

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

University of Louisville  
Departments of History & Pan-African Studies

## **African History Since 1800--SBHP2**

---

**HIST 394, Sect 01, Class Nbr #4438**

**PAS 394, Sec 01, Class Nbr #4439**

**Credit Hours: 3.00**

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:00-2:15pm

Gottschalk Hall, Room #203

Instructor: Dr. Tyler Fleming  
Office: Room 301F, Gottschalk Hall  
Phone: (502) 852-3658  
Email: tyler.fleming@louisville.edu  
Office Hours: 2:30-4:30pm on Tuesdays

**Course Description and Objectives:** This course introduces students to the history of the African continent since 1800. The course starts with an overview analysis of the great changes of the nineteenth century, including the partition of the continent. The course is divided into two phases: the colonial and post-colonial. In the first phase, the imposition of colonial rule, the changes of colonial rule, and decolonization are the three principal themes. The second half of the course examines a variety of issues dealing with independence, the management of modern states, and international systems. As most of these issues are new to students, books have been carefully selected and the lectures are organized in such a way that the students may follow. The course will also use films, documentaries, and primary sources to illustrate certain key points. This course fosters active learning by asking students to think critically, to communicate effectively, and to understand social, historical, and cultural perspectives.

### **Historical Perspective (SBH)**

Historical Perspective is concerned with understanding change over time. Courses addressing this requirement cover a broad body of historical knowledge and compare different societies and cultures. Students who satisfy this requirement will demonstrate that they are able to do all of the following:

1. Demonstrate the ability to understand change over time. *Through examinations, quizzes, essays, classroom discussions and other exercises, students will demonstrate an understanding of change and continuity over time. Through such assignments and exercises, students will also hone their ability to place historical events within relevant contexts.*
2. Demonstrate the ability to understand and contrast alternative historical interpretations of events. *Through examinations, essays, quizzes and other exercises, students will demonstrate their understanding of historical arguments and backing up such theses with sound evidence.*
3. Demonstrate the ability to understand the importance of changing context and to understand events in different cultural contexts. *Through examinations, essays, quizzes and other exercises, students will demonstrate their ability to*

*place events in different cultural contexts.*

4. Communicate effectively in writing and use citation appropriate to the discipline.  
*Through examinations, essays, classroom participation and various other exercises, students will demonstrate their ability to construct and defend an argument interpreting history based on appropriate evidence.*

### **Global Perspectives (P2)**

Students who satisfy this requirement will demonstrate that they are able to do all of the following:

1. Identify how historical, social, and cultural structures and processes shape understandings of social stratification in non-U.S. societies. *This course and its assignments will examine all of the above in relation to societies, customs, and traditions within African history.*
2. Demonstrate understanding of how these structures and processes affect the life experiences and opportunities of individuals and/or groups in non-U.S. societies. *Through examinations, essays, quizzes and other exercises, students will examine various life experiences across the African continent over centuries.*
3. Identify, interpret, and evaluate evidence from different social locations and from multiple points of view. *The assignments in this course will test student's geographical knowledge of the African continent and examine the diversity of experiences within African history.*

**Grading:** Assignments will be graded on a percentage system. Anything graded 97 and above is an A+, between 93 and 96 an A, and between 90 and 92 an A-. The same pattern applies for Bs, Cs and Ds. Grades for exams and response papers will be based on strengths of arguments, use of specific materials from class readings and lectures, quality of organization, and the student's ability to demonstrate a grasp of the themes and issues presented throughout the course.

### **Final Grade Breakdown:**

Map Quiz.....	10%
Midterm Exam.....	20%
Book Response Paper #1.....	20%
Book Response Paper #2.....	20%
Final Exam.....	20%
Attendance & Participation.....	10%

### **Require Materials:**

Bâ, Mariama, *So Long A Letter* (Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press, Inc., 2012), ISBN: 9781577668060.

Getz, Trevor and Liz Clarke, *Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015), ISBN: 9780190238742.

Reid, Richard J., *A History of Modern Africa: 1800 to the Present (Second Edition)* (West Sussex, United Kingdom: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012), ISBN: 9780470658987.

Wa Thiong'o, Ngũgĩ, *Dreams in a Time of War: A Childhood Memoir*, New York: Anchor Books, 2011), ISBN: 9780307476210.

\*\*\*All four books are on reserve in Ekstrom Library. Students can check out the book for 2 hours per checkout.

