

HIS 364G/ AFR 374C • HISTORY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Fall 2011 • Office Hours: MW: 1:00-2:00
Meets: M 3:00-6:00 PM
Instructor: Ruramisai Charumbira; r-c@austin.utexas.edu
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Course Description

Southern Africa is one of the continent's rich and varied regions, a region that holds cradle of humanity historical sites as well as thriving modern cities and everything in-between. Designed to both introduce students to the history of the region and give an in-depth understanding of particular countries as case studies, the course is both challenging and rewarding in the readings and writing assignments expected of students. Each year, the country case studies may change, and this year, 2011-12, the case countries will be Namibia and Botswana. We will particularly focus on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, analyzing how historical events and figures from that time- period inform what is going in those countries and that region of Africa today. **NB: This is a writing intensive course.**

Texts (all available at the University Co-op Bookstore as well as 24hr Reserve @ PLC)

- ❖ Gretchen Bauer, *Politics in Southern Africa: State Society in Transition*
- ❖ Colin Leys and Susan Brown, *Histories of Namibia: Living through the Liberation Struggle*
- ❖ Andre Brink, *The Other Side of Silence*
- ❖ W. A. Edge and M.H. Lekorwe, eds., *Botswana: Politics and Society*
- ❖ Marjorie Shostak, *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*

Course Requirements and Assessment

- 🚩 10% - Two Map Quizzes (5% each)
- 🚩 20% - Attendance and Participation

- ✚ 10% - Bibliographic Essay (2 pages)
- ✚ 40% - Analytical Essays (4 @ 10% each)
- ✚ 20% - Final paper (10 pages).

Grading scale: A+ 97-100; A 94-96; A- 90-93; B+ 87-89; B 84-86; B- 80-83
C+ 77-79; C 74-76; C- 70-73; D+ 67-70; D 61-66; F 60 and below

The History Department and The University of Texas at Austin take Academic integrity, also known as Plagiarism, very seriously. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. For an overview of the University and Department's policy regarding scholastic dishonesty, see these websites:

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic-integrity.php>
http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php

Religious Holy Day Policy: In this course, we follow the UT Policy for observance of any religious holiday. The Student should inform the Professor as far in advance as possible to make arrangements.

Course Grading Policy: The grades come in the +/- and straight range, as in: A+, A, A-, and so on. An A range grade signifies "exceptionally high achievement". The B range denotes "superior achievement". Students who receive a C range grade achieved a "satisfactory" mark. Then there are the lower marks- the D range calls attention to the students who achieved a "passing but unsatisfactory" mark. Likewise, an F range means "failure", and an I is an "incomplete" for the course.

Class Attendance and Participation: This is not a course by correspondence. To that end, your physical, intellectual, and whole self is expected in class each week. Missing more than two classes – for whatever reason – means, you will automatically lose 50% of your attendance and participation grade.

Disability Statement: Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately as soon as possible to discuss his or her specific needs. I rely on the College of Liberal Arts for the need for reasonable accommodation based on documentation on file in their offices. Please act early as retroactive accommodation is not an option.

Classroom Etiquette: Respect is important both in and outside the classroom. In the classroom it means raising your hand, waiting your turn, and being respectful of different points of view on different issues. Also, in the 21st century, everyone has a laptop, smart phone, or whatever; so except on designated days please *turn off/silence and store away* your gizmos during class.

Communication: Updates about the class will be mainly through **Blackboard and email**. Please make sure you have an active UT email, and/or make sure your preferred email address is set up to receive class emails. Ignorance of important class information is inadmissible as an excuse.

Class Schedule (Subject to Revision on or before First Day of Class)

Week 01-Aug 29: Introduction to Southern Africa to 1800.

Week 02-Sept 05: Introduction to Southern Africa since 1800

Week 03-Sept 12: **Introduction to Case Study I - Namibia**

Week 04-Sept 19: German Colonialism

Week 05-Sept 26: Herero Genocide

Week 06-Oct 03: New Colonial Masters and Apartheid

Week 07-Oct 05: Liberation Struggle

Week 08-Oct 10: **Introduction to Case Study II - Botswana**

Week 09-Oct 17: British Protectorate

Week 10-Oct 24: Botswana in Regional Politics and Economics

Week 11-Oct 31: Disquiet at the Front

Week 12-Nov 07: The Price of Precious Stones

Week 13 Nov 14: Writing Workshop I

Week 14-Nov 21: Writing Workshop II

Week 15-Nov 28: Individual Library Research and Writing

Week 16-Dec 05: Writing Workshop III