

APARTHEID and RESISTANCE IN SOUTH AFRICAN HISTORY

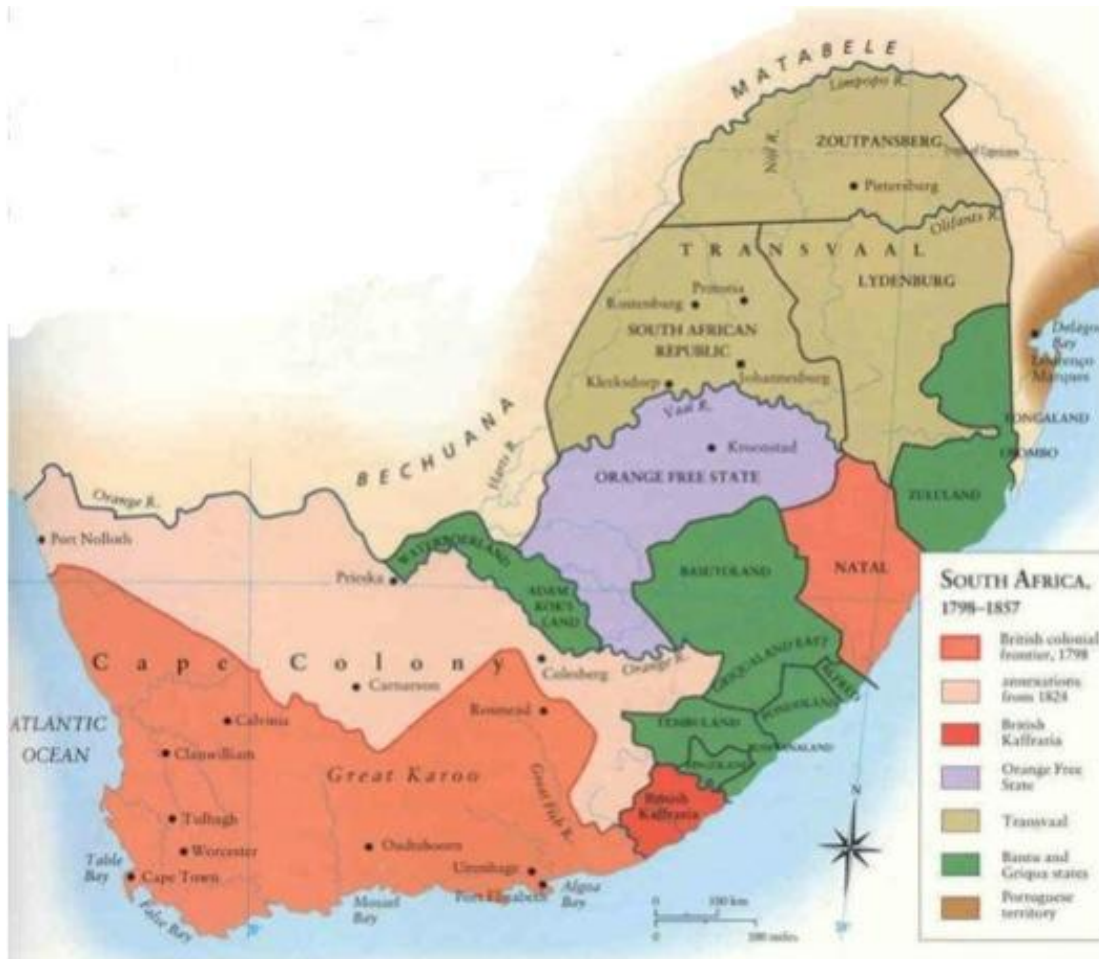
Spring 2015 • Meets: Th 3:30-6:30 PM • PAR 304

Office Hours: Thursdays, 2:15-3:15pm and by appointment

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Course Description and Objectives

This course is a study of one of the most traumatic periods in South African History. It is a study of a people’s agency and resilience in the face state sanctioned terror. With a brief detour into the deeper past of South Africa to contextualize the rise of apartheid, the course will predominantly focus on the period since 1948. We will study the social, political, economic, and cultural history of a nation in the grip of legalized oppression from the perspectives of women, children, and men - of all "racial" backgrounds - who lived through that particular period. While the course will focus on both oppression and agency, and the in-between-spaces, students are advised that some of the course content (books, audio, and video material) will include violent scenes. The course will NOT cover everything, but aim for a deeper understanding of some of the key moments that illuminate apartheid in the history of South Africa. The course’s two major objectives are: a) a firm grounding in Southern African history through the case study of South Africa in the period studied; b) facilitating the learning and practice of the historian’s craft of critical reflection through close reading, analysis, and writing. Please note that this is an intensive reading and writing course. Those students interested in honing their critical analysis and narrative writing skills will find this a rewarding course. *Sam’kele, Kamohelo, Welcome!*



REQUIRED TEXTS (all available at the University Co-op Bookstore and 24hr Reserve @ PLC)

