

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS 3650-01 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF AFRICA
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2015

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MWF: 11:00-11:50 a.m.
Hours MW: 2:15-3:15
T: 10-11:00
And by appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course fulfills the College of Arts and Sciences core requirement for Global Citizenship. It will examine the major goals and objectives which African states project and endeavor to attain in the international political and economic system. We will examine different theoretical perspectives and determinants of Africa's international relations. In addition, the nature and consequences of conflicts as well as cooperation between African states will be evaluated. The domestic setting and sources of the external relations of these states will be carefully analyzed. Finally, Africa's contributions to an understanding of international institutional cooperation and economic integration will be assessed.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are as follows:

- A. To provide the student with an overview of the politics of post-independent Africa.
- B. To interact and negotiate a regional conflict
- C. To examine peace and development challenges for the African Union (AU)
- D. To demonstrate a capacity for critical writing
- E. To develop relevant negotiation skills

III. REQUIRED TEXTS

- A Englebert, Pierre, & Kevin C. Dunn. 2013. Inside African Politics. Boulder, Colorado. Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc. (Required)
- B Schraeder, P. J. 2004. African Politics and Society: A Mosaic in Transformation, St. Martin's Press. (Required)
- C Murithi, Timothy. 2005. The African Union: Pan-Africanism, Peacebuilding and Development, Ashgate. (Reserve Desk)

Additional reading assignments will be given out in class.

IV. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students are required to attend class sessions regularly and punctually. Students are required to sign the roll at each session, and a record of attendance will be maintained. This instructor allows only two unexcused and undocumented class absences. The sanction for a breach of this rule is a reduction of grade in class participation. Students will be expected to complete assigned readings before the next day's class, participate in class discussions and prepare for case studies. Students should be aware of current news developments in Africa related to this course. Most of the time, the instructor will begin class by asking you on the latest news from Africa. This website, <http://www.allafrica.com> plus many others provides current news on Africa. During class, **cell phones must be turned off or to vibrate mode**. If you need to respond to a call, please step outside the room.

V. **GRADING SCALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERCENTAGES**

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|----|----------------------|-----|
| 1. | Unit examination | 20% |
| 2. | Mid-term Examination | 30% |
| 3. | Final Examination | 30% |
| 4. | Class Participation | 20% |

The numerical equivalents of letter grades are:

| | | | |
|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| 93-100 =A | 83-86=B | 73-76=C | Below 60=F |
| 90-92=A- | 80-82 = B- | 70-72=C- | |
| 87-89 = B+ | 77-79 = C+ | 60-69=D | |

NOTE: Final grades will not be changed unless there is an error in computation.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Violations should be reported to your course instructor, who will investigate and adjudicate them according to the policy on academic honesty of the College of Arts and Sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion by the University. Students should review the College of Arts and Sciences policy on Academic Honesty (<http://www.slu.edu/x16363.xml>).

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS-DISABILITY SERVICES

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Student Success Center (BSC 331) or by going to www.slu.edu/success. Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at 314-977-8885 or visit the Student Success Center. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.

Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

COURSE CONTENT DISCLAIMER

In this course, students may be required to read text or view materials that they may consider offensive. The ideas expressed in any given text do not necessarily reflect the views of the instructor, the Political Science Department, or Saint Louis University.