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

Students are also required to provide two blue examination booklets. They are available for purchase at the U of L bookstore.

**Class Policies:**

1. *Attendance:* It is expected that all students will regularly attend class. Lectures and classroom discussions will be reflected in all exams. Attendance will be taken for the lecturer's records. It is each student's responsibility to make sure that the Instructor has recorded his or her attendance for that day. Office hours will not be used to repeat lectures but to clarify points. Lastly, the Instructor will not give lecture notes to students.

2. *Excused Absences:* The only excusable absences are those where a student is participating in a university-sanctioned event (examples include students missing class for a field trip, a student presenting at a conference, an athlete travelling for a sporting event). As university policy stipulates, students missing class for a university-sanctioned event must produce an absence request letter stipulating:

- a. the name, date(s), and location(s) of the event(s);
- b. the date of departure from campus and the exact time when the student is expected to report for departure;
- c. and the date of return to campus and exact day & time that the student will be expected to return to class.

Such letters **must be provided two weeks** prior to the event. Failure to provide such letter may lead to your absences not being excused.

For unforeseen absences (such as illness or death of a family member), students may be excused for the absence and missed assignments only if the student provides the proper written documentation (ex. a written note from a doctor explicitly stating the exact date and time when you were unavailable).

3. *Religious Holidays:* Federal law and university policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of religious belief. It is the policy of the University of Louisville to accommodate students, faculty, and staff who observe religious work-restricted holy days. Students who observe work-restricted religious holy days will be allowed to do so without jeopardizing their academic standing in any course. This course will accommodate students' request(s) for adjustments in course work on the grounds of religious observance, provided that the student(s) make such request(s) in writing during the first two (2) weeks of term.

4. *Course Property:* The course's syllabus, lectures and exams used in this course are the property of the instructor, Tyler Fleming. They are designed for the exclusive use of the enrolled students in this specific course. As a result, the above may not be reproduced in any form (including electronically) without the professor's written permission.

5. *Classroom Etiquette:* The University of Louisville strives to foster and sustain an environment of inclusiveness that empowers us all to achieve our highest potential without fear of prejudice or bias. We commit ourselves to building an exemplary educational community that offers a nurturing and challenging intellectual climate, a respect for the spectrum of human diversity, and a genuine understanding of the many differences-including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

status, disability, religion, national origin or military status-that enrich a vibrant metropolitan research university. Every member of this class is expected to embrace the underlying values of the University of Louisville's vision. As such, everyone will treat each other with respect.

6. *Electronics:* The use of cell phones, mp3 players, laptop computers or similar electronic devices **are strictly prohibited** during class (except in specific cases where the student has been given explicit permission). Various studies have proven that students who use electronic devices during class retain less information and perform worse than those who do not. Students who refuse to abide by these rules will be asked to leave the class for the day and will be receive a zero on any assignment for that day.

7. *Punctuality:* Students are expected to arrive on time to class. Students who fail to do so may miss pop quizzes or other crucial information, which they cannot make up. Students who are more than five minutes late for any exam or quiz will not be allowed to attempt the assignment and will be assigned the grade of a zero for that particular assignment. Similarly, students who need to leave early should notify the instructor beforehand and sit near the door as to not disturb your classmates.

8. *Readings:* The readings assigned in this course are mandatory. If you hope to do well in this course, you must keep up with all the weekly readings. Students should complete that day's assignments before each class. Usually the readings will consist of the assigned class texts, but there will be times where you will be expected to download a reading off BlackBoard. In these instances, students should print out the readings, take notes, and bring their print outs and notes to class.

9. *Handing in of submissions:* Every assignment must be turned in before the end of class. Students are expected to turn in a hard copy in class *as well as* turn in an electronic copy via email.

10. *Late submissions:* All assignments must be submitted in class on due dates. A penalty of five points per day (including weekends) will be deducted on all late submissions.

11. *Make-up Assignments:* There will be no make-up assignments, except for documented emergencies. If you know that you will not be able to take an exam on the scheduled day, then you **MUST** let me know **BEFOREHAND**.

12. *Disabilities:* The University of Louisville is committed to providing access to programs and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and require accommodation to participate and complete requirements for this class, notify me immediately and contact the Disability Resource Center (Robbins Hall, 852.6938) for verification of eligibility and determination of specific accommodations.

