HIST 312 Winter 2013
History of Southern Africa

Dr. Julie MacArthur
julie.macarthur@ubc.ca
Phone: 604 882 5073
Office: 1222, Buchanan Tower
Office Hours: Monday 3PM - 5PM
MW 1PM - 3PM
F Tutorial Times

Course Overview

This course examines the histories of southern Africa, giving particular attention to the making of modern South Africa. Themes explored include: early migrations and settlements; cultures of exchange, conflict and community; the Zulu Kingdom and the historiographical controversy over the "mfecane"; mining, labour migrancy and Christianity; imperial wars and segregation; Afrikaner nationalism and the apartheid state; strategies of resistance, including the ANC and Black Consciousness movement; regional conflict and the Cold War; the fall of apartheid; democratization and the "New South Africa." Placing the history of South Africa in a regional context, students will be expected to examine the changing frameworks historians have employed to understand the history of southern Africa, including gender, race and ethnicity, class, youth, religion, colonialism and resistance.

Required Readings (All Texts Available at the UBC Bookstore):

Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa (2001)
John A. Williams, From the South African Past (1997)
Steve Biko, I Write What I Like (1978)
Course Reader Available at the UBC Bookstore

Available Recommended Readings:

Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom
William Beinart, Twentieth-Century South Africa (2001)

Course Evaluation:

History and Memory Paper 10% (1,000 words) DUE 1 February 2013
Take Home Midterm 15% Handed Out In Class 8 February 2013 / DUE 15 February 2013
Term Paper Proposal and Bibliography 5% (250 words, min. 5 sources) DUE 1 March 2013
Term Paper 25% (3,000 words) DUE 27 March 2013
Final Exam 30% TBA
Participation 15%
Week One (2 and 4 January): Introduction: Themes and Trends in Southern African History


Week Two (7, 9 and 11 January): Early Southern African Societies and European Incursions at the Cape

**Required Readings:** Leonard Thompson, Ch. 2 (optional background); Leonard Guelke and Robert Shell, "Landscape of conquest: Frontier water conquest and Khoikhoi strategies of survival, 1652-1780", *Journal of Southern African Studies*, Volume 18, Issue 4 December 1992, 803-824 (available online); Susan Newton-King, Masters and Servants in the Cape Eastern Frontier, 1760-1803 (1993), Ch. 5; *From the South African Past*, 6-12.


Week Three (14, 16 and 18 January): The Zulu Kingdom: Conflict and State Formation in the Interior


Week Four (21, 23 and 25 January): Colonizing Consciousness on Colonial Frontiers, Part One


Week Five (28 and 30 January, 1 February): Colonizing Consciousness on Colonial Frontiers, Part Two

**Required Reading:** J.B. Peires, “Suicide or genocide? Xhosa perceptions of the Nongqawuse catastrophe”, *Radical History Review* Vol. 46, No.7 (1990), 47-57 (available online); *From the South African Past*, 64-67.

**Tutorial:** Gender, Religion and the Colonial Apocalypse in Zakes Mda's *The Heart of Redness* (2003).

**History and Memory Paper Due in Class 1 February 2013**


Week Six (4, 6 and 8 February): Mining, Conquest and Social Change at the Turn of the Century


online as ebook); Andrew Porter, “The South African war (1899-1902): Context and Motive Reconsidered” Journal of African History, 31 (1990), 43-57 (available online); Extracts from the praise poems of Lentswe (chief of the (Tswana) Kgatla, in modern Botswana), and Ramono (Chief of Transvaal (Tswana) Kgatl, modern South Africa) in Shapera, Praise-Poems of Tswana Chiefs, 92-102.

8 February 2013 Take Home Midterm Exam Questions Handed Out in Class


Week Seven (13 and 15 February): Mobility and Resistance in the Era of Segregation


15 February 2013 Take Home Midterm Exam DUE


Week Eight (25 and 27 February, 1 March): Afrikaner Nationalism and the Origins of the Apartheid System


1 March 2013 Term Paper Proposal DUE


**Week Nine (4, 6 and 8 March): Early Resistance and "Grand Apartheid" in the era of Decolonization**

**Film Screening: Come Back Africa**

**Required Readings:** Leonard Thompson, 204-220; *From the South African Past*, 262-263, 276-285, 289-291.


**Week Ten (11, 13 and 15 March): Apartheid and the World: Regional Warfare, International Politics and the Economics of Oppression**


**Tutorial:** Southern Africa during the Cold War - Case Studies.

**Week Eleven (18, 20 and 22 March): Youth, Education and Resistance in the Townships: Soweto and After**

**Required Readings:** Clive Glaser, " 'We Must Infiltrate the Tsotsis': School Politics and Youth Gangs in Soweto", *Journal of Southern African Studies* Vol. 24, N. 2 (June 1998), 301-323 *(available online).*


Week Twelve (25 and 27 March): The End of Apartheid


27 March 2013 Final Term Paper DUE in Tutorial

Week Thirteen (3 and 5 April): The New South Africa: AIDS, Memory and Reconciliation


**Tutorial:** Exam Prep