Imperialism and Colonialism: Britain in Africa, c. 1800 to 1970

This course examines the experiences of imperialism and colonialism from the perspectives of Britain and Britons – on the one hand – and Africa and Africans, on the other. It addresses topics such as the impact of explorers and missionaries on these processes, the scramble for Africa, gender and sexuality, slavery, anti-colonial resistance, and decolonization. Due to the broad nature of the subject matter, cases studies are taken from different parts of the African continent to illustrate these themes. Novels will supplement items of a more “historical” nature and will illustrate the topics discussed in the course.

Required Texts
The following texts are available at the CU Bookstore (and are also on reserve at Norlin).


Journal articles are available through Chinook, the University of Colorado library catalog. Other items are available on Desire2Learn (D2L) where noted.

Assignments and Grading
Map Quiz (On 1/22/16) 10%
Paper 1 (Due 2/12/16) 20%
Midterm (On 3/4/16) 20%
Paper 2 (Due 4/15/16) 25%
Final Paper (Due 5/2/16) 25%

* You MUST hand in assignments on time, otherwise we will not accept them. The only possible exception is in a documented case of illness or some other extraordinary circumstance. In this situation, you must speak with one of us BEFORE the assignment is due. Students must complete all assignments in order to pass the course. *

NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES WILL BE ALLOWED IN CLASS
**Disability Statement:** If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services to us in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or at: [http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/)

**Decorum Statement:** Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. Additional information may be found at: [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html)

**Honor Code:** All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information can be found at: [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html)

**Religious Observance:** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. If you have a potential class conflict because of religious observance, you must inform me of that conflict by the third week of the semester. See policy details at: [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html)

**Sexual Harassment:** The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combination of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: [http://www.colorado.edu/odh/](http://www.colorado.edu/odh/)

**Attendance:** The nature of this course means that missing class will seriously impact your chances of success; attendance is therefore mandatory. Students missing THREE classes will have their grade reduced by one whole letter (i.e. B+ to C+). Students missing FIVE classes will fail the course.
Week 1  
Britain and Africa c. 1850  
M Jan 11 Introduction (Kent/Osborne)  
W Jan 13 Africa in 1850 (Osborne)  
F Jan 15 British Colonialism (Kent)  
Readings:  
3) Niall Ferguson, *Empire* (selections). [D2L]

*IN-CLASS MAP QUIZ JANUARY 22ND*

Week 2  
Slavery and Slave Trading  
M Jan 18 No class – MLK Day  
W Jan 20 African Slavery and the Slave Trade (Osborne)  
F Jan 22 MAP QUIZ; The European Slave Trade (Kent)  
Readings:  
2) Shumway, *Fante and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade*, Intro-Chapter 2.  

Week 3  
Explorers and Missionaries  
M Jan 25 Exploring Africa (Osborne)  
W Jan 27 Richard Burton and Britain (Kent)  
F Jan 29 Christianity and African Indigenous Religions (Osborne)  
Readings:  

* FIRST PAPER DUE FEBRUARY 12TH *

Weeks 4 & 5  
The Scramble for Africa  
Mon 1 Feb Disease (Osborne)  
Wed 3 Feb Technology (Osborne)  
Fri 5 Feb The Second Industrial Revolution (Kent)  
Mon 8 Feb Writing History (Osborne/Kent)  
**Wed 10 Feb** Competition in Europe (Kent)  
Fri 12 Feb Gold and Diamonds: The Case of South Africa (Osborne)  
Readings:  
### Week 6
**Gender and Empire: Two Worldviews**

- **Mon 15 Feb**
  Gender in Igboland (Kent)
- **Wed 17 Feb**
  Gender and the British Empire (Kent)
- **Fri 19 Feb**
  Gender and the British Empire, cont. (Kent)

**Readings:**

### Week 7
**The Early Colonial State**

- **Mon 22 Feb**
  Early African Thought and Action (Osborne)
- **Wed 24 Feb**
  Early African Thought and Action, cont. (Osborne)
- **Fri 26 Feb**
  Indirect Rule: The Case of Nigeria (Kent)

**Readings:**
1) Worger, Clark & Alpers, sections 1 & 5 (5-8, 22-26).
2) J.M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (all).

### Week 8
**Midterm**

- **Mon 29 Feb**
  Formal Review
- **Wed 2 Mar**
  Question/Answer Session
- **Fri 4 Mar**
  Midterm Exam Part Two

### Week 9
**The Great War**

- **Mon 7 Mar**
  Africa and the First World War (Osborne)
- **Wed 9 Mar**
  Britain, World War One, and the Colonies (Kent)
- **Fri 11 Mar**
  The Traumas of the Great War (Kent)

**Readings:**
1) Osborne and Kent, *Africans and Britons*, pp. 135-146.

### Week 10
**Consolidation and “Primary” Resistance Movements**

- **Mon 14 Mar**
  The Watchtower Movement (Osborne)
- **Wed 16 Mar**
  The Igbo Women’s War of 1929 (Kent)
- **Fri 18 Mar**
  Africans and World War II (Osborne)

**Readings:**
1) Osborne and Kent, *Africans and Britons*, pp. 146-159.
2) Worger, Clark & Alpers, sections 11, 18-20 (41-42, 63-74).

### Week 11
**Spring Break – No class**

### Week 12
**New Forms of Colonial Rule**

- **Mon 28 Mar**
  India, Palestine, and Suez (Kent)
- **Wed 30 Mar**
  The Second Colonial Occupation (Osborne)
- **Fri 1 Apr**
  Trusteeship (Kent)

**Readings:**
1) Osborne and Kent, *Africans and Britons*, pp. 159-177.
2) Worger, Clark & Alpers, sections 21, 22, 25 & 33 (75-84, 88-95, 125-127).
3) Bessie Head, *When Rain Clouds Gather* (all).
Week 13  
Resistance
Mon 4 Apr  The Rise of Nationalism (Kent)
Wed 6 Apr  Mau Mau and Kenya (Osborne)
Fri 8 Apr  South African Exceptionalism (Osborne)
Readings:

* SECOND PAPER DUE APRIL 15TH *

Week 14  
Race Relations in (South) Africa Resistance
Mon 11 Apr  Film: *Cry, the Beloved Country* (1995) – Part One.
Wed 13 Apr  Film: *Cry, the Beloved Country* (1995) – Part Two.
Fri 15 Apr  Film: *Cry, the Beloved Country* (1995) – Part Three.
Readings:
2) Ngugi wa Thiong’o, *The River Between* (all).

Week 15  
The End of Empire
Mon 18 Apr  The Decline of the British Empire (Kent)
Wed 20 Apr  1960s: The Decade of Optimism (Osborne)
Fri 22 Apr  Colonial Legacies (Osborne/Kent)
Readings:
2) Worger, Clark & Alpers, sections 56 & 57 (218-229).
3) Niall Ferguson, *Empire* (selections). [D2L]

Week 16  
Final Review
Mon 25 Apr  Africa Today (Osborne)
Wed 27 Apr  Britain and its Empire Today (Kent)
Fri 29 Apr  Exam Review

Mon May 2  FINAL EXAM (1.30-4pm)