13. *Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:* Academic dishonesty is prohibited at the University of Louisville. It is a serious offense because it diminishes the quality of scholarship, makes accurate evaluation of student progress impossible, and defrauds those in society who must ultimately depend upon the knowledge and integrity of the institution and its students and

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

faculty. Cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course and will possibly face discipline from the Dean's office. All work submitted for credit in this class must be original and may not be submitted for credit in any other course, either at the University of Louisville or elsewhere. Resubmitting course work that was submitted for credit in another course (whether it is your own or somebody else's) will result in a failing grade for that assignment and possibly for this course.

14. *Weather*: Plan for class to meet at our regularly scheduled times. If a class is scheduled due to weather, check your email to see if any makeup assignments have been posted.

15. *Changes to the Syllabus*: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the syllabus when necessary to meet the learning outcome objectives, to compensate for missed classes or schedule changes, or for similar legitimate reasons. Students will always be given appropriate notice of any changes made.

**Assignments:**

**Map Quiz**: Students will be given a list of present day African countries that they will be expected to identify on a blank map. Students can study in a variety of ways but one such place to study is on the You Don't Know Africa website (<http://youdontknowafrica.com/>).

**Exams**: These will be in-class examinations. Students will be expected to write their answers in a clean blue booklet, which students must provide. These booklets can be purchased at the bookstore on campus.

**Book Response Papers**: Writing prompts will be provided to students as they read the assigned texts, and students are expected to address the issues raised by the prompt in their essays. Essays must be 3-6 pages long, double-spaced, and in Times 12 pt font. Hard copies must be turned in for these assignments. In addition, students also **MUST** send an electronic copy via email by the due date.

**Participation**: Part of the course grade will be based on the student's ability to discuss the course materials, listen to and engage with their peers, and contribute to the classroom environment. Active participation is crucial to the success of this course. Students should also remember that *simply attending class does not constitute participation*.

**Title IX/Clery Act Notification**

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sex discrimination violate University policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain **confidential** support from the PEACC Program (852-2663), Counseling Center (852-6585), and Campus Health Services (852-6479). To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact the Dean of Students (852-5787) or University of Louisville Police (852-6111).

Disclosure to **University faculty or instructors** of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on campus, in a University-sponsored program, or involving a campus visitor or University student or employee (whether current or former) is **not confidential** under Title IX. Faculty and instructors must forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the University's Title IX officer.

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

For more information, see the Sexual Misconduct Resource Guide  
(<http://louisville.edu/hr/employeerelations/sexual-misconduct-brochure>).

## Course Calendar:

### Week 1

#### **Tuesday: Introduction to Africa**

Assignments (To be completed by Thursday, January 12):

Read "The Trouble with Tribe," from *Teaching Tolerance*, Number 19, Spring 2001 (posted on BlackBoard).

Read Chapter 1, "Introduction: Understanding the Contours of Africa's Past," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 1-22.

Read Chapter 2, "Western Transitions: Slave Trade and 'Legitimate' Commerce in Atlantic Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 23-41.

Study for Map Quiz

\*Study Guide on BlackBoard but practice on  
Youdontknowafrica.com

#### **Thursday: Africa Before 1800**

Assignments (To be completed by Tuesday, January 14):

Read Chapter 3, "Eastern Intrusions: Slaves and Ivory in Eastern Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 42-64.

Read Chapter 4, "Southern Frontiers: Colony and Revolution in Southern Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 65-76.

Online readings on BlackBoard

Study for Map Quiz.

### Week 2

#### **Tuesday: Abolition, Trade & Africa**

Assignments:

Read *Abina and the Important Men*, pp. xv-111.

Study for Map Quiz.

#### **Thursday: Changes in Southern Africa**

Assignments:

Complete *Abina and the Important Men*, pp. 112-186.

Study for Map Quiz.

### Week 3

#### **Tuesday: The Rise of "Legitimate" Trade**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 5, "Revival and Reaction: North African Islam," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 77-93.

Read Chapter 6, "Jihad: Revolutions in Western Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 94-102.

Study for Map Quiz.

#### **Thursday: Islam & Jihad in West Africa**

**\*\*\*Map Quiz on Jan. 26!**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 7, "The Eastern crescent: The Islamic Frontier in Eastern Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 103-112.

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

Read Chapter 8, "The Compass and the Cross," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 113-138.  
Online readings posted on BlackBoard.