- ✚ Thompson, 3rd Edition, *A History of South Africa*
- ✚ Biko (and Aelred Stubbs, ed.), *I Write What I Like*
- ✚ First, *117 Days: An Account of Confinement...*
- ✚ Ramphela, *Across Boundaries: The Journey of a South African...*
- ✚ Ngcobo, *And They Didn't Die*
- ✚ Mathabane, *Kaffir Boy: An Autobiography*
- ✚ Gordimer, *July's People*
- ✚ Coetzee, *Boyhood: Scenes from a Provincial Life*
- ✚ Gobodo-Madikizela, *A Human Being Died That Night*

COURSE ASSESSMENT (NB: All Due Dates are on Page 4)

- ❖ 20% - Attendance and Participation
- ❖ 10% - Two Map Quizzes (5% each)
- ❖ 50% - Journal of Reflection Essays (5% each of 10 selected weeks, 3 double-space pages)
- ❖ 20% - Final Essay (10 double-space pages).

Grading Policy: The grades come in the +/- and straight range. **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

Course Policies

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. See: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic-integrity.php>
http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php **Class Attendance and Participation:** This is **not** an online course. To that end, your physical, intellectual, and whole self is expected in class each week. Missing more than two class – for whatever reason – means, you will automatically lose 50% of your attendance and participation grade. **Disability Statement:** Any student who 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. Everyone has a laptop, smart phone, or whatever; so except on designated days please *turn off and store* your gizmos during class. **Communication:** Updates about the class will be mainly through **Canvas and email**. Please make sure you have an active UT email, and/or that your preferred email address is set up to receive class emails. Ignorance of important class information is inadmissible as an excuse. **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.

CLASS SCHEDULE – NB: Films are an Integral Part of Required Course Material

Week 01-Jan 22: The Africans, Settler Society and the Seeds of Apartheid
Course Introduction and Housekeeping

Week 02-Jan 29: Imperialism: The Seeds of Apartheid and Resistance
Thompson, *History of South Africa*, Chapters 1, 4 & 5

Week 03-Feb 05: Nationalisms and Apartheid: The Afrikaners, “Whites”
Thompson, *History of South Africa*, Chapter 6; Dubow, “Afrikaner Nationalism, Apartheid and the Conceptualization of ‘Race’” *Journal of African History* www.jstor.org/stable/182999; Sparks, “The Rise of Apartheid.”

Week 04-Feb 12: Nationalisms, Apartheid Laws, and Resistance: The Africans, “Blacks”
Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*, Selected Sections

Week 05-Feb 19: Complicated Whiteness under Apartheid
J.M. Coetzee, *Boyhood*

Week 06-Feb 26: Apartheid’s Tentacles in the Prisons
Ruth First, *117 Days: An Account of Confinement and Interrogation*

Week 07-Mar 05: Intellectuals Resisting Apartheid: The Black Consciousness Movement (BCM)
Steve Biko (and Aelred Stubbs, ed.), *I Write What I Like: Selected Writings*

Week 08-Mar 12: Engineering Tribalism and Backwardness: Rural Life under Apartheid
Lauretta Ngcobo, *And They Didn't Die*

WEEK 09-MAR 19: SPRING BREAK

Week 10-Mar 26: Manufacturing Subservience in the Urban Ghettos
Thompson, *History of South Africa*, Chapter 7; Mark Mathabane, *Kaffir Boy: An Autobiography...*

Week 11-Apr 02: Surviving and Thriving in spite of Apartheid
Mamphela Ramphele, *Across Boundaries: The Journey of a South African Woman Leader*

Week 12-Apr 09: Role Reversal after Apartheid?
Thompson, *History of South Africa*, Chapter 8; Nadine Gordimer, *July's People*

Week 13-Apr 16: Transition: Truth and Reconciliation?
Thompson, *History of South Africa*, Chapter 9; Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, *A Human Being Died That Night....*

Week 14-Apr 23: Map Quizzes & Final Essay Writing Workshop I

Week 15-Apr 30: Final Essay Writing Workshop II

Week 16-May 07: Final Essay Due in Class at 3:30pm.

ALL ESSAYS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH, unless otherwise noted. NB: NO LATE OR EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE ON JOURNAL ASSIGNMENTS

You are required to have a **flat folder** where you will collect all your journal entries throughout the semester – no fancy binders, please. Your very last submission will be your folder with the final essay on top and all other journal entries in descending order

ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES/ DUE DATES

Week 01:

Week 02:

Week 03: Journal 01

Week 04: Journal 02

Week 05: Journal 03

Week 06: Journal 04

Week 07: Journal 05

Week 08: Journal 06

Week 9: MAR 19: SPRING BREAK

Week 10: Journal 07

Week 11: Journal 08

Week 12: Journal 09

Week 13: Journal 10

Week 14: Map Quizzes 1& 2; AND Writing Workshop I

Week 16: Final Essay & Folder due Thursday, May 07, 2015 in class at 3:30pm in Class.