Vaughan, Megan. *Creating the Creole Island: Slavery in Eighteenth-Century Mauritius*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2005. Together with: Larson, Pier M. "Madagascar and the African Diaspora: Malagasy and the Work or the Word in the Colonial Mascarenes." 2005.

- Jayasuriya, Shihan de S., and Richard Pankhurst, eds. *The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean*. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2003.

**November 22:** Mason, John Edwin. *Social Death and Resurrection: Slavery and Emancipation in South Africa*. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia Press, 2003.

- Beinart, William. *The Rise of Conservation in South Africa: Settlers, Livestock, and the Environment, 1770-1950*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

**November 29:** Sundiata, Ibrahim K. *Brothers and Strangers: Black Zion, Black slavery, 1914-1940*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2003.

- Brooks, George E. *Eurafricans in Western Africa: Commerce, Social Status, Gender, and Religious Observance from the Sixteenth to the Eighteenth Century*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 2003.

**December 5:** Edwards, Brent Hayes. *The Practice of Diaspora: Literature, Translation, and the Rise of Black Internationalism*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2003.

- Gomez, Michael Angelo. *Reversing Sail: A History of the African Diaspora*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Larson, Pier M. "African Diasporas and the Atlantic." In *The Atlantic and Global History*, edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Eric Seeman, in press. New York: Prentice Hall, 2006. (This is a short article).

**December 12:** Isaacman, Allen F., and Barbara Isaacman. *Slavery and Beyond: The Making of Men and Chikunda Ethnic Identities in the Unstable World of South-central Africa, 1750-1920*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2004.

- Getz, Trevor R. *Slavery and Reform in West Africa: Toward Emancipation in Nineteenth-Century Senegal and the Gold Coast*. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2004; or Hawthorne, Walter. *Planting Rice and Harvesting Slaves: Transformations along the Guinea-Bissau Coast, 1400-1900*. Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 2003.