Course Syllabus

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POSC439/639
PROBLEMS IN AFRICAN POLITICS:
Contemporary Issues in African Affairs

The Liberian Civil War

The state of Post-Cold War & Post-9/11 world politics is having important implications for the African continent which is seen to be going through both modernization and post-modernization simultaneously. By way of introducing the most recent trends in international African affairs, this course provides its participants with the major themes and polemics that are central to Africa in world politics. Main topics include the African Crisis, (including the health crisis and AIDs), the new AU/Nepad, Peace and Conflict in the Great Lakes, Liberia & Sierra Leone, and the Horn (including the Sudan Peace Process), Post-Apartheid South and Southern Africa (including Zimbabwe), Wither the Nigerian Giant? Francophone Africa (including Cote D’Ivoire), and New and Old Gulf Oil.
Required Texts and Instructional Resources:


Suggested Online Resources

http://allAfrica.com
http://AfricaNews.com
http://PambazukaNews.com

Grading Requirements:

1. Participation in Four Seminar Panels (submit one page per seminar presentation)(1 page){20%}
2. Four One Page Policy Response Papers for Public Affairs Roundtable (1 page){10%}
3. Class attendance and participation {10%}
4. Midterm (Select a Topic from *International Policy Issues List*; and Write a 5 page Research Paper on the Topic)(5 pages) {20%}
5. Final Short Research Paper (Select a Topic from *Public and Political Affairs Country Case List*; and Write a 8 page Research Paper on the Topic) (8 pages) {40%}
Calendar of Events:

2/10
Intro to Course

PART ONE:
INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS

POST COLD WAR/POST APARTHEID NEW INTERNATIONAL REGIMES IN AFRICA

2/12
Akinrinade and Sesay, *Africa in the Post Cold War International System*, ‘Africa and the End of the Cold War’ by Scott Thomas


2/17

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources

Ali Mazrui, Africa’s *International Relations*, ‘Toward the Year 2000’

Sign-up Volunteers:

1) ___________________________________________ 2) _______________________________

3) ___________________________________________ 4) _______________________________
2/19


**ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION AND AFRICA**

2/24

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


**Sign-up Volunteers:**

1) ___________________________________ 2) ___________________________________

3) ___________________________________ 4) ___________________________________

2/26
Akinrinade and Sesay, *Africa in the Post Cold War International System* ‘Africa and global society: marginality, conditionality and conjuncture’ by Stephen Wright

Akinrinade and Sesay, *Africa in the Post Cold War International System* ‘Regional and Sub-Regional Conflict Management Efforts’ by Amadu Sesay
AFRICA AND THE THIRD WAVE OF DEMOCRACY

3/2


AFRICA AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

3/4

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


Sign-up Volunteers:

1) ____________________________________________ 2) ____________________________________________

3) ____________________________________________ 4) ____________________________________________
NEW DIRECTIONS IN IPE: NEW OIL AND AFRICAN RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

3/9

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


Sign-up Volunteers:

1) ___________________________ 2) ___________________________

3) ___________________________ 4) ___________________________

GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

3/11

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


David Barnard ‘In the High Court of South Africa, Case No 4138/98: the global politics of access to low-cost AIDS drugs in poor countries’ in Kennedy Institute of Ethic Journal. 2002

Sign-up Volunteers:

1)_________________________________2)________________________________
3)_________________________________4)________________________________

US FOREIGN POLICY, THE BUSH DOCTRINE AND ISLAMIZATION IN AFRICA

3/16

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


Sign-up Volunteers:

1)_________________________________2)________________________________
3)_________________________________4)________________________________

3/18

Akinrinade and Sesay, Africa in the Post Cold War International System, ‘The Triumph of Realism: Africa and the Middle East’ by Olusola Ojo

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


**Sign-up Volunteers:**

1) ___________________________________ 2) ___________________________________

3) ___________________________________ 4) ___________________________________

**Midterm Due**

**SPRING RECESS**

3/19-3/29

**PART TWO:**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COUNTRY CASE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

**FRANCOPHONE AFRICA AND COTE’ D’IVOIRE**

3/30


**Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources**

Cyril Daddieh, ‘Elections and Ethnic Violence in Cote D’ Ivoire: the Unfinished Business of Succession and Democratic Transition’

CONFLICT AND REGIONAL WEST AFRICA

4/1
Khadiagala and Lyons, African Foreign Policies: Power and Process, ‘Foreign Policy Decision-making in Anglophone West Africa’

