History 3392: East, Central, and South Africa
Spring 2010
Room 2027 Social Science Building
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Tuesday/Thursday 5-6:15 pm
Office Hours: TBA
Office: 4090 Social Science
Email: pryan4@kennesaw.edu. (Please use the WebCT Vista Mail, however.)
Office Phone: 770-499-3463

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 of equal weight. 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:

I will not be taking attendance during the course of the term. Please Note, however, 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:

Week One
Readings: Chapter One in textbook

Week Two
Readings: Chapters 2-4, 8 In textbook.
Tuesday, January 12, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Cradle of Humanity
Thursday, January 14, Agriculture, Pastoralism, Iron-working, and the Bantu “Migration”

Week Three
Readings: Review Week Two readings, Chapter 9
Tuesday, January 19, Early East African History to ca 1500
Thursday, January 21, Rise of the Swahili Coast

Week Four
Readings: Chapter 10
Tuesday, January 26, Central Africa to 1600 C.E.
Thursday, January 28, Southern Africa to 1600 C.E.
Week Five
Readings: Chapters 14 and 15
Tuesday, February 2, 18th Century Central and Eastern Africa
Thursday, February 4, South African History to the 18th Century

Week Six
Readings: Chapters 17 and 18
Tuesday, February 9, 18th 19th Century Slave Trade in Central and Eastern Africa
Thursday, February 11, The Rise of the Zulu state, the Mfecane, and 19th century European expansion into Southern Africa

Week Seven
Readings: Chapter 20
Tuesday, February 16, Christianity and the “Mapping” of Tropical Africa in the 19th century. 1st take-home exam posted online.
Thursday, February 18. (Tentative) No class. Use the time for the take-home exam.

Week Eight
Readings: Chapters 21 and 22
Tuesday, February 23, Colonial conquest in sub-Saharan Africa. Collect take-home exam in class.
Thursday, February 25, Southern African Industrial Revolution.

Week Nine
Readings: Chapter 23, Make a good start on A Grain of Wheat.
Tuesday, March 2, Early Colonial Period in East and Central Africa
Thursday, March 4, Indirect Rule: the Peak of Colonial Rule
Week Ten
Tuesday, March 9, Spring Break, No Class.
Thursday, March 11, Spring Break, No Class.

Week Eleven
Readings: Chapter 24, Finish reading A Grain of Wheat
Tuesday, March 16, Themes in Colonial East and Central African History
Thursday, March 18, Themes in Colonial East and Central African History

Week Eleven
Readings: Chapter 25
Tuesday, March 23, WWII and the Last Years of Colonialism
Thursday, March 25, Nationalism and Decolonization

Week Twelve
Readings: Chapter 26
Tuesday, March 30, Decolonization Case Study: Kenya. 2nd take-home exam posted online.
Thursday, April 1, (Tentative) No Class…use time for take-home examination.

Week Thirteen
Readings: Chapters 27-29, skimming over portions pertaining to West Africa to absorb the general picture.
Tuesday, April 6, Decolonization to Independent Africa. 2nd take-home exam collected.
Thursday, April 8, Early Independent States

Week Fourteen
No Readings
Tuesday, April 13, Struggling with Ethnic Violence and Colonial Legacy
Thursday, April 15, Film: Hotel Rwanda

Week Fifteen
Finish Reading *Nervous Conditions*.

Tuesday, April 20, Complete Film, Hotel Rwanda. 3rd take-home posted online.

Thursday, April 22, Transnationalism and the New African Diasporah. *Nervous Conditions* discussion.

Week Sixteen

Tuesday, April 27, Contemporary Problems and the Promise of Tomorrow.

Thursday, April 29, Modern Africa and Cooking/Eating Culture. 3rd take-home exam collected.