

**HIST 187:
The Making of Modern South Africa:
Becoming the Rainbow Nation**

Instructor: Dr. Sara Byala
Class Location: ANNS 111
Time: T/Th, 3:00-4:30

Office Hours: T/Th 9-10:30 or by appt.
Office: Room 409, 3808 Walnut St.
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Description:

In its current post-colonial, post-apartheid incarnation, South Africa has become known as the Rainbow Nation: a place that encompasses all manner of diversity, situated at the meeting point of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. The site from which mankind first arose, South Africa has a long and varied history. This introductory course will trace this history in broad strokes, from pre-colonial times to the near present, focusing most attention on the period from the mineral discoveries of the late 19th century until now. Main themes will include colonial conquest and indigenous resistance, the creation of new racial and national identities, and the rise, life, and demise of the apartheid state. Examining large historical processes (often through the lens of individual lives) by way of novels, films, and scholarly readings will enable a broad engagement with issues of race and racism as well as gender and generational conflicts. Course requirements will include exams and a short writing assignment.

Required books: available at the Penn Book Center (130 S. 34th Street) and on reserve at Van Pelt.

Gordimer, Nadine. *Burgher's Daughter*. New York: Viking Press, 1979.

Joubert, Elsa. *Poppie Nongena: One Woman's Struggle Against Apartheid*. New York: Norton, 1986. (Note: this book is out of print. Some used copies will be available at Penn Book Center. For more, please order a used copy from <http://www.abebooks.com/>).

Mphahlele, Es'kia. *Down Second Avenue*. New York: Penguin, 2013.

Mpe, Phaswame. *Welcome to our Hillbrow*. Athens: Ohio University of Press, 2011.

Peires, J. B. *The Dead Will Arise: Nongqawuse and the Great Xhosa Cattle-Killing Movement of 1856-7*. Johannesburg: Ravan Press, 1989.

Ross, Robert. *A Concise History of South Africa*, Second Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Additional readings are available on the course Canvas Site at (complete bibliography at end of syllabus)

Required films (on reserve at Rosengarten Reserve Desk, on ground floor of Van Pelt Library).

- Mapantsula
- Have you heard from Johannesburg?
- A Long Night's Journey Into Day

Expectations:

Attendance: You are expected to arrive to class on time. There are no unexcused absences permitted.

Preparation: You are expected to come to class having completed all the reading and/or assignments listed underneath that date on the syllabus.

Late work: Late work is work that is not where it should be on time (either uploaded to the course canvas site or in class). You will be penalized for late work. I rarely grant extensions, save extreme circumstance. To receive an extension, students must contact me at least 24 hours in advance of the due date. I will not grant extensions for technical problems. Students are expected to save (and back up!) their work.

Academic integrity: Students are expected to turn in final work that is wholly their own in content and style. Plagiarism – implicitly or explicitly putting forward someone else's ideas as your own – is a serious offence that may result in failing the course and/or larger disciplinary action. When citing someone else's ideas, students should use the Chicago Manual Documentation Style. Students should also familiarize themselves with Penn's Code of Academic Integrity: <http://www.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html>

Assignments: Assignments include an in-class map quiz; a midterm and a final, both of which consist of short answer questions and an essay; a 5-7 page paper based on a primary source; and weekly informal responses to the readings to be posted on Canvas. Students will be asked to turn in a paper proposal ahead of the paper and to do a short in-class presentation on their paper at the end of the semester. Students are also expected to participate in discussions, which will be held on Thursdays in class.

Grade Distribution:

Map Quiz:	5%
Midterm	25%
Paper	30%
Final	30%
Class participation and presence	10%

Any students with disabilities and/or special requirements are asked to see me during the first week of class.

Class schedule, January 2014 (subject to change)

Week 1 (Thrs. 1/16): Introduction to the Rainbow Nation

Reading:

- Vail, "Introduction: Ethnicity in Southern African History" (pages 1-18).

