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Spring 2-1-2017

PSCI 326.01: Politics of Africa

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The University Of Montana

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University of Montana
Department of Political Science

PSCI 326, Politics of Africa
Spring Semester 2016/17
MWF 9:00-9:50; LA 337

Solomon M. Gofie, PhD
Office No: Corbin 33252021
Office Hrs:MWF 4:00-5:00

The Course: Purpose & Description

The study of politics of Africa involves the analysis of African political history, the idea of Pan-Africanism and the struggle for independence, political systems and the forms of government in the post-independence period, the Cold War and super powers involvement in Africa, and attempts to democratization in several countries on the continent in the 1990s. The course-African Politics will provide the opportunity to discuss various thematic issues such as cultural diversity, economic development and poverty, structural adjustment policies, international trade and foreign aid, health issues, education in Africa etc. In doing so, it will introduce selected theoretical perspectives related to the analysis of politics and government in Africa, inter-state relations in Africa, and their relations with the rest of the world. It will provide a framework to explore selected African counties comparatively, deals with specific examples as appropriate and explore recent events as they unfold. The specific objectives of the course presented in the form of learning outcomes are the following.

By the end of the course it is anticipated participants will be able to,

1. grasp major issues and themes in the study of politics in Africa with the emphasis on the post independence period
2. be aware of key concepts and perspectives in the analysis of politics, state and society in Africa
3. develop skills in identifying and explaining political dynamics in different parts of the continent, and
4. demonstrate how knowledge about Africa could be useful to propose alternative approaches to the challenges facing the population in different countries in Africa.

Required Reading

Alex Thompson, 2016, an Introduction to African Politics (Routledge, 4th ed.)

Course Requirement

Assesment of learning outcomes follow the applicable University rules and regualtions. Regular class attendance, active participation in class, doing individual assignments and sumbitting them by the deadlines, adequate contribution to group

assignments and presentations, regular reading of course materials and the final examination are the basis of the evaluation. While the the University's grading system/scale will be used as basis to convert student's results into grades, the final evaluation takes into consideration the standings of individual results as well as the overall performance of the class. Individual assignments-term papers are assessed on the basis of adequate discussion of the issue or the question the topic raises, originality in analysis, organization of ideas and clarity of presentation of the written submssion, use of sources including citations and referencing.

The course requires regular class attendance and students benefit from active class participation. Students should submit assignments on the designated dates and delays to submit as per the deadline may lead to reduction of points. Course evaluation and final grades will be based on the activities and requirements outlined above. Students are also encouraged to use consultation hours for additional questions and discussions. The values for the major activities and criteria of evaluation are the following:

Class participation and presentations (30%)	Includes group presentations
Individual Assignment (20%)	Writing paper on selected topics
Final Examination (50)	End of Semester

Regular class attendance is essential, and the course requires active participation of students. Students are expected to submit assignments on the designated dates and delays to submit may lead to reduction of points. Overall assessment of the results will be based on the specific requirements outlined above. Students are also encouraged to use consultation hours with the instructor for additional questions and discussions.

Disabilities

In case of disability adversely affecting your academic performance, we will work to ensure access to the course materials and I will provide full support and make amendments per the applicbale rules.

Course outline and activity schedules

- 1. Discussion of items in the syllabus and course introduction**
- 2. Colonialism and forms of responses to colonial rule in 1950s & 60s**

Amilcar Cabral 'the Weapon of Theory', 1966 speech,

[*The Weapon of Theory, 1966, Amilcar Cabral*](#)

Mamdani and Chomsky-youtube video (partially) on 'the Scramble for Africa', and Maps of Africa-1894 & after decolonization

- 3. One-party and military rule in Africa**

Benyamin Neuberger, 1974 'Has the one party state failed in Africa' in **African Studies Association**, Vol. 17, No. 1, pp.173-178.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2307/523584>

Uma O. Eleazu, 1973, 'the Role of the Army in African Politics: A Reconsideration of Existing Theories and Practices' in **the Journal of Developing Areas**, Vol. 7, No. 7, pp. 265-286.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/4190002>

4. The post-colonial state in Africa 1960s & 70s; *presentations¹

Colin Leys, 1976, 'the 'Overdeveloped' Post Colonial State: A Re-Evaluation' in **Review of African Political Economy**, Vol. 3 No.5, pp. 39-48

www.jstor.org/stable/3997807

Crawford Young, 2004, 'The end of the post-colonial state in Africa? Reflections on changing African political dynamics' in **African Affairs** (London), Vol. 103 No. 410, pp. 23-49 <http://afraf.oxfordjournals.org/>

5. Pan-Africanism, African unity, OAU, regionalism; *presentations

Micah S. Tsomondo, 1975, 'From Pan –Africanism to Socialism: Modernization of an African Liberation Ideology' in **A Journal of Opinion**, Vol. 5, No. 4, pp. 39-46.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/1166523>

Anthony Ngororano, 1972, 'Some Aspects of Regional Economic Integration in the Third World with Special Reference to East Africa' in **Africa Spectrum**, Vol.7, No. 3, pp. 21-29.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/40173737.pdf?acceptTC=true>

