The Process of Colonisation

The white policy of aggrandizement in South Africa and its historiography
Indigenous populations in SA

- San (hunter-gatherers)
- Khoi (herdsmen, pastoralists)
- Bantuspeakers (farmers with iron tools)
Bantuspeaking groups

- Nguni
- Tsonga
- Sotho Tswana
- Venda
- Herero
- Owambo
Nguni tribes (East Coast)

- Xhosa
- Zulu  Basuto, Ndebele, Fingo
- Swazi
- Nbebele
Changing designations of Bantuspeaking peoples

- Kaffirs
- Natives
- Bantus
- Africans
- Blacks

- Non-Europeans
- Non-Whites

Not much used:
- Negroes
- Negroids
- Niggers
First European contacts

- 1488 Bartholomeu Dias reaches Mossel Bay
- 1497 Vasco da Gama wounded by San at Cape
- 1510 Fransisco de Almeida driven away by San
- 1652 Van Riebeck’s supply station at Cape
- 1658 First black slaves arrive at Cape
- 1659 First small scale war with Khoikhois
Early European expansion

- 1710 Hottentots Holland annexed
- 1779 First of 9 "Kaffir Wars” over Eastern Cape
- 1795 / 1806 / 1814 Britain assumes Cape
- 1799 / 1818 wars drew Xhosas over Fish River
- 1820 immigrants in control of Zuurveld

- 1820s Zulu Mfecane expansion
Political changes in British Empire

- 1807 Slave trade halted
- 1809 Pass law, contracts, and forced labour
- 1828 Ordinance 50 formal rights, British law
- 1833-38 Slavery prohibited
- 1834 Legislative assembly
- 1854 Local parliament, Masters-Servants Act
- 1872 Home rule, responsible government
Geography of The Great Trek

- **1835 - 1854**

The Colonisation Process
Further European conquests

- 1835- The Great Trek to Natal, Oranie, Transvaal
- 1834 / 1846 British Kaffraria annexed to Kei R.
- 1857 Immigration of 4000 Germans to E. Cape
- 1879 Annexation of Fengoland, Griqualand
- 1885 Betchuanaland, Tembuland, Bomvana-land, Pondoland
- 1879-87 British Zululand
- 1895 Tongaland
Geography of colonisation

- 1652-1910
British – Boer conflict

- 1838/52/54 Boer republics: Natalia, SAR, OFS
- 1843 Natal incorporated in Cape, 5000 settlers
- 1877 British attack on Transvaal
- 1881 Independence war won by Afrikaners
- Reasons for conflict: diamonds 1871, gold 1885, Cape-Cairo strategy, German treat.
- 1895 Failed Jameson Raid
- 1899-1901 South African War
Changing principal history views

- English-imperial (imperialist, colonial)
- Settler (early nationalist, conservative)
- Afrikaner nationalist (republican, Afrikanerdom)
- Liberal (early segregationist / progressive / Africanist)
- Progressive (Communist, ANC, Black)
- Radical (neo-Marxist, revisionist, new school)
- Post structural (post-modern, post-colonial)
- Rainbowism (TRC-inspired, Mandelaism)
- New Patriotism (African Renaissance)
White (nationalist/liberal) historical myths

- VOC had treated Khoisan peoples humanely
- White colonisation took place at the same time as African migration into SA
- Inner parts of South Africa were unpopulated
- Boers as innocent victims of aggressive wilds
- Cape liberalism meant equal opportunities
- African structures were unable to compete
- Afrikaner mentality developed on isolated frontier
The Colonisation Process

The white policy of aggrandizement in South Africa and its historiography