Course Description: Colonialism in Africa takes as its starting point the view that although European conquest and rule fundamentally shaped the history of contemporary Africa, pre-colonial African history, politics, religion and cultural values also shaped Africa’s history. Africans utilized creative strategies to confront European imperialism, conquest, and colonial rule. The lives of Africans and the structure of the states they occupy today have been informed by pre-colonial and colonial legacies as well as transformations that occurred following independence. The course allows students to enter the world of Africans in the decades prior to European conquest and to follow their activities as they resisted and adapted to the new conditions. The course also covers the decolonization period and assesses the colonial legacy in contemporary African countries.  

Learning Outcomes

a) Learn about the new economic opportunities Africans exploited in the period preceding European conquest.

b) Gain insights into both the European and African dimensions of conquest and the establishment of the early colonial state.

c) Understand how the late colonial state functioned and the impact colonial policies had on pre-conquest institutions and the new kinds of African leadership as well as ethnic and other organizations that emerged during the period.

d) Recognize the various ways decolonization occurred and the enduring colonial legacies that still impact post-colonial African societies.

Course Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>30% (March 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>30% (April 26)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30% (TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
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Mid-Term: The mid-term will be based on lectures and readings covered in the first seven weeks of class. It will consist of 3 identification items (out of 5) 30% of midterm grade, a question based on the readings we have covered up to that point (10% of midterm grade) and an essay question (60% of midterm grade). Any student who is
unable to be in class to write the mid-term exam as per schedule because of a medical emergency should inform me of their status soon after consultation with a medical practitioner. I will arrange for the student to take a make-up exam. **30% of Final Grade**

**Term Paper**: The paper should be no less than 3,000-4,000 words, 10-12 pages (Font Type: Times New Roman 12 point). The paper should focus on a question or topic that you believe is crucial to understanding the colonial period and its legacy in Africa. Research materials for the paper can be found at the African Studies Center holdings on the 6th Floor of Mugar Library. E articles (peer-reviewed) and books are available at [http://scholar.google.com/](http://scholar.google.com/). Required books and articles can also be consulted. Students should refrain from using Wikipedia sources to gather information for the paper. Newspapers and other journal articles that are cited must include the address of the site and the date the information was downloaded. Each student must prepare a one-page typed thesis statement (proposal) and a short bibliography and submit it to me by March 12. **30% of Final Grade**

**Class Participation** At the end of each week students will be sent a question based on the readings for the upcoming week. Students should submit written (not less than 100 words) comments to the question to me by email. These will serve as the basis for discussions during the week. **10% of Final Grade**.

**Final Exam**: The Final exam will consist of essay questions that touch on the issues explored in the required readings and in the discussions. The exam will take place as per the exam schedule for final exams. **30% of the Final Grade**. The date of the final exam is per the university final exam schedule.

**Academic Integrity Policy**: Each student is expected to author his/her own work. Students should familiarize themselves with the CAS Conduct Code. [http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code](http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code)

**Required Books**:
Frederick Cooper, *Africa Since 1940* (Cambridge, 2002).
Buchi Emecheta, *Joys of Motherhood* ISBN 9780435913540

The BU Bookstore carries all the books required for the course. The books are also available at the library at [http://library.bu.edu/](http://library.bu.edu/). To locate these materials go to the site and click on Reserve Services. You can bring up the item either by my name or the course number. A few additional required readings, marked R, are available on the course website at [http://courseinfo.bu.edu](http://courseinfo.bu.edu). Articles and other readings listed in the weekly readings with a BL can be found on Blackboard Learn.

Please Note: There will be no classes on February 19th and April 17th as these two days are substitute Monday classes.

Reading Assignments

Topic 1 Towards the Impending Crisis: The 19th Century Trade Revolutions
Readings: Rockel, “A Nation of Traders: The Nyamwezi…Tanzania.” BL
Heywood, Contested Power in Angola, pp. 12-30. BL or
Bell, “‘A Time of Clothes:’ The Angolan Rubber Boom…” BL

Lecture and Discussion of Readings

Topic 2 African and European Dimensions of Conquest Part One
Readings: Worger et al., Africa and the West, pp. 5-11.
Kaponen, “The Partition of Africa…” (BL)

Lecture and Discussion of Readings

Topic 3 African and European Dimensions of Conquest Part Two
Readings: Worger et al., Africa and the West, 8-11; 13-20.
Isaacman and Isaacman, “African Resistance and Collaboration” (BL)

Lecture and Discussion of Readings

Topic 4 The Establishment of the Early Colonial State
Readings: Worger et al., Africa and the West, pp. 20-34

Lecture and Discussion of Readings

Lecture and Student Presentation

Topic 5 Labor, Commerce, Land Appropriation and early Colonial Developments
Readings: Worger et al., Africa and the West, pp. 34-36, 42-61, 96-98.
Rod Alence, “Colonial Governance…Cocoa Marketing Board,” BL or

Lecture, Discussion of Readings

Topic 6 Continuities and Discontinuities: Transforming Identities in the Interwar Years
Part One
Readings: Worger et al., Africa and the West, pp. 61-74.
Emecheta, The Joys of Motherhood to chpt 7.
Omolewa, “Educating the ‘Native,’” BL

Lecture and Discussion of Readings
Topic 7  Continuities and Discontinuities: Transforming Identities in the Interwar Years
Part Two
Readings: Worger et al., 75-82; 88-96.
   Cooper, Africa Since 1940, pp. 1-37.
   Emecheta, The Joys of Motherhood chpt 8 to End.

Lecture
7 March Midterm
9-17 Spring Break

Topic 8  Elites and the People: The Road to Decolonization--West Africa
   Cooper, Africa Since 1940, 38-84.
   Allman, “The Youngmen and the Porcupine…Asante,”

Lecture and Discussion

Topic 9  Elites and the People: The Road to Decolonization--Central and East Africa
Readings: Kapuscinski, Another Day, Begin
   Kagwanja, “Facing Mt. Kenya or Facing Mecca…” BL
   Stanard, “Revisiting Bula Matari…Congo Crisis…Belgium…”BL

Lecture and Discussion

Topic 10  Elites and the People: The Road to Decolonization-- Central and Southern Africa
   Kesby, “Arenas of Control…Zimbabwe.” BL
   Kapuscinski, Another Day, Continue.

Lecture and Discussion

Topic 11  Colonial Legacies: Race, Ethnicity and Ideology, Contested Nationalism Part One
Readings: Cooper, Africa Since 1940, pp. 133-55.
   Worger et.al., Africa and the West, 154-163, 167-171, 184-192.
   Heywood, “UNITA and Ethnic Nationalism in Angola.” BL

Lecture and Discussion

Topic 12  Colonial Legacies: Politics, Economics and Society
Readings: Cooper, African Since 1940, pp. 156-190.
   Crowder, “Whose Dream was It Anyway…” BL
   Worger et.al., Africa and the West, 193-210.

Lecture and Discussion
**Topic 13 Understanding Contemporary Africa: Pre-colonial and Colonial Legacies** Part One

Readings: Cooper, *Africa Since 1940*, pp. 190-204.  
Worger et. al., *Africa and the West*, pp. 210-217.  
Mamdani, “Beyond Settler and Native…Legacy Colonialism,” BL

**Lecture and Discussion**

**Topic 14 Understanding Contemporary Africa: Pre-colonial and Colonial Legacies** Part Two

Readings: Young, “End Post-Colonial State…Africa…” BL  
Worger et. al., *Africa and the West*, 241-251; 255-259.

**Lecture and Discussion**

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