

African Politics - CPO 3204: Section 13G3 Fall 2013

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Class Time: MWF 11:45 – 12:35
Room: Norman Hall (NRN) 331
Office: AND 212

Office Hours: Mon. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Or Fri. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course to politics in Africa. Over the course of the semester we will peer through time, peeling it back decade-by-decade to examine the interplay between global events/trends/academic theories and economic, political and social phenomena in the region.

The class is also a reading and writing intensive course. While class lectures present frameworks for understanding the major themes in the study of politics in sub Sahara Africa, our in-class discussions and your papers are designed to help you work though, apply and critique these ideas. With this in mind, you are expected to attend lectures, read, listen to each other, and engage in respectful and thoughtful analysis and discussion of course material.

CLASS FORMAT

The class meets three times a week: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:45 am - 12:35 pm. Mondays/Wednesdays are teaching/discussion days. Student presentations will occur throughout the semester on Fridays (see Dropbox).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. You will each be assigned a country for which you will become an expert over the course of the semester.
2. You will each be required to write a paper on government safety net programs offered by your countries in a Country Brief, your final paper for the class.
3. Each student will submit his or her individual country brief to me at the end of the semester on December 4th no later than 5pm
 - A. Country Brief Guidelines**
 1. Country briefs should be no more than 8 double-spaced pages (excluding the bibliography and any figures (see Dropbox).
 - B. Student are expected to use sources no older than 2012.**
 - C. Student Presentations of Country Briefs**
 - Presentations should be no more than 5 mins.
 - Followed by 5 mins of questions and answers

GRADING

Final Grade Determination

Class Attendance 10%

Class Participation 10%

Country Briefs 60%

Presentation of Country Briefs – 20%

Grading Scale	(Grade Point Equivalent)
A = 90 OR ABOVE	4.00
A- = 87- 89	3.67
B+ = 84 - 86	3.33
B = 80 - 83	3.00
B- = 77 - 79	2.67
C+ = 74 - 76	2.33
C = 70 - 73	2.00
C- = 67 - 69	1.67
D+ = 64 – 66	1.33
D = 60 - 63	1.00
D- = 57-59	0.67
E = 56 OR BELOW	0.00

CLASS POLICIES - <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/academic-regulations.aspx>

Academic Honesty -

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines of the University of Florida, some of which include: (a) not passing someone’s work off as yours; (b) properly citing sources (the American Political Science Association’s style manual – see The Writing Center at UW-Madison - <http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html>)

Cell Phones and Laptops

Class discussions and lectures are the only time new concepts and key ideas can be presented and discussed. Please make sure your phones are on silent or turned off during lectures. Students using computers for note taking should not be web surfing since this distracts others. Violations of these policies may constitute disruptive behavior. Class lectures may not be taped without my permission.

Attendance

Attending lectures is imperative. To receive an A or B for attendance and participation, students must combine near perfect attendance with quality in-class participation in a way that demonstrates you read and thought through course material. You will receive Cs for regular attendance (80% of the time) but infrequent participation in class; or irregular attendance (70% of the time) but frequent and high quality participation when you do show up in class. You will be rewarded with a D or E if you show up irregularly (60-70%) or infrequently (below 60%), regardless of participation. I reserve the right to give zeros for this portion of the course grade to students who are disruptive or continually show up late to class.

Late Papers and Missed Presentations:

Life happens, our best-laid plans sometimes go awry. For these and other reasons I encourage you to communicate. Let me know what is going on with you. Late papers and/or missed presentations will receive a full grade deduction for the first day the assignment is late. After that, you will receive a “half grade”

deduction per day. So, if you hand in an assignment that would have earned a B+ one day late, you will receive a C+. If you hand in an assignment that would have earned a B+ two days late, you will receive a C, and so on. If you do not show up for your scheduled presentation on the day you are scheduled to present you will be assigned a score of zero. This does not apply in cases where student(s) had to reschedule due to illness (come with a doctor's report/note) or cleared prior by me.

Religious Observance

Please check your calendars against the course schedule and contact me as soon as possible to make the necessary adjustments.

Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that all qualified persons have equal opportunity and access to education regardless of a disabling condition. Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should (1) register with, and provide documentation to the Disabilities Resource Center and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating your need for accommodation. This should be done during the first week of class. Please let me know if you have a disabling condition and would need alternate arrangements for the course and/or the evaluation process.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Main Text

- **Issues for Debate in American Public Policy 12th Ed. CQ Press** (*Issues henceforth*) *African Politics in Comparative Perspective*. Goran Hyden. Latest Edition
- All other readings will be in Dropbox

Recommended

- An Introduction to African Politics. Alex Thomson - Rutledge - 2010 - Paperback - 291 pages - ISBN 0415482879
- See Recommended Reading folder in Dropbox

PART ONE

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN POLITICS

Week 1 August 21, 23

Wednesday 21– Introduction – No readings assigned
Friday 23 – Goran Hyden Chapter 1:1-24

Week 2 August 26, 28, 30 - A Basket Case?

Monday 26 – RieffIn. In Defense of Afro-Pessimism
Wednesday 28 – Jackson - Africa Unvarnished
- Afro Afro-Optimism! Documenting Democracy in Ghana
Friday 30 August – Bates. 1997. "Area Studies and the Discipline

SECTION 2 – COLONIAL LEGACY

Week 3 September 2, 4, 6- From Colonialism to Independence

Monday 2 - **No Class**

Wednesday 4 - Crowder. Indirect Rule: French and British Style.
Friday 6 – Ekeh. 1972. Colonialism and the Two Publics
Week 4 September 9, 11, 13 – From Colonialism to Independence Cont.
Monday 9 - Englebert Pre/Post Colonial State & Economic Development
Wednesday 11 - The Kwame Nkrumah Documentary
Friday 13 – Student Presentations

SECTION 3 THE QUEST FOR DEVELOPMENT

Week 5 September 16, 18, 20
Monday 16 – Hyden, Chapter 4 – The Economy of Affection
Wednesday 18 – Hyden, Chapter 6 – The Policy Deficit
Friday 20 - News Roundup/ Student Presentations

Week 6 September 23, 25, 27 – Permanent Crisis
Monday 23 - The Trade Trap Sub Saharan Africa does trade help or hurt
economic development? With Paul Krugman -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQEtFydJSpk>
Wednesday – Loxley’s Review of the Berg Report
Friday 27 - News Roundup/ Student Presentations

SECTION 4 POLITICS, POLITICKING AND TRANSITIONS

Week 7 Sept 30 - Oct 4, 5 -
Monday Sept 30 – Jackson & Rosberg. Personal Rule
Wednesday – Hyden, Chapter 5 Big Man Rule
Friday Oct 4- News Roundup/ Student Presentations

Week 8 Oct 7, 9, 11
Monday Oct 7 – Barka and Ncube. Military Coups d’Etat
Wednesday Oct 9 – Gyimah-Boadi. Civil Society In Africa
Friday Oct 11 – News Roundup/ Student Presentations

Week 9 Oct 14, 16, 17
Monday Oct 14 – Bratton & van de Walle. Chap 3. Africa’s Divergent Transitions
Wednesday Oct 16 – Lynch & Crawford. Democratization in Africa 1990–2010:
Friday Oct 17 – News Roundup/ Student Presentations

PART TWO – INTERLUDE

Syncretism: Sound Tracks of a Region

Week 10 Oct 21, 23, 25 –
Monday Oct 21 – Music and The Politics of Suffering (Asimbonanga, Fire in
Soweto and of course Sweet Mother)
Wednesday Oct 23 – The Quest for the Hiplife and its Discontents - Gifford.
Chapter 2.
Friday Oct 25 - News Roundup/ Student Presentations

PART THREE
SECTION 5 Society And POLITICS

- Week 11 Oct 28, 30, 1 - Ethnicity and Conflict
Monday Oct 28 Hyden Chapter 9
Wednesday Oct 30 - Hyden Chapter 9
Friday November 1 -
- Week 12 November 4, 6, 8 - Gender and Politics
Monday Nov 4 – Hyden Chapter 8
Wednesday Nov 6 -
Friday 8 - *Holiday – Homecoming weekend*
- Week 13 November 11, 13, 15 -
Monday 11 - Holiday
Wednesday 13 - Student Presentations
Friday 15 - News Roundup/ Student Presentations
- Week 14 November 18, 20, 22
Monday Nov 18 African Culture And Personality:
Wednesday 20 Nov - Student Presentations
Friday Nov 22 - News Roundup
- Week 15 November 25, 27, 29
Monday Nov 25 - Student Presentations
Wednesday Nov 27 – No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday Nov 29 – No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Week 16 December 2, 4,
Monday Dec 2 - Student Presentations
Wednesday Dec 4 - Student Presentations
Friday Dec 6 – Country Briefs Due