

Boston University
Department of History/African American Studies
AA395/HI352/IR394¹¹
Fall 2017
Room BRB 121 (MWF 11:15-12:05)
Africa and the Caribbean: Governance, Leadership and Power

Prof. Linda Heywood

African American Studies

Office Hours:

Mondays: 4:00-5:00

Fridays: 9:00-10:00

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Room 202

Fall Semester 2017

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Course Description: The course focuses on the themes of governance, leadership, and power in the Caribbean and Africa. The comparative approach affords students the opportunity to study how the different histories of countries in the Caribbean (Haiti, Cuba, Trinidad, Cuba) and Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Angola) shaped the leadership that emerged and the ideas they formed about governance, leadership and power. The first part of course deals with how governance, power and leadership functioned under the independent/colonial regimes that existed in the Caribbean and Africa up to 1945. The second part of the course examines the new ideas about governance, leadership and power that surfaced after World War II to the 1960s. Finally, the last part of the course focuses on the approaches to governance, leadership and power from the 1960s to the 2000s in the Caribbean and Africa.

Goals:-

1. Provide opportunities for students to explore some of the relevant scholarship dealing with power, leadership, governance and the state in the Caribbean and Africa.
2. Introduce students to the relevant historical events in the Caribbean and Africa from the colonial past to the post-independence period.
3. Students will read biographies of leaders as well articles about power, leadership, governance, and the state in the Caribbean and Africa in order to understand how the colonial state functioned. Students will also consider how the colonial legacy informed approaches to leadership, power, the state and governance from the 1960s to the present.
4. Students will evaluate the extent to which leaders in the Caribbean and Africa have been effective in their approaches to governance, leadership and power since independence.
5. Students will engage in critical discussions, and assess how notions of leadership, institutions of governance (state and civil society) developed over time and how the exercise of power evolved in Africa and the Caribbean.

Course Format:-The course consists of formal power point lectures by the professor, class discussions, and student in-class presentations. Students will also participate in Facebook discussions, and do written assignments at home and in class. When possible, a visiting official or a scholar familiar with Africa and the Caribbean might also be invited to do a guest lecture.

Course Requirements:

Mid-Term Assignment	15% (Take-Home Essay)
Final Exam	30% (Date to be announced)
Term Paper	30 % (Due 12/9 by 5:00 p.m.)
Participation and Presentations	15%
Facebook Discussions	10%

Mid-Term Exam: The Mid-term exam will be a critical essay based on the readings, class lectures, and discussions through Week 7. The question will be handed to students on Friday, October 13 and will be due on Monday, October 16. **15% of final grade**

Presentations and Participation: Each will make two in-class presentations based on the readings for two different weeks (one week's readings should be selected from the weekly readings on Africa and the other should be selected from one of the weekly readings on the Caribbean) to present to the class. Presenters will only be expected to make the presentation on any two of the readings assigned for the week selected. One of the presentations should be on the readings from Weeks 3-6 and the other should be from Weeks 7-13. Presenters should email me a written version of the presentation. These will be uploaded to Blackboard Learn (**BL**). All students will be expected to participate in class discussions. **15% of the final grade**

Secret Facebook Site –Africa and the Caribbean: Every week an image, short newspaper article, or other item relevant to the topic for the week will be uploaded to the site. Students are required to write critical comments of at least 30 words on ten of the items posted. Students are encouraged to send to Dr. Heywood items or images they would like to have uploaded to the site for comments and discussion. Dr. Heywood will monitor the site. Participation in the Facebook discussion is worth **10% of the final grade.**

Final Term Paper:- Each student must research and write a comparative paper on some aspect of power, leadership and governance in the Caribbean and Africa. Each student should send to me by email a one-page thesis statement and short bibliography by Friday October 20. The proposal will be returned to students with my comments on Thursday October 27. I will be available during office hours to meet with students who wish to discuss their topics with me. Term papers are due 9 December. The proposal with my comments must be attached to the completed paper. Term papers must be 2,500-3,000 words in length excluding a one page bibliography). Type font should be Times New Roman 12 point. **30% of final grade.**

Final Exam:- Essay questions in class. **30% of final Grade**

Required Books: All required books are available in the Reserve Room at Mugar Library. Books can also be purchased at the bookstore.

Colin Palmer, *Eric Williams and the Making of the Modern Caribbean* (North Carolina, 2006).

Laurent DuBois, *Haiti: The Aftershocks of History* (Picador Reprint, 2013).

Alejandro de La Fuente, *A Nation for All: Race, Inequality, and Politics in Twentieth Century Cuba* (North Carolina, 2001).

Zoe Selig, *Lumumba: Africa's Lost Leader* (Haus Publishing, 2015).

