Since the millennium, South Africa has come to represent a symbolic global and African country case undergoing the dynamics and intricacies of politics and change. While on the one hand, South Africa’s landmark decolonizing democratic transition from Apartheid in the early 1990s inextricably links the country to the global changes and responses of the post Cold War era- such as transnational justice- on the other hand, with other regional hegemons in the continent – such as West Africa’s Nigeria-
South Africa has repositioned itself to spearhead and direct significant political-economic transformations in the African continent.

To achieve this content objective, the course will examine these transformations from the perspectives of four South African leaders, Presidents De Klerk, Mandela, Mbeki and Zuma. Each president’s leadership profile will be examined in terms of the transitional state-society epochs that the country has currently undergone since its historic change in 1990.

*Politics and Change in a New South Africa* will provide a hands-on, introductory, on-site, experiential learning opportunity for students to immerse themselves into both the global cultural vibrancy as well as the domestic dynamics and challenges of a contemporary African state-society.

On campus orientation: August 1 – August 3, 2010
On site in South Africa: August 4 – August 20, 2010
On campus meetings: September 12 & 22, October 1 & 10, 2010. Times and locations to be determined.

*Attendance is required at all scheduled sessions*

**Instructors**

Track #1: Track # 2
Prof Rita Kiki Edozie Prof John Metzler
James Madison College African Studies Center
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**Program Coordinators**

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**This Document is your Syllabus for UGS 102**

A syllabus is an academic contract between a teacher and the student. As such, both the student and the instructor are responsible and are held accountable for the policies that are described in it. There may be changes to the schedule and and/or to the assignments, due to circumstances beyond the
instructor’s control or to benefit students. These changes will be announced in class and/or put in writing via email.

**Course Goals**

Freshman Seminars Abroad seek to help students:

1. Engage in inquiry and scholarship around an area of personal and/or academic interest;
2. Develop lasting relationships with MSU faculty, staff, and fellow students;
3. Facilitate the academic and social transition from high school to college; and
4. Improve college related skills, such as critical thinking, analytic reading and writing, and note-taking,—in a supportive environment.
5. Immerse yourselves in a foreign culture; acquire cultural competencies, consciousness and awareness about that culture

**Instructional Approach**

A variety of instructional approaches will be used. These will include the “traditional” lectures; discussions to explore issues that are raised in the required texts, biographies, films, and through daily “field trips” to museums, national heritage sites and other important cultural, economic, and political institutions. We will also spend several days at Addo Elephant Park and Tsitsikamma National Park and, weather permitting, we will climb the beautiful Table Mountain.

**Course Description**

Students earn two credits for UGS 102 and receive a numeric (4.0-scale) grade for their work. Credits earned are generally elective credits although some majors may allow the course to fulfill a requirement. UGS 102 is designed to provide students with an introduction to college level scholarship and inquiry in an international setting to stress that a well rounded education requires engagement with the world.

**Expectations for Behavior and Work Ethic in USG 102**

Students are expected to be engaged with the course materials and prepared for group discussions and presentations. This means all assignments (especially reading assignments that are to be completed according to the schedule) must be approached as though we were in the classroom.
Behavior that violates the program’s student contract can adversely affect a student’s grade in the course. Students may also be removed from the program (sent home) for disciplinary reasons. (Example: Abuse of alcohol) Students removed for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to drop the course. In addition to influencing the course grade, poor student behavior can also result in additional disciplinary actions being taken by MSU’s judicial system.

Students are expected to engage the MSU faculty and other students in our group with respect and also to represent themselves in our guest country with grace and decorum. Keep in mind that this is an academic opportunity for engagement outside of the classroom.

Poor decision-making can lead to dire circumstances, especially while traveling far away from home in a foreign country. Keep your wits about you, be attentive to your surroundings and we should all have a great seminar.

**Attendance, Participation and Tardiness**

Attendance and active participation at all program activities—before, during and after travel—is mandatory and constitutes 20% of your grade. The instructors expect all students to arrive on time and prepared for the day’s activities, *including appropriate dress.*

Being in attendance does not mean that just your body is present. It is your responsibility to get enough sleep so that you are fully engaged and prepared to discuss homework and reading assignments. Active participation includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviors:

1. Asking and answering questions of the instructor, peers, or guest speakers that contribute to the learning of all present;

2. Bringing forth new ideas, information, or perspectives to the academic conversation, including engaging in email and on-line discussions;

