

Englisches Seminar  
B.A.-Studium Aufbaumodulphase  
Cultural Studies (GB)  
Seminar/Übung: 'The Present as History' – Discourses in and Perspectives from South Africa  
SoSe 2024  
Leo Grabowski

**Name:**

**Matrikelnummer:**

## Final Exam

**Comment and elaborate on one (Übung) or two (Seminar) of the following nine options (the quotations, photographs, or video) by relating them to our course contents:**

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1. "Awaking on Friday morning, June 20, 1913, the South African Native found himself, not actually a slave, but a pariah in the land of his birth." [*Native Life in South Africa* (1916) by Sol Plaatje]

*Thina sizwe, thina sizwe esimnyama*, (We the nation, we the black nation)

*Sikhalela izwe lethu* (We cry for our land)

*Elathathwa ngabamhlophe* (That was taken by the white people)

*Mabayeke kumhlaba wethu*. (May they leave our land alone)

*Abantwana be-Afrika* (The children of Africa)

*Bakhalela i-Afrika* (They cry for Africa)

2. "Slavery was not born of racism: rather, racism was the consequence of slavery." [*Capitalism and Slavery* (1944) by Eric Williams]
3. "Selective memory applies to South Africa too. It took more than divestment to bring down apartheid. It also took more than civil disobedience [...]." [*How to Blow Up a Pipeline* (2021) by Andreas Malm]
4. "In the compound, in the township, in the labour bureaus, in the reserves, the pattern created by South Africa's early industrialisation is still with us – the present is our history." [*Gold and Workers* (1981) by Luli Callinicos]
5. "Karl Marx regarded uneven development as a necessary process under capitalism by arguing that 'in the same relations in which wealth is produced,

poverty is produced also.’” [*Elite Transition – From Apartheid to Neoliberalism in South Africa* (2000) by Patrick Bond]

6. “The bantustan model for Gaza, as depicted in the disengagement plan, is a model that Sharon plans to copy on the West Bank. His announcement that he will not start to disengage before construction of the fence is completed along a route that will include all settlement blocs (in keeping with Binyamin Netanyahu’s demand), underscores the continuity of the bantustan concept. The fence creates three bantustans on the West Bank - Jenin-Nablus, Bethlehem-Hebron and Ramallah. [...] And thus, with breathtaking daring, Sharon submits a plan that appears to promise the existence of a ‘Jewish democratic state’ via ‘separation’, ‘the end of the conquest’, the ‘dismantling of settlements’ - and also the imprisonment of some 3 million Palestinians in bantustans. This is an ‘interim plan’ that is meant to last forever. The plan will last, however, only as long as the illusion is sustained that ‘separation’ is a means to end the conflict.” (Meron Benvenisti in *The Guardian*, Mon 26 Apr 2004, Israeli political scientist, deputy mayor of Jerusalem under Teddy Kollek from 1971 to 1978, administered Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem and served as Jerusalem’s chief planning officer, supported a binational Israeli-Palestinian state)
7. “A year before South Africa’s first democratic elections, Elazar Granot of Israel’s far-left Mapam Party addressed the delegates of the Socialist International – a global gathering of Social Democratic leaders attended by many European heads of state. Granot lavished praise on Mandela, comparing him to Moses and arguing that South Africa’s president-in-waiting was even greater than Moses for he had actually reached the Promised Land. But Mandela did not succumb to his flattery. As Granot recalls it, the first words from South Africa’s icon of forgiveness and reconciliation were: ‘The people of South Africa will never forget the support of the state of Israel to the apartheid regime.’” [*The Unspoken Alliance* (2010) by Sasha Polakow-Suransky]
8. (Video clip!)

9.