6. African & the Cold War, the UN & NAM (28 Feb & 1 Mar) &*presentations

Samuel M. Makinda, 1982, 'Conflicts and the Superpowers in the Horn of Africa' in **the Third World Quarterly**, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 93-103, www.jstor.org/stable/3991509

Dona R. Jackson, 2010, 'the Ogden War and the Demise of Détente' in **the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science**

¹ * refers to a group presentation on assigned readings

<http://ann.sagepub.com/content/632/1/26>

7. Development aid and structural adjustment programs, 1980s (IMF, WB and EU);* presentations

Pierre Englebert, 2000, 'Pre-Colonial Institutions, Post-Colonial States, and Economic Development in Tropical Africa' in *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 53, No. 1, pp. 7-36 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/449244>

Olufemi Babarinde & Gerrit Faber, 2003, 'From Lome to Cotonou: Business as Usual', Conference Paper for **the Eight Biennial Conference of the European Studies Associations**, March 27-29 2003, Hilton Suites, Nashville Tennessee, Tennessee <http://aei.pitt.edu/2817/1/084.pdf>

8. Africa after the Cold War, democratization agenda's in 1990s;*presentations

Barry Munslow, 1993, 'Democratization in Africa', in *Parliamentary Affairs*, Vol.46, No.4, pp. 478-490

<http://pa.oxfordjournals.org/content/46/4/478.full.pdf>

Christopher Clapham, 1993, 'Democratization in Africa: Obstacles and Prospects' in *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 14 No. 3, pp. 423-438

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/3992479.pdf>

9. Multi-partism & electoral politics in Africa (Botswana, Ghana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and the Gambia); * presentations

Samuel M. Makinda, 1996, 'Democracy and Multi Party Politics in Africa' in *the Modern African Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 555-573
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/161588>

Lisa Blaydes, 2006, 'Who Votes in Authoritarian Elections and Why: Determinants of Voter Turnout in Egypt 2006', Paper for 2006 APSA Annual Meeting

www.stanford.edu/~blaydes/Turnout.pdf

'Richard Snyder, 2006? 'Beyond Electoral Authoritarianism: the Spectrum of Undemocratic Regimes'

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Political_Science/documents/BeyondElectoralAuthor..pdf

10. Foreign policies of states, human rights and democracy, US, EU etc (10 &12 April) & *presentations

P. Boone, 1995, 'Politics and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid', by the Centre of Economic Performance (Discussion Paper No. 272)

[http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/20690/1/Politics and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid .pdf](http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/20690/1/Politics_and_the_Effectiveness_of_Foreign_Aid.pdf)

Dambisa Moyo, 2009, 'Dead Aid: Why aid is not working...Africa' <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123749211536187585.html> (excerpt)

11. The Politics of Good Governance and International Development;* Presentations

Merille Grindle, 2010, Good Governance:The Inflation of an Idea', Faculty Research Working Paper (John F. Kennedy School of Governance)

[file:///C:/Users/utala1/Downloads/RWP10-023_Grindle%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/utala1/Downloads/RWP10-023_Grindle%20(1).pdf)

Rebecca Schaaf, 2015, 'The Rhetoric and Reality of Partnership for International Development' in Geography Compass, Vo1.2, No. 2

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gec3.12198/pdf>

12. Fighting terrorism & transnational clientelism?; *presentations

'Combating Terrorism in the Horn of Africa and Yemen', BSCIA 2005 Paper, John F. Kennedy School of Government

http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/BCSIA_CombatingTerrorismInTheHornOfAfricaAndYemen.pdf

Solomon M. Gofie, 2017, 'State Making, Transnational Clientalism and Political Communities in the Horn of Africa' in the Horn of Africa Since the 1960s: Local and International Politics Intertwined (Aleksi Ylonen & Jan Zahorik, eds. Routledge) (copy of chapter will be provided in print)

13. Political antagonisms & emigration: In search for a viable political community; *presentations

Thimoty J. Hatton & Jeffrey G. Williamson, 2003, 'Demographic and Economic Pressure on Emigration out of Africa' in Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Vol. 105. No.3, pp 465-486 <http://ideas.repec.org/p/iza/izadps/dp250.html>

Regional Mixed Migration in the Horn of Africa and Yemen, Danish Refugee Council, 2016 <http://www.regionalmms.org/trends/RMMSQ1Trends2016.pdf>

Solomon M. Gofie, 2015, 'Emigrants and the state in Ethiopia: transnationalism and the challenges of political antagonism', in ***African and Black Diaspora: An International Journal***, Vol. 9, No.2, pp. 134-148

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/17528631.2015.1083180>

Afro Barometer surveys <http://www.afrobarometer.org>

Academic Honesty

Adhering to rules of academic honesty and familiarity with the University's Student Conduct Code. Plagiarism-presenting other person's work as one's own- is a serious academic offence resulting in the nullification or reduction of the results of the assignment and may lead to disciplinary measures by the University.

Note: The reading materials are selected in a way they help students become familiar with literature dealing with African politics at different times in different contexts. Presentation and individual topics will be assigned in consultation with the students. This syllabus provides information and guidance about the Course, and may be subject to some modifications.