#### Week 4

##### **Tuesday: Shifting Global Interests in Africa**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 9, "Whatever Happens...?: Towards the Scramble," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 139-149.

Read Chapter 10, "Africans Adapting: Conquest and Partition," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 150-182.

Online readings posted on BlackBoard.

##### **Thursday: Colonial Conquests**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 11, "Pax Colonia?: Empires of Soil and Service," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 183-217.

Online assignments posted on BlackBoard.

#### Week 5

##### **Tuesday: Colonization of Africa**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 12, "Hard Times: Protest, Identity, and Depression," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 218-235.

Online readings posted on BlackBoard.

##### **Thursday: Colonial Governance & Politics**

Assignments:

Read Ngũgĩ, *Dreams in a Time of War*, 1-109.

#### Week 6

##### **Tuesday: Imperial Economies**

Assignments:

Read Ngũgĩ, *Dreams in a Time of War*, pp. 110-203.

##### **Thursday: Religion & Education in Colonial Africa**

Assignments:

Read Ngũgĩ, *Dreams in a Time of War*, pp. 204-256.

Begin on Ngũgĩ paper

#### Week 7

##### **Tuesday: Urban Life & Gender under Colonial Rule**

Assignments:

Work on Ngũgĩ paper.

##### **Thursday: Case Study #1: Settler Colonies**

Assignments:

Finish Ngũgĩ paper.

#### Week 8

##### **Tuesday: Case Study #2: West African colonies**

**\*\*\*Ngũgĩ paper due!!**

Assignments:

Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

Read Chapter 13, “Battles Home and Away: Africa in Global War (Again),”  
*A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 236-244.  
Online readings posted on BlackBoard.

**Thursday: Pan-Africanism & The Changing Roles of African Intellectuals**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 14, “The Beached Whale: Colonial Strategies,” *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 245-258.

Online assignments posted on BlackBoard.

Begin studying for midterm exam.

**Week 9**

**Tuesday: Anti-Colonial Movements & the World Wars**

Assignments:

Study for midterm exam

**Thursday: MIDTERM EXAM**

**\*\*\*Midterm on this day!!!**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 15, “Conceiving and Producing Nations,” *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 259-275.

Online Readings posted on BlackBoard.

**Week 10**

**\*\*\*SPRING BREAK\*\*\*\***

**Week 11**

**Tuesday: The Rise in African Nationalisms**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 16, “Compromising Conflict: Routes to Independence,” *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. 276-296.

Online Readings posted on BlackBoard.

**Thursday: Achieving Independence**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 17, “Unsafe Foundations: Challenges of Independence,” *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. pp. 297-327.

Online Readings posted on BlackBoard.

**Week 12**

**Tuesday: Challenges of Independence**

Assignments:

Listen to podcast on Tanzanian music (link posted on BlackBoard).

Read Chapter 18, “Violence and the Militarization of Political Culture,” *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. pp. 328-338.

Online Assignments posted on BlackBoard.

**Thursday: Coups & Civil Wars**

Assignments:

Read Bâ, *So Long a Letter*, 1-48.

Online Assignments posted on BlackBoard.



Syllabus created by and only for use by Tyler Fleming  
Modified and resubmitted on Sept. 2, 2017/Sept. 5, 2017 finalized

**Week 13**

**Tuesday: Africa & The Cold War**

Assignments:

Finish Bâ, *So Long a Letter*, 49-95.

Begin Bâ response paper.

**Thursday: Issues of Gender in Independent Africa**

Assignments:

Finish Bâ response paper.

**Week 14**

**Tuesday: Environment Issues**

**\*\*\*Bâ Essay due!!**

Assignments:

Online assignment posted on BlackBoard.

**Thursday: Neocolonialism & Challenges of Economic Development**

Assignments:

Online assignment posted on BlackBoard.

**Week 15**

**Tuesday: The Rise & Fall of Apartheid**

Assignments:

Read Chapter 19, "Rectification, Redemption, and Reality: Issues and Trends in Contemporary Africa," *A History of Modern Africa*, pp. pp. 339-361.

Online assignment posted on BlackBoard.

**Thursday: Globalization, Africa & Class Wrap-up**

Assignments:

Study for Final Exam.

**FINAL EXAM**

**\*\*\*Please note that this exam is scheduled at a different time than our regularly scheduled class period!**