History 3392: East, Central, and South Africa
Fall 2013
1055 Convocation Center
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Monday/Wednesday 12:30-1:45pm
Office Hours: M/W 11am-noon, 2-3pm
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Objectives:

This course concerns the Eastern, Central, and Southern Regions of Africa since the earliest days of humanity until recent times. It critically engages the most vital themes of pre-colonial, colonial, and postcolonial Africa, and does so such a way so as to make Africa’s history relevant to contemporary political, economic, and environmental issues.

Basis for Final Grades:

Your final grade will be derived from performance on 3 take-home examinations, each representing a third of your grade. These will consist of short answer and essay questions and students will have approximately a week to complete them.
The course uses a conventional grading scale (detailed below.)
A=89.5 or better
B=79.5 to 89.49
C=69.5 to 79.49
D=59.5 to 69.49
F=59.49 or below

Required Texts:

History of Africa by Kevin Shillington
A Grain of Wheat, Ngugi wa Thiongo
Nervous Conditions, Tsitsi Dangarembga

Academic Integrity Statement:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a
grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required, and I will be taking roll at random intervals. Please note that examinations will draw from both the text and from lectures, and success in the class will likely entail regular attendance and note-taking.

Course Outline/Tentative Schedule:

August
Week One: 19th and 21st
Readings: Chapter 1 in Textbook.
Introductions and Expectations
Introduction to African History. Geography. Climate.
Disciplinary Concerns
Week Two: 26th and 28th
Readings: Chapters 2-4, 8 in Text
Climate, Geography, and African History as a Discipline (discussion continued)
Sub-Saharan Africa and the Cradle of Humanity

September
Week Three: No class on the 2nd, resumes on the 4th
Readings: Review readings from Week Two
Agriculture, Pastoralism, Iron-working, and the Bantu “Migration”
Week Four: 9th and 11th
Readings: Chapter 9
Early East African History to ca 1500
Rise of the Swahili Coast
Week Six: 16th and 18th
Readings: Chapter 10
Central Africa to 1600 C.E.
Southern Africa to 1600 C.E.
Week Seven: 23rd and 25th
Readings: Chapters 12, 14, and 17
The Slave Trade in Central Africa
East and Central Africa to the 18th Century

**Midterm Take-Home Examination**
Week Eight: 30th and October 2nd
Readings: Chapters 15 and 18
Early and preindustrial South Africa
Week Nine: October 7th and 9th

**October 11th: Last day to withdraw without academic penalty**
Week Ten: October 14th and 16th
Readings: Skim Chapter 21 for main themes, begin chapters 22-24 and *A Grain of Wheat*
The slow slide into Colonization
Week Eleven: October 21st and 23rd
Readings: Continue Reading 22-24 and *A Grain of Wheat*
Colonization: Early Programs, The Congo and British East Africa
Week Twelve: October 28th and 30th
Readings: Finish 22-24, *A Grain of Wheat*
High Tide of Colonization

November
Week Thirteen (4th and 6th)
Readings: Review *A Grain of Wheat*
A Grain of Wheat book discussion and decolonization (beginnings)

Second midterm made available

Week Fourteen (11th and 13th)
Readings: Chapters 25 and 26
Decolonization (Continued)
Independent Africa

Week Fifteen (18th and 20th)
Readings: Chapters 27-29
Independent Africa; Rwandan Genocide Case Study
Begin Film (In Class)

Week Sixteen (25th)
Readings: Chapters 27-29 (Review)
In class film (continued)

December
Week Seventeen (2nd and 4th)
Contemporary Africa
Learning through Eating: th Ugali lesson

Final Exam due Exam Week