3. Discussing your readings and reflections with an instructor and other students at the appropriate time and place;

4. Meeting with the instructor to discuss your interests, insights, confusions;

5. Assisting in the daily maintenance of the group’s activities;

6. Exhibiting leadership and a positive attitude;

7. Assuming responsibility for personal behavior and learning, also taking responsibility for the group (example: Are you attentive to the surroundings and watchful of other group members? Are you making wise decisions and
not encouraging others to entertain dangerous behaviors such as, but not limited to, drinking, drugs, or hooking-up?);

8. Arriving prepared for all sessions;

9. Listening, taking notes as needed;

10. Being cooperative and respectful of the intellectual process; contributing in a positive manner to the classroom environment;

11. Being open to new experiences, respecting different people, different customs and different traditions;


For detail on the official MSU policy related to missing class, please see the information on-line at http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/excuses.html. Please note that getting lost, alarm failure, or not owning a watch while abroad are not considered appropriate excuses for being late or missing a session. While in country, students should work with their friends and roommates to make sure everyone is on time and in the right location.

The instructor will work with students on a case-by-case basis for excused absences for the on campus sessions. Students missing a planned session for a personal obligation (example: religious holiday or observance, etc.) must submit a written request as soon as possible before missing the session. Students missing a session or activity for unexpected reasons should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Please refer to the Study Abroad Student Handbook.

Course Texts and Selected Readings from the Course Packet

*Students are expected to complete some reading on site in South Africa so pack your books. You are expected to read both the Nuttal and the Murray books in advance before the on-site program begins. Please also read as much as possible from the Deegan book in advance as well so that you will be reviewing the material in South Africa instead of reading it for the first time.

BOOKS AND READING SOURCES


Rita Kiki Edozie (compiler), *Course Reader Politics and Change in a New South Africa: From De Klerk to Zuma*, Summer 2010

**Assignments and Grading**

Graded Categories:

- Participation: 20%
- Quizzes and Other short assessments: 20% (includes post program sessions)
- Newspaper Journal Paper: 30% Due: Friday, September 10, 2010
- Analytic paper: 30% Due: Friday, September 24, 2010

*Note: Students must complete all five requirements with a passing grade in order to pass the course!*

Assignments:

**Participation:** 20% of the final course grade. Please refer to the above section on *Attendance, Participation and Tardiness* for a more detailed account of expectations.

**Quizzes and Other short assessments:** 20% of the final course grade. Quizzes may be announced or may take the form of “pop quizzes”. Quizzes generally are designed with the intent to keep students current with the readings as scheduled. Other short assessments may follow films or other group activities such as lectures and in country activities. Some quizzes may require some writing.

**Newspaper** Journal Paper 30% of final course grade. Newspapers and news magazines are generally good sources of information and public opinion—local voices—on current issues from the perspective of the community in which the newspaper is published. Each student will be required to keep a “newspaper/magazine journal” on issues related to the theme of this track. A wide variety of newspapers and local news and popular cultural magazines are readily available in South Africa. You will be responsible for clipping one news story for each day that we are South Africa (except for our arrival and departure days)—that is 14 days. In addition to the article, each
journal entry should include a personal response or interpretation of the story. The program readings, lectures, and discussions with South Africans should help inform your reaction to the article/journal entry. You should be prepared to share your story from the previous day during our morning academic sessions. Upon return to EL, you will develop your journals into short essays – four to five pages. Completed Newspaper Journal papers will be due **Friday September 10, 2010**

**Analytic Essay:** (7 to 8 pages) **30% of the final course grade.** Each student will write an analytical essay on an issue of interest to them that is directly related to the themes that we are studying in South Africa. Students should engage their instructors in the selection of the issue that will be the focus of their essay. Selections of essay topics should be made by the end of the first week in South Africa. In composing their essays students will draw on all aspects of their learning experience in South Africa: formal lectures, course readings—including newspaper/magazine articles, experiential learning activities, and more informal conversations with South Africans. In addition, students will be expected to bolster their analysis through use of at least two additional printed resources from books or journals located in the MSU library (to be accessed on our return to campus in early September). In addition to drawing on the writings and thoughts of others, students will be expected to represent their own perspectives in their essays.

**Papers are due on Friday September 24, 2010.** Please submit your essay electronically so that your instructor can respond to the essay electronically with comments. Students have time to revise their essays prior to our final meeting on Sunday afternoon, October 10, 2010 at which time they will be expected to make a five minute presentation on their essays to the entire group.

*MSU grades on a 4.0 – 0.0 grading scale, as follows.