Week 2 (Tues. 1/21 and Thrs. 1/23): South Africa before 1600

Reading:

- Ross, Terminology and orthography, Introduction, and Chapter 1 (xix-21)
- Hall, Chapters 1-4 (pages 1-46).
- Elphick and Giliomee, "The origins and entrenchment of European dominance at the Cape, 1652- c 1840" (pages 521-566).

Week 3 (Tues. 1/28 and Thrs. 1/30): Enter, Europeans

* Map Quiz in class Thursday

Reading:

- Ross, Chapter 2, 22-58.
- Legassik, "The Northern Frontier to c. 1840: The rise and decline of the Griqua People" (pages 358-405).
- Scully, Introduction to *Liberating the Family: Gender and British Slave Emancipation in the Rural Western Cape, South Africa 1823-1853* (pages 1-59).
- Study "practice maps of the region" on canvas.

Week 4 (Tues. 2/4 and Thrs. 2/6): People on the Move

Reading:

- Peires, J. B. *The Dead Will Arise: Nongqawuse and the Great Xhosa Cattle-Killing Movement of 1856-7*, entire book.

Week 5 (Tues. 2/11 and Thrs. 2/13): The Decline and Fall of Independent African Kingdoms

- Ross, Chapter 3, 59-90
- Giliomee, "Settling in the deep interior" (pages 161-192).
- Atkins, "Kaffir Time': Preindustrial Temporal Concepts and Labour Discipline in Nineteenth-Century Colonial Natal," *Journal of African History* 29 (1988), 229-44.
- Hamilton, "The men who would be Shaka: Shaka as a model for the Natal native administration," (pages 72-129).

Week 6 (Tues. 2/18 and Thrs. 2/20): Subterranean Wealth

Reading:

- Ross, Chapter 4, 91-121
- Van Onselen, "The world the mineowners made" (pages 1-40); "AmaWasha: The Zulu washermen's guild of the Witwatersrand, 1890-1914" (pages 275-308)
- Colin Bundy, "The Emergence and Decline of a South African peasantry," *African Affairs* 51 (1972), 360-388.

Week 7 (Tues. 2/25 and Thrs. 2/27): Fighting for a new nation

Reading:

- Butler, "Afrikaner women and the creation of Ethnicity in a small South African Town, 1902-1950" (pages 55-81).
- Sol Plaatje, *Native Life in South Africa*, Chapters One (pages 21-31); Four (pages 63-74); and Seven (pages 92-101).
- Frederickson, "'Palladium of the People's Liberties': The Suffrage Question and the Origins of Black Protest" (pages 14-56); And "'Ethiopia Shall Stretch Forth her hands': Black Christianity and the Politics of Liberation," (pages 57-94).

Week 8 (Tues. 3/4 and Thrs. 3/6): Between Union and Apartheid

* Midterm Thursday/ Paper proposals due

Reading:

- Frederickson, "'Africa for the Africans': Pan-Africanism and Black Populism, 1918-1930" (pages 137-178).

Week 9 (Tues. 3/11 and Thrs. 3/13): SPRING BREAK

Week 10 (Tues. 3/18 and Thrs. 3/20): Apartheid South Africa, I

Reading:

- Ross, Chapter 5, 122-153
- Matshoba, "To Kill a Man's Pride."
- Mphahlele, *Down Second Avenue*, entire book.
- View: Mapantsula

Week 11 (Tues. 3/25 and Thrs. 3/27): Apartheid South Africa, II

Reading:

- Joubert, *Poppie Nongena*, entire book.

Week 12 (Tues. 4/1 and Thrs. 4/3): Apartheid South Africa, III

Reading:

- Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*, 93-176.

