

Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps:

Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources

T. C. Weiskel

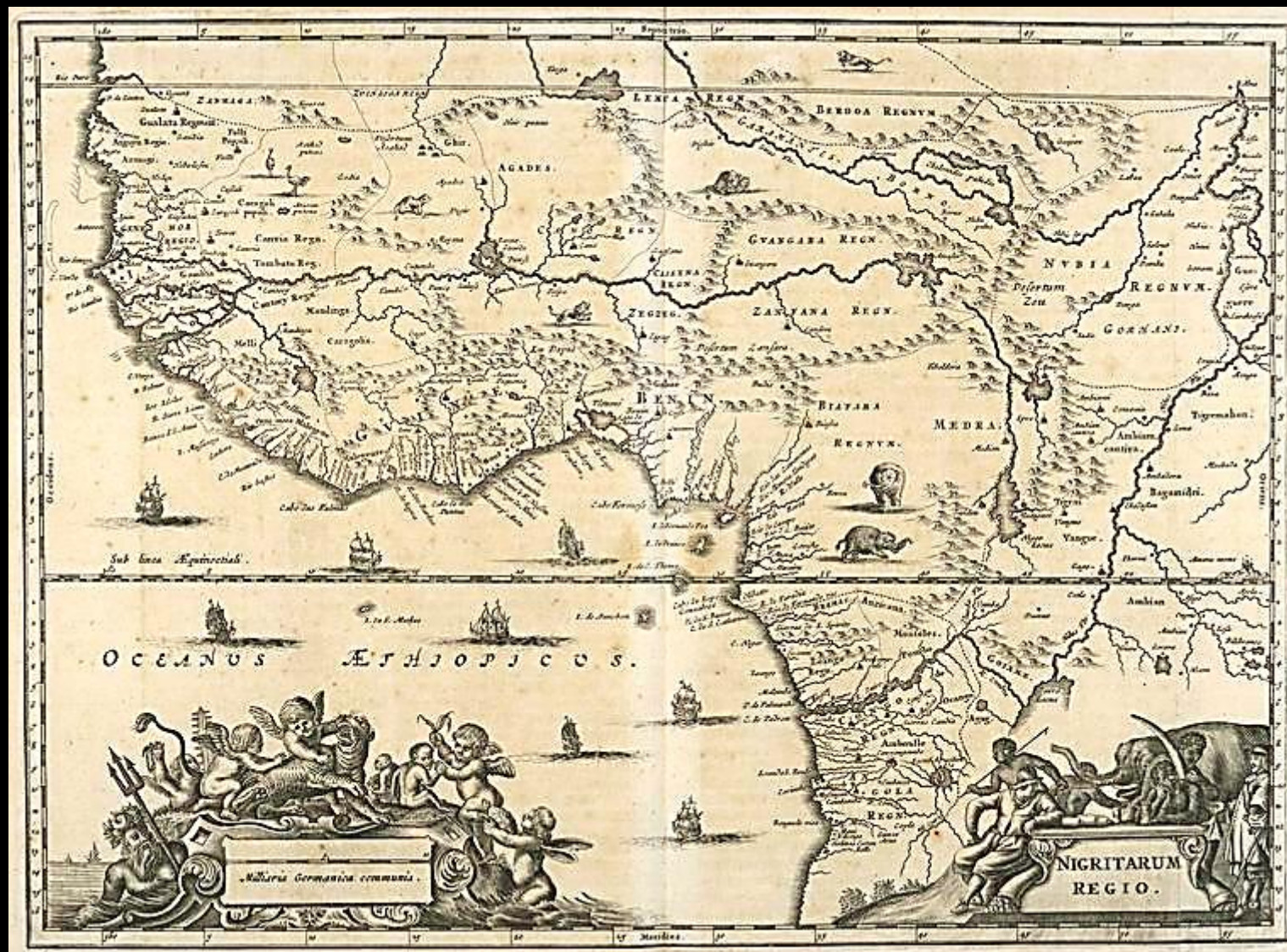
Dipl. Soc. Anthropol (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon), MLS, FRGS



Accessing Historical Maps of Africa for Research and Teaching

Tips & Techniques for Online
Use & Citation

The Africa Map Circle







The Africa Map Circle

Why Africa Maps Matter

- The African continent was arguably the first one in the world to be mapped in its full outline.
- Africa maps were largely created by non-Africans.
- ...therefore, Africa maps can only be understood as *multi-cultural documents*.



The Africa Map Circle

- These maps therefore require international and multi-cultural teams of students and scholars to be analyzed adequately.
- Digital technology now makes it possible to share and analyze these maps around the globe.

The result is that the collaborative study of Africa maps can now provide a new paradigm for international and multicultural teaching & learning.