WRITING CENTER

I encourage you to take advantage of the writing services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with any writing, multimedia project, or oral presentation. During the one-on-one consultations, you can work on everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. These services do fill up, so please make an appointment! For more information, or to make, change, or cancel an appointment, call 977-3484 or visit <http://www.slu.edu/writingservices.xml>.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Aug. 24** COURSE OVERVIEW
Africa: The Continent and Its People
- Aug. 26 & 28** DETERMINANTS OF AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
The Colonial Heritage
1. Definition of Colonialism
 2. Why Europe Colonized Africa
 - a. To Gather Scientific Knowledge
 - b. European Ethnocentrism
 - c. Political
 - d. Economic
- Reading: Schraeder, pp. 49-62
Englebert & Dunn, 316-318
- Aug. 31, Sept. 2** **THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE COLONIAL HERITAGE**
Political Impacts of Colonialism
1. Application of the European Nation-State
 2. Division of African Nations Among Several States
 3. Incorporation of Several African Nations Into One State
- Reading: Schraeder, pp. 62-69
- Sept. 4** **Economic Impacts of Colonialism**
1. Expropriations of Land and Labor
 2. Creation of Export-Oriented, Mono-Crop or Mono-Mineral Economics
 3. Evolution of Perverse Infrastructural Development
- Readings: Schraeder, pp. 69-75
- Sept. 7** **Labor Day**
- THE STUDY OF AFRICA IN THE LIBERAL TRADITION**
- Sept. 8 & 11** **RIVAL THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES**
The Modernization School
1. Forms
 2. Critiques of the Modernization Approach
- Readings: Schraeder, Ch. 13, pp. 302-307
Englebert & Dunn, Chap. 8 pp. 313-316
- Sept. 14** **Concern with Stability and the "Politics of Order"**
(Late 1960-Early 1970s)
Readings: Schraeder, pp. 308-313

STUDY OF AFRICA WITHIN THE CRITICAL TRADITION

Sept. 16 & 18 Dependency and Underdevelopment Theories

Readings: Schraeder, Chap. 14, pp. 323-327

Strengths and Weaknesses

Reading: Schraeder, pp. 325-330

New Directions for both Liberal and Critical Traditions (1990-Present)

Readings: Schraeder, pp. 313-318; 333-336

Englebert & Dunn, p.318 (Top two paragraphs)

Sept. 21 **UNIT EXAMINATION**

AFRICAN INTER-STATE RELATIONS

Sept. 23 & 25 Early Attempts at African Unity

Readings: Murithi, chap. 2, pp. 7-22

Schraeder, pp. 253-261

Englebert & Dunn, pp.318-323

Sept. 28 Institutionalization of Pan-Africanism/Founding of the African Union (AU)

& 30 Reading: Murithi, pp. 22-36

Englebert & Dunn, pp. 323-334

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Oct. 2 **United States**

Readings: Englebert & Dunn, pp. 346-352

Oct. 5 **China**

Readings: Englebert & Dunn, pp. 357-359

PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES FOR THE AFRICAN UNION

Oct. 7 The Shifting Landscape of Conflict and Security

Reading: Englebert & Dunn, pp. 267-268

Oct. 9 **DISCUSSIONS: Each student to bring two questions of interest on any topic/issue discussed so far in class or based on the class readings**

Oct. 12 **Review for the Mid Term Examination**

Oct. 14 **MID TERM EXAMINATION**

Oct. 19 FALL BREAK

Oct. 16, 21 & 23 The Nature and Pattern of African Conflicts
Readings: Englebert & Dunn, pp. 267-279

Oct. 26 & 28 Changing Patterns of African Conflicts
Readings: Englebert & Dunn, pp. 279-287

Oct. 30 DISCUSSIONS AND QUESTIONS
Issues for discussions will be made available before class

Nov. 2 & 4 Sources of Insecurity, Political Violence and Conflict Escalation
Reading: Murithi, chap. 3, pp. 39-48

Nov. 6 & 9 Sources of Insecurity, Political Violence and Conflict Escalation
Reading: Murithi, chap. 3, pp. 48-60

Nov. 11 & 13 **Conflict and Conflict Resolution in Africa: A Conceptual Framework**
Reading: Deng & Zartman, Ch. 14, pp. 367-382 (Will be given in class)
Englebert & Dunn, pp. 287-306

Nov. 16 & 18 **Conflict and Conflict Resolution in Africa: A Conceptual Framework**
(cont'd)
Reading: Deng & Zartman, Ch. 14, pp. 367-382 (Will be given in class)
Englebert & Dunn, pp. 287-306

Nov. 20 & 23 **Comparing and Contrasting Deng/Zartman's Conceptual Framework with**
Englebert/Dunn's Theories of War

Nov. 25 & 27 **THANKSGIVING**

Nov. 30, Critiques of Conflict Resolution

Dec. 2 & 4 Englebert & Dunn, pp. 306-11

Dec. 7 LAST DAY OF CLASS

Dec. 11 FINAL EXAMINATION (8-9:50)