History 3392: East, Central, and South Africa
Fall 2016
3010 Social Science
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Monday/Wednesday 3:30-4:45pm
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 2:30-3:30 pm, 4:45pm-5:30pm Mondays and Wednesdays
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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. Attendance and quiz grades will determine borderline grades.

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:

Week One (August 15 and 17)
Readings: Chapter 1 in textbook.
Introductions and Expectations
Introduction to African History. Geography. Climate.
Disciplinary Concerns

Week Two (August 22 and 24)
Readings: Chapters 2-4, 8 in textbook
Climate, Geography, and African History as a Discipline (discussion continued)
Sub-Saharan Africa and the Cradle of Humanity

Week Three (August 29 and 31)
Readings: Review readings from Week Two
Agriculture, Pastoralism, Iron-working, and the Bantu “Migration”

Week Four (September 5 and 7)
No Class September 5-Holiday
Readings: Chapter 9
Early East African History to ca 1500
Rise of the Swahili Coast

Week Five (September 12 and 14)
Readings: Chapter 10
Central Africa to 1600 C.E.
Southern Africa to 1600 C.E.

Week Six (September 19-21)
Readings: Chapters 12, 14, and 17
The Slave Trade in Central Africa
East and Central Africa to the 18th Century
First Midterm Examination

Week Seven (September 26-September 28)
Readings: Chapters 15 and 18
Early and Pre-Industrial South Africa
Week Eight (October 3 and 5)
Readings: Skim Chapter 21 for main themes, begin chapters 22-24 and *A Grain of Wheat*
The slow slide into colonization

**Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty October 5th**

Week Nine (October 10 and 12)
Readings: Continue Reading 22-24 and *A Grain of Wheat*
Colonization: Early Programs, The Congo and British East Africa

Week Ten (October 17 and 19)
Readings: Finish 22-24, *A Grain of Wheat*
High Tide of Colonization

Week Eleven (October 24 and 26)
Readings: Review *A Grain of Wheat*
*A Grain of Wheat* book discussion and decolonization (beginnings)

**Second Midterm Examination**

Week Twelve (October 31 and November 2)
Readings: Chapters 25 and 26
Decolonization (Continued)
Independent Africa

Week Thirteen (November 7 and 9)
Readings: Chapters 27-29
Independent Africa; Rwandan Genocide Case Study
Begin Film (In Class)

Week Fourteen (November 14 and 16)
Readings: Chapters 27-29 (Review)
In class film (continued)

**Autumn Break (November 21-27)**

Week Fifteen (November 28 and 30)
Contemporary Africa
Learning through Eating: the Ugali lesson

Week Sixteen (December 5 (Last Day))
Review
**Final Exam-Due Exam Week (December 9th)**