The Africa Map Circle

So let's take a look briefly at six different
online historical map resources on Africa...
...starting with the



<https://www.loc.gov/maps/?q=Africa>



THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/search/index?utf8=%E2%9C%93&keywords=Africa+maps#>



Stanford
LIBRARIES

<https://exhibits.stanford.edu/maps-of-africa>

Digital Collections

 Collections

[Home](#) / [Rare Book & Manuscript Library](#) / [Maps of Africa to 1900](#)

Maps of Africa to 1900

<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/collections/8132f520-e3fb-012f-c5b6-0019b9e633c5-f>

Northwestern

LIBRARIES | DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Search

Explore Collections

Browse Items

COLLECTIONS > 16TH-EARLY 20TH CENTURY MAPS OF AFRICA

16th-Early 20th Century Maps of Africa

<https://dc.library.northwestern.edu/collections/1c2e2200-c12d-4c7f-8b87-a935c349898a>

.... and finally, one of the most powerful and immediately useful online libraries in the world....



A F R I T E R R A
The Cartographic Free Library

<http://www.afriterra.org/>

So let's take a look briefly at six different online historical map resources on Africa...

Logo	Online Collection	Online Access
	The Library of Congress – Digital Maps of Africa	https://www.loc.gov/maps/?q=Africa
	NYPL- Digital Collections, Africa Maps	https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/search/index?utf8=%E2%9C%93&keywords=Africa+maps#
	Stanford University - Maps of Africa Online	https://exhibits.stanford.edu/maps-of-africa

So let's take a look briefly at six different online historical map resources on Africa...

Logo	Online Collection	Online Access
 <p>The screenshot shows the University of Illinois Digital Collections interface. At the top, it says 'ILLINOIS LIBRARY Digital Collections'. Below that, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Rare Book & Manuscript Library / Maps of Africa to 1900'. The main heading is 'Maps of Africa to 1900'.</p>	The University of Illinois - Maps of Africa to 1900	https://digital.library.illinois.edu/collections/8132f520-e3fb-012f-c5b6-0019b9e633c5-f
 <p>The screenshot shows the Northwestern University Digital Collections interface. At the top, it says 'Northwestern LIBRARIES DIGITAL COLLECTIONS'. Below that, a breadcrumb trail reads 'COLLECTIONS > 16TH-EARLY 20TH CENTURY MAPS OF AFRICA'. The main heading is '16th-Early 20th Century Maps of Africa'.</p>	Northwestern University - Digital Collections	https://dc.library.northwestern.edu/collections/1c2e2200-c12d-4c7f-8b87-a935c349898a
 <p>The logo for Afriterra features a circular emblem with a red dot in the center, surrounded by the text 'AFRITERRA' in a bold, serif font, and 'The Cartographic Free Library' in a smaller, italicized serif font below it.</p>	The Afriterra Foundation	http://www.afriterra.org/

Responding to Our Current Circumstance....

- The COVID-19 lockdown has radically altered research, teaching, and learning in African studies at all levels -- from K-12 classrooms through advanced post-doctoral archival research.

Responding to Our Current Circumstance....

- The COVID-19 lockdown has radically altered research, teaching, and learning in African studies at all levels -- from K-12 classrooms through advanced post-doctoral archival research.
- For the foreseeable future it will no longer be possible to watch a movie together in classroom, nor can groups take field-trips to museums to view important Africa collections, nor will it be possible to assemble in auditoriums to hear from a visiting guest speaker reporting on current circumstances in Africa.

Responding to Our Current Circumstance....

- Further, while African studies has had to go “virtual” almost overnight, there are, so far, very few online “textbooks” that are accessible to assist teachers to design “virtual” classroom materials and teach under COVID-19 circumstances.

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- Further, while African studies has had to go “virtual” almost overnight, there are, so far, very few online “textbooks” that are accessible to assist teachers to design “virtual” classroom materials and teach under COVID-19 circumstances.
- Fortunately, online African map libraries can help in this circumstance..... Both faculty AND students can begin now to use these online libraries to build new online curricula for learning & teaching about Africa....



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/ [Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps: Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources](#)

Session Title: (XXI-AN-21)Online Research & Teaching with Africa Maps: Tips, Techniques, Examples & Resources

Session Type: AfricaNow!

Session Chair: Tim Weiskel, Africa Map Circle, Coordinator

Presenters:

Gerald Rizzo, President, Afriterrra, The Catrographic Free Library

William Worger, University of California, Los Angeles

Henry Lovejoy, University of Colorado Boulder

Paul Lovejoy, Department of History, York University

AndrewApter, Department of History, UCLA

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For further discussion of these issues, please attend the online panel discussion during the African Studies Association 2020 online Annual Meetings.



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<https://bit.ly/3kY48Pq>

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