- Biko, *I write what I like* (Chapter 6: We Blacks, p. 27-32; Chapter 9: The Definition of Black Consciousness, p. 48-53; Chapter 11: White Racism and Black Consciousness, 61-72.)
- Gordimer, *Burgher's Daughter*, entire book.
- View: Have you heard from Johannesburg? (90 min)

Week 13 (Tues. 4/8 and Thrs. 4/10): Negotiating the Settlement
 *Paper due Thursday

Reading:

- Ross, Chapters 6-7, 154-213

Week 14 (Tues. 4/15 and Thrs. 4/17): Nothing but the Truth

Reading:

- Antjie Krog, *Country of My Skull: Guilt, Sorrow, and the Limits of Forgiveness in the New South Africa*, preface-33; 37-66; 74-88; 150-161; 318-340; 341-365.
- Mahmood Mamdani. "Reconciliation without Justice." *Southern African Review of Books*. Issue 46 (Nov. Dec. 1996: 3-5).
- View: A Long Night's Journey Into Day (95 min)

Week 15 (Tues. 4/22 and Thrs. 4/24): Beyond the Miracle

Reading:

- Mpe, *Welcome to our Hillbrow*, entire book.
- Ross, Chapter 8, 214-223

Week 16:

Tues. 4/29: LAST CLASS!

- Presentations on papers

Bibliography of Items on Canvas

- Atkins, Keletso. "‘Kaffir Time’: Preindustrial Temporal Concepts and Labour Discipline in Nineteenth-Century Colonial Natal." *Journal of African History* 29 (1988), 229-44.
- Biko, Steve. *I Write What I Like: Selected Writings* (Including: Chapter 6: We Blacks; Chapter 9: The Definition of Black Consciousness; Chapter 11: White Racism and Black Consciousness.) Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.
- Butler, "Afrikaner women and the creation of Ethnicity in a small South African Town, 1902-1950," 55-81. In Leroy Vail, ed., *The Creation of Tribalism in Southern Africa* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991).
- Elphick, Richard and Hermann Giliomee. "The origins and entrenchment of European dominance at the Cape, 1652- c 1840." In Richard Elphick and Hermann Giliomee, eds., *The Shaping of South African Society, 1652-1840*, p. 521-566. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1989.
- Frederickson, George M. *Black Liberation: A Comparative History of Black Ideologies in the United States and South Africa* (Including "‘Palladium of the People’s Liberties’: The Suffrage Question and the Origins of Black Protest" (pages 14-56); "‘Ethiopia Shall Stretch Forth her hands’: Black Christianity and the Politics of Liberation," (pages 57-94); And "‘Africa for the Africans’: Pan-Africanism and Black Populism, 1918-1930" (pages 137-178). New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Giliomee, Hermann. *The Afrikaners: Biography of a people* (chapter 6, "Settling in the deep interior.") Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009.
- Hamilton, Carolyn *Terrific Majesty: The powers of Shaka Zulu and the limits of historical invention* (chapter 3 "The men who would be Shaka: Shaka as a model for the Natal native administration.") Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1998.
- Hall, Martin. *Farmers, Kings, and Traders: The People of Southern Africa, 200-1860*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987.
- Krog, Antjie. *Country of My Skull: Guilt, Sorrow, and the Limits of Forgiveness in the New South Africa*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 1999.
- Legassik, Martin. "The Northern Frontier to c. 1840: The rise and decline of the Grigua People." In Richard Elphick and Hermann Giliomee, eds., *The Shaping of South African Society, 1652-1840*, p. 358-405. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press,

1989.

Mandela, Nelson. *Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 1994.

Mtutuzeli Matshoba. "To Kill a Man's Pride." in N. Hodge, *To Kill a Man's Pride*. Johannesburg, Raven (1984):203-239.

Plaatje, Sol. *Native Life in South Africa*. Northlands: Picador, 2007.

Scully, Pam. *Liberating the Family: Gender and British Slave Emancipation in the Rural Western Cape, South Africa 1823-1853*. Portsmouth: Heinemann, 1997.

Vail, Leroy. "Introduction: Ethnicity in southern African History" p. 1-18. In Leroy Vail, ed., *The Creation of Tribalism in Southern Africa*. Berkley: University of California Press, 1991.

Van Onselen, Charles. *Studies in the Social and Economic History of the Witwatersrand, 1886-1914, New Babylon and New Nineveh* (including "The World the Mineowners Made" and "AmaWasha: The Zulu washermen's guild of the Witwatersrand, 1890-1914"). New York: Longman, 1982.