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources
Yekutiel Gershoni ‘War Without End and An End to A War: the prolonged wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone’ in African Studies Review, 1997


Sign-up Volunteers:

1)_________________________________2)_________________________________
3)_________________________________4)_________________________________

NIGERIA: Wither Giant of Africa

4/6

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources

**Sign-up Volunteers:**

1)_________________________________ 2)_________________________________

3)_________________________________ 4)_________________________________

**SOUTH AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN RENAISSANCE**

*4/8*


**THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA**

*4/13*

*Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources*


**Sign-up Volunteers:**
ZIMBABWE IN CRISIS

4/15

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources


Sign-up Volunteers:
1)_________________________________ 2)________________________________
3)_________________________________ 4)________________________________

RETREATING COLD WARS: RECONSTRUCTION IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE

4/20

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources

Thomas Turner, ‘Angola’ in Foreign Policy in Focus

Sign-up Volunteers:
CONFLICT AND RECONSTRUCTION IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

4/22
Khadiagala and Lyons, African Foreign Policies: Power and Process ‘Foreign Policy Making in the Great Lakes Region’ by Rene Lemarchand

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources
Paul Orugun. ‘Government, Ethnic Schisms, Civil War and Regional Destabilization of the DRC’ in World Affairs 2002


Sign-up Volunteers:

1)_________________________________2)________________________________
3)_________________________________4)________________________________

10 YEARS REMEMBERING GENOCIDE: RWANDA

4/27

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources
Joel Settenheim, ‘The Arusha Accords and the Failure of International Intervention in Rwanda’
Stef Vandeginste, ‘Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation After Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity: the proposed establishment of popular ‘gacaca’ tribunals in Rwanda’

Sign-up Volunteers:
1)_________________________________ 2)________________________________
3)_________________________________ 4)________________________________

THE HORN OF AFRICA and the Sudan Peace Process

4/29

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources
Eric Greaves, ‘Peace or War? The Moment of Truth for Sudan’

Africans, Arabs, and Islamists: From the Conference Tables to the Battlefields in the Sudan’ in African Studies Review, 1999

Sign-up Volunteers:
1)_________________________________ 2)________________________________
3)_________________________________ 4)________________________________

Ethiopia and Eritrea

5/4

Panel Discussion Library Electronic Resources
Kidane Mengisteab ‘Ethiopia’s Ethnic-Based Federalism: 10 Years After’ in African Issues 2001


Sign-up Volunteers:

1) ___________________________________ 2) ___________________________________

3) ___________________________________ 4) ___________________________________

PART THREE:
AFRICAN PUBLIC AFFAIRS MAGAZINE ROUNDTABLE

Suggested Online Resources
http://allAfrica.com
http://AfricaNews.com
http://PambazukaNews.com

One page typed response required from every student

5/6
Charles Taylor and the UN War Tribunal: Should Charles Taylor be repatriated from his exile in Nigeria to face the UN ICT for alleged crimes in Sierra Leone?

5/11
Was Zimbabwe treated unfairly by the Commonwealth? Does Robert Mugabe deserve to suffer the fate of Saddam Hussein?

5/13
Does Africa deserve a permanent seat on the UN Security Council? Which African country is best suited to attain such a role? Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania or Botswana?

5/18
The Democratic Republic of the Congo has some of the world’s most lucrative mineral resources. Will a post conflict, independent DRC share its resource and land abundance with neighboring Rwanda, Uganda?
ENDNOTES

1 International Policy Issues
   1. Global Apartheid and the contemporary African political economy
   2. Political Marginalization and Africa in the Post Cold War Global Arena
   3. The African Crisis in the Context of African Development
   4. New International Regimes and Reconstruction: Pan-Africanism, the African Union and Nepad
   5. Economic and Political Reform: The Age of Sustainable Development in Africa

2 Public and Political Affairs: Case Studies
   1. Cote D’Ivoire and Conflict
   2. The Sudan and Peace
   3. The Democratic Republic of the Congo and Peace
   4. Crisis in Zimbabwe
   5. Liberia, Conflict and International Intervention
   6. Transitioning in Sierra Leone
   7. Transitioning in Rwanda
   8. Nigeria: wither African Giant?
  10. Libya and Africa

3 Suggested Essay Format:
   - Select and Research Topic (use course sources)
   - Theorize about Topic and Attempt a Thesis Statement or Theme
   - Using external resources (at least one or two books) to Support your Thesis analytically and critically
   - State Thesis upfront in an intro paragraph page, divide essay into at least three subsections, include a conclusion