David Birmingham, *Kwame Nkrumah: The Father of African Nationalism* (Ohio University Press, 1998).

Michael Gould, *The Struggle for Modern Nigeria: Biafran War* (Tauris, 2013).

Weekly Sessions

Week One (9/6-9/8):- Governance (the State), Leadership and Power: Post Emancipation Caribbean

Readings: La Fuente, *A Nation For All*, Introduction to p. 53.

DuBois, *The Aftershocks of History*, Chpt. 1.

Sheller, "Quasheba, Mother, Queen: Black Women Public Leadership..."

Introduction, Lecture, Discussion.

Week Two (9/11-9/15) African Traditional Leadership and the Construction of the Colonial State: West Africa

Readings:- Z.O. Apata, "Lugard and the Creation of Administrative Provinces." **BL**

Ward, "Britain and Ashanti, 1874-1896" **BL**

Complete Lecture from Week One, begin Week 2 Lecture, Discussion

Week Three (9/18-9/22) Africans Leadership and the Construction of the Colonial State: Angola and the Congo Free State/Belgian Congo

Readings: Reybrouck, *Congo: The Epic History of a People* (**BL**)

Jill Dias, "Black chiefs, White Trades and Colonial Policy (**BL**)

Presentation, Lecture and Discussion

Week Four (9/25-9/29) Governance, Leadership and Power: The Limits of Sovereignty: Cuba and Haiti

Readings: DuBois, *Haiti*, Chpt 3-5. **BL**

La Fuente, *A Nation For All*, Chpts 2 & 4.

Presentation, Lecture and Discussion

Week Five (10/2-10/6) Governance, Leadership and Power: British Caribbean

Readings: Palmer, *Eric Williams*, Chpts 2 & 3.

“Jamaica: Colonial and Indian Exhibit **BL**.”

Lecture, Presentation and Discussion of Readings

Week Six 10/10-10/13) Royalists, Emirs and Indirect Rule: Gold Coast and Nigeria

Readings: Gould, *The Biafran War* Chpt. 2

Reynolds, “Good and Bad Muslims...Northern Nigeria” **BL**

Birmingham, *Kwame Nkrumah*, Chpts 1 & 2

Presentation, Lecture, Discussion/Debate

Week Seven (10/16-10/20): The Colonial State: Angola and Belgian Congo

Readings:- Heywood, “The Ovimbundu and the late Colonial State.”

Reybrouck, “Soon to be Ours...” (**BL**)

Zeilig, *Lumumba*, (**Begin**)

Lecture and Discussion of Readings

Midterm Term Assignment Due: Thursday 10/16

Week Eight (10/23-10/27) Haiti, Cuba and the United States: The Limits of Sovereignty

Readings: La Fuente, *A Nation for All*, Chpts. 5.

DuBois, *Haiti*, Chpt. 6

Lecture, Presentation and Discussion

Week Nine (10/30-11/3) Race and the State: The Caribbean

Readings: Palmer, *Eric Williams*, Chpts 3.

DuBois, *Haiti*, Chpt. 7

La Fuente, *A Nation For All*, Chpt. 6

Lecture, Presentation and Discussion: Student present on only two of the three readings.

Week Ten (11/6-11/10) Ghana and Nigeria: Dictatorship and Separatists

Readings:- Gould, *the Biafran War*, Chpts 3-5.

Birmingham, *Nkrumah*, Chpts 2-end.

Hebrest, “War and the State in Africa.”

Lecture, Presentation and Discussion

Week Eleven (11/13-11/17) Angola and Zaire: Search for African Authenticity/The Challenges of Ethnicity

Readings: Kabamba, “A Tale of Two Cities” **BL**

Zeilig, *Lumumba* **Continue**

Keese, “The Constraints of Late Colonial Reform Policy.” **BL**

Lecture, Presentation and Discussion of Readings

Week Twelve (11/20-12/1) Governance, Leadership and Power: Post-Independence

Africa and the Caribbean: Part One

Readings: Palmer, *Eric Williams*, Chpt. 6

Gould, *The Biafran War*, Chpt. 6

Lecture, Presentation, Discussion.

Week Thirteen (12/4-/12/8) Governance, Leadership, and Power: Post-Independence

Africa and the Caribbean: Part Two

Readings: Palmer, *Eric Williams*, chpt. 7.

Gould, *the Biafran War*, Chpt. 7, Conclusion and Epilogue

Week Fourteen (12/11) Governance, Leadership, and Power: Post-Independence Africa and the Caribbean: Part Two **Cont.**

Readings: La Fuente, *A Nation For All*, chpt. 7

De Oliveira, "O Governo...Esta Aqui: State Making...Angola" **BL**

Zeilig, *Lumamba* **Finish**

Lecture and Discussion of Readings.