**Grading Scale**

95% – 100% = 4.0 90% – 94% = 3.5 85% – 89% = 3.0 80% – 84% = 2.5
75% – 79% = 2.0

**Academic Integrity**

Each student is expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, field work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from another student or source (with the exception of group work and group assignments) and to submit their work on or before the due date and time. Students who violate MSU rules will incur a penalty, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.
Plagiarism is a serious issue in college. In accordance with Michigan State University’s policies on “Protection of Scholarship and Grades” and “Integrity of Scholarship and Grades,” students are expected to honor principles of truth and honesty in their academic work. Academic honesty entails that, among other things, students will not plagiarize. This means (1) students will not submit someone else’s work as their own, nor will they hand in a paper copied from the web or another published source. Academic honesty also means students (2) will not knowingly permit another student to copy and submit their work as that student’s own and (3) will not use unacknowledged quotations or paraphrases as part of their work. As provided by university policy, such academic dishonesty or plagiarism may be penalized by a failing grade on the assignment or for the course. Failure in a course as a result of academic dishonesty will also result in written notification to the student’s academic dean of the circumstances. Additional discussion of cheating or academic dishonesty is available on the Ombudsman’s webpage: <http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestystud.html>.

**Special Needs**

If you have special needs please notify the program coordinator as soon as possible. Refer to the Student Handbook.

**Reading Schedule**

**Pre-Departure**

*From Apartheid to Democracy 1948 -1994*

*Let Freedom Reign: The Words of Nelson Mandela*

*The Politics of the New South Africa (peruse)*

**In Country**

*The Politics of the New South Africa*

*Course Reader, Politics and Change in the New South Africa*
Post Program

Review All Readings

Research Reading
CALENDER OF DAILY CLASS SESSIONS

TRANSITION 1: APARTHEID AND NATION FORMATION

8/5
CLASSROOM: From Apartheid to Democracy Quiz
TOUR: South African Parliament

8/6
CLASSROOM: Deegan, Chapter 1, “Union and Segregation”
TOUR: African Studies Center at the University of Cape Town, “South African Exceptionalism and African Studies”

8/7
CLASSROOM: Deegan, Chapter 2, “Apartheid and the State”
Course Reader, “Apartheid Legislation”
Revisit Murray, Chapter 1, “Political Awakening”
TOUR: Robben Island

TRANSITION 2: STRUGGLE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

8/8
CLASSROOM: Deegan, Chapter 3, “Apartheid and the Struggle”
Revisit Murray, Chapter 2, “In Captivity”
8/9

**CLASSROOM:** Deegan, Chapter 4, “The End of Apartheid
Course Reader, “FW de Klerk: The day I ended Apartheid”
Revisit Murray, Chapter 3, “Release and Triumph”

**WOMEN’S DAY SPECIAL:** Profile Winnie Mandela

8/10

**CLASSROOM** Deegan, Chapter 5, “1994 – The New South Africa”
**TOUR:** The South African Township

8/12

**CLASSROOM/TOUR:** Deegan, Chapter 7, “Coming to Terms with the Past”
Course Reader, “Nelson Mandela and the Rainbow of Culture”
**TOUR:** Center for Conflict Resolution, University of Cape Town, “Truth and Reconciliation”

**TRANSITION 3: BEYOND RECONCILIATION- NEOLIBERALISM AND RENAISSANCE**

8/13

**CLASSROOM/TOUR:** Deegan, Chapter 9, “From Mandela to Mbeki”
Course Reader, “Thabo Mbeki’s African Renaissance in a Globalizing World Economy”

**TOUR:** Maybaye Center at University of Western Cape & “South Africa’s Africa Policy”
8/14

CLASSROOM/ON-THE-BUS - Course Reader “The Africa Agenda: A Discussion with South African President Thabo Mbeki”

TRANSITION 4: RESUCITATING AFRICAN NATIONALISM?

8/16

CLASSROOM/ON THE BUS - Course Reader, “The Zuma Tsunami South Africa’s Succession Politics”

8/17

CLASSROOM/ON THE BUS - Course Reader, “The Many Wives of Jacob Zuma”

POST PROGRAM

See Assignment due dates, FSA-SA post-meets, and ‘unpacking’ sessions below.

September 22, October 10, 2010 (FSA-SA Post-Meets)

The fall FSA "Unpacking" sessions
(led by Dr. Linda Gross and Dr Inga Stiglitz) will take place as follows:

Wed., Sept. 22, 6-8 PM (1235 Anthony Hall)

Fri., Oct. 1, 2-4 PM (1235 Anthony Hall)