

HISTORY 4896G
APARTHEID and RESISTANCE IN SOUTH AFRICAN HISTORY
Winter 2022-2023
Friday 11:30-1:30
In-person

Instructor: Professor Ruramisai Charumbira
Office Hours: Monday 1:00-3:00 pm or by Appointment
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This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

The intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, but should the COVID-19 landscape shift, the course will be delivered on-line synchronously (i.e., on Zoom at the times indicated in the timetable). The grading scheme will not change. The course will return to an in-person mode of delivery when the University and local health authorities deem it safe to do so.

Invocation: To the Sun, in whose tight embrace we and other planets travel the Cosmos free of charge, we are grateful. To the Earth, the ground of our being, we are grateful. To all fellow creatures on this planet, on land, in the air, and waters, we are grateful; we apologize that our human ways have ravaged your ways of life in the recent past. To our personal and collective ancestors, we are grateful, and we shall right the wrongs. *We are grateful to, and acknowledge the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Chonnonton Nations, whose traditional territories are where this course shall take place.*

Course Description:

Sam'kele, Kamohelo, Welcome! This course is a study of ordinary people's agency and resilience in the face of state sanctioned terror in South Africa—and to a related degree in today's Namibia, and Zimbabwe. The course highlights the national, regional, and international history and politics of a nation in the grip of legalized racial oppression beginning in 1948, the same year the United Nations ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Paris, France. The course does not, of course, cover everything; instead, it aims for a deeper understanding of legalized white supremacy on one hand, and on the other, a multicultural and multifaceted resistance movement in South Africa, Southern Africa, Africa, and internationally.



Prerequisite(s): 2.0 courses in History at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees if you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus:

The course's two major objectives are:

- a) a firm grounding in Southern African history through the case study of South Africa in the period studied
- b) practicing the historian's craft through critical reading of secondary sources and writing through rigorous evaluation and interpretation of primary sources.

Please note: This is a reading and writing intensive course; those students interested in honing their critical thinking, reading, and writing skills will find this a rewarding course.

Course Materials: (Potential Texts)

Documentary and Feature Films are part of course material in class and for assignments

Thompson, *A History of South Africa* (3rd edition)

Biko (and Aelred Stubbs, ed.), *I Write What I Like*

First, *117 Days: An Account of Confinement*

Ramphela, *Across Boundaries: The Journey of a South African*

Ngcobo, *And They Didn't Die*

Mathabane, *Kaffir Boy: An Autobiography*

Gordimer, *July's People*

Coetzee, *Boyhood: Scenes from a Provincial Life*

Gobodo-Madikizela, *A Human Being Died That Night*

Methods of Evaluation:

All Essays are Due in Class (unless otherwise noted)

Students will receive detailed and clear instructions on the main assignments, which are short weekly essays based on the readings, and a final essay based on each student's chosen theme or topic. Students are required to have a flat folder in which they will collect all short weekly essays throughout the semester. The course's final submission is the folder with all entries in descending order, beginning with the final essay on top.

Students must submit all course assignments in order to pass the course.

- ❖ 20% - Attendance and Active Individual & Group Participation
- ❖ 10% - Two Surprise Map Quizzes (5% each)
- ❖ 50% - Journal of Short Essays (10% each of 5 selected weeks, 5 double-space pages)
- ❖ 20% - Final Essay (10 double-space pages).

Life happens, so students can miss a maximum of two seminar meetings in order to pass the course, regardless of grades received for other assignments.

Accommodation for missed tests/midterms:

IMPORTANT: In the event the University moves to online weekly essays will be due online via OWL. No other make-up opportunities will be provided unless further academic consideration is granted by Academic Counselling. Students who fail to write a make-up essay in a designated time slot will receive a grade of zero on that assessment.

Course Schedule and Readings:

TBA

Use of Electronic Devices:

Respect is important, both in and outside the classroom. In the classroom it includes waiting your turn, being respectful of different points of view on different issues and leading with heart and mind. The class including watching films as well as close reading of texts electronically and in print, this means there will be short breaks during the three hours of class time. To that end, please keep your devices in silent (without vibration) mode or *airplane mode or turn off and store* until breacktime or after class.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness