UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Department of History

HTST 402
Military History of Africa
Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Tim Stapleton
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Office Hours and Location: Monday and Wednesday 1000-1050, SS 632
Days and Times of Course: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1200-1250
Location/Classroom: ES 054
Course Delivery: in person

Description
This course examines the history of warfare and military structures in Africa from precolonial times to the present. Most of the emphasis will be on Africa south of the Sahara. Important themes will include the use of horses and firearms in different parts of precolonial West Africa, late nineteenth century wars of European colonial conquest, the world wars in Africa, the development of colonial and post-colonial African militaries, and the impact of the global Cold War on post-colonial African conflicts. While there will be considerable focus on the broader social and political context of warfare in Africa, some specific conflicts and engagements will be discussed in detail.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students should be expected to:
1. Display an understanding of developments and changes in the military history of Africa.
2. Write an historical essay based on engagement with secondary sources.

Reading Material
Richard Reid, *Warfare in African History*, Cambridge University Press, 2012.
Timothy Stapleton, *Africa: War and Conflict in the Twentieth Century*, London: Routledge, 2018.

Both textbooks are available for purchase at the bookstore and can be accessed online through the University of Calgary Library website.

Assessment

Assessment Method	Weight	Due Date
Research Essay Proposal (submit via D2L drop box)	20%	4 October (via D2L)
Research Essay (submit via D2L drop box)	40%	5 November (via D2L)
Registrar-scheduled Final Exam	40%	See exam schedule

Grading Policies

All submissions will be graded based on writing, content, and analysis. The grading of the research essay proposal and research essay will also include an assessment of research and use of appropriate citation methods. All student work will receive numerical grades.

Late submissions will not be accepted without prior approval of the course instructor. Students are encouraged to email the instructor if there is a problem with meeting a deadline. Extensions can be negotiated.

Details on Methods of Assessment

RESEARCH ESSAY PROPOSAL:

This assignment represents the first step in creating the research essay which is due later in the course. The aim here is for students to develop their topics and begin research. While students are free to select any topic relating to the military history of Sub-Saharan Africa, they are strongly advised to consult with the instructor before finalizing their topics. There is a list of suggested topics at the end of this outline. The proposal should include the following elements:

1. **Topic or Title** of the Research Essay
2. **Concise Explanation** of the topic. This section should be around **300 words long**. It must state the research question and a tentative thesis which is a one sentence answer to the question. No citations are requires for this section.
3. **Preliminary Bibliography**. This section must cite at least **6 academic secondary sources** such as scholarly books, book chapters and/or journal articles which are relevant

to the topic. Do not include the course textbooks.

RESEARCH ESSAY:
Completing a research paper represents a central activity of this course. The research paper should address a specific question and present a clear thesis (a one sentence answer to that question). It must be clearly organized into an introduction, body and conclusion, and contain a bibliography with at least **8 academic secondary sources**. It must be written in a clear and concise manner. The essay may employ quotations but students should do so sparingly and use appropriate rules and citation methods. The paper should be roughly **1500 words long** supported by footnotes or endnotes, and a bibliography. Students are to avoid using course texts, lecture notes or websites (online academic resources like JSTOR are fine) as cited sources in essays. The research for the paper, as reflected in the citations (footnotes or endnotes) and the bibliography, should focus on scholarly secondary sources such as academic books, book chapters and/or journal articles.

For guidance on essay writing, including citation methods, see the Department of History's online student handbook: https://arts.ucalgary.ca/history/current-students/undergraduate/student-handbook

FINAL EXAM: – This will require students to answer broad questions relating to a range of lectures and course readings. **This will be a registrar scheduled final exam.**

Learning Technologies Requirements
There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca). In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; broadband internet connection.

Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading/Assignments/Due Dates
8 and 10 September	Course Introduction/Background	
13, 15, 17 September	Pre-colonial Warfare: West Africa	Reading: Reid, Chapters 1 and 2
20, 22, 24 September	Pre-colonial Warfare: East, Central and Southern Africa	Reading: Reid, Chapter 3 and 4
27 and 29	Wars of Colonial Conquest	Reading: Reid, Chapter 5;

September, 1 October		Stapleton, Introduction and Part II, "Wars of Colonial Conquest."
4, 6, 8 October	The First World War in Africa *Submit research essay proposal on 4 October (via D2L)	Reading: Reid, Chapter 6; Stapleton, Part II, "Africa and the World Wars" (First World War section)
13 and 15 October (11 October is holiday)	The Second World War in Africa	Reading: Stapleton, Part II, "Africa and the World Wars" (Second World War section)
18, 20, 22 October	Decolonization Wars in Africa	Reading: Stapleton, Part III, "Decolonization Wars."
25, 27, 29 October	Cold War Era Conflicts: Civil Wars	Reading: Stapleton, Part III, "Post-colonial Civil Wars."
1, 3, 5 November	Cold War Era Conflicts: Southern Africa *Submit research essay on 5 November (via D2L)	
8-12 November	Reading Week	
15, 17, 19 November	Cold War Era Conflicts: Interstate Wars	Reading: Stapleton, Part III, "Post-colonial Interstate Conflicts."
22, 24, 26 November	Post-Cold War Conflicts: Africa's World War	
29 November, 1 and 3 December	Post-Cold War Conflicts: Civil Wars and Insurgencies in West and East Africa	
6 and 8 December	Exam Review - Course conclusion	

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES

Departmental Grading System
The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Please Note: Students are expected to reach the grade range to receive that letter grade (ie. to receive an A- a student will have earned an 80 or 3.7 in the course). Assume that there will be no rounding up unless a faculty member announces otherwise.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources
- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact Enrolment Services
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see the Registration Changes and Exemption Requests page.

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take this course in your second year.

Writing
All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in *The History Student's Handbook*.

Academic Misconduct
Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information, please see the U of C Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure documents, and visit the Academic Integrity Website.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see *The History Student's Handbook* for more details, but to summarize, plagiarism may take several forms:
- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- Submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the university calendar.

Academic Accommodation
It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the Student Accommodations policy. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.
SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit Student Accessibility Services.

Research Ethics
If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics website before beginning the assignment.

Instructor Intellectual Property
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material

Protected by Copyright and requirements of the Copyright Act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Copyright of Educational Materials
The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. No copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. Please see the University of Calgary copyright page.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy
Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard.

Media Recording
The instructor may use media recordings to record the delivery of a lecture for various reasons, including lecture capture and self-assessment. Students will be informed of media recordings in advance and the recording device will be fixed on the instructor. In the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent from identifiable students, before making a recording available to the class.

Media Recording for the Assessment of Student Learning
The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students, by prior arrangement. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Sexual Violence Policy
The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the sexual violence policy.

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

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Fall 2021 (in-person)