Course Outline

COURSE:  Introduction to African Studies: AFRI 1001 A
TERM:  Summer 2018 (May 7 to June 26)
CLASS:  Day & Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:35 pm – 5:25 pm  
        Room: SA 520
INSTRUCTOR:  Firoze Manji
CONTACT:  Office: Rm 457 Patterson Hall  
          Office Hrs: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30pm – 4:00pm  
          Telephone: 613-520-2600 extension 2229  
          Email firozemanji@carleton.ca

I. Course Description:

II. Africa is often framed in terms of ‘crises,’ ‘human rights’, ‘civil wars’, ‘violence’ and ‘poverty’, a continent ‘in need of development’. This class will critically interrogate such perspectives on Africa. We will look at the rise of ancient civilizations on the continent; how the concepts of ‘Africa’ and ‘Africans’ emerged; the impact of and resistance to the European slave trade; the colonial experience and the movements for independence, freedom and emancipation; the nature of independence governments; the impact of neoliberalism and ‘globalization’; the role of NGOs; and the rise of social movements. We will look at interdisciplinary academic texts, popular literature, music and film. The course will enable the student to analyze important contemporary political, social and economic themes. The key questions that we will address are the meaning of freedom, emancipation and the aspiration for universalist humanity in the context of contemporary Africa.

Expected outcomes

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Appraise critically the dominant images of Africa and Africans
- Analyze important contemporary political, social and economic themes in relation to Africa
- Recount the principal features of the historical development of African societies
- Critically appraise the nature of ‘development’
• Have a basic understanding of the field of ‘African Studies’
• Develop critical reading, thinking and writing skills
• Actively engage co-learning with your peers.

Each class will typically consist of presentations and a discussion seminar. The presentations will highlight the main themes and debates of that particular class, while making connections to the larger course themes and objectives. The second part of class will be in tutorial format and dedicated to discussing the assigned readings and audiovisual materials. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss weekly readings and to engage in an informed manner.

II. **Texts**: All readings are available on the ARES system.

III. **Evaluation**:
- Attendance and participation: 20 %
- Midterm Exam 30% (May 29)
- Group Presentation: 20 % (June 12 to June 14)
- Paper/ Take home exam due: 30 % (June 19)

**Attendance and participation**
An attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. You will also be assessed by the extent of your active participation in class discussion and activities.

**Group Presentation**
On May 24th students will sign up for group presentations that will take place on June 12 and June 14. These presentations will be based on a specific theme chosen in the group and will require independent research. Some class time will be allocated for research and group preparation. Groups will consist of 3-4 students and each will take 15 minutes to make their oral presentation on the day they will present. Presentations will be evaluated according to the significance of the topic, depth of the research, connection to course themes and creativity of the presentation, among other relevant criteria. All groups are required to submit a printed copy of their presentation on the day they present.

**Final Take Home Exam/Paper**
The final take home exam/paper will be due on June 19 and should be handed in both electronically, via CU Learn, through the African Studies drop box on the 4th floor of the Patterson building. Students are required to hand in a 10-page paper that relates to or expands on any of the themes covered during the class. Class time will be dedicated to explaining this exercise and helping students find a relevant essay topic. All assignments should be uploaded on CU learn before midnight on the day of the deadline.
Late Assignments
The penalty for submitting late assignments is 10% per calendar day, including weekends, unless prior special permission has been granted. If a late submission is unavoidable (e.g. medical reasons), please inform your instructor before the due date and have written documentation available.

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL AFRICAN STUDIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED
Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

COURSE SHARING WEBSITES and COPYRIGHT
Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).
Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

STATEMENT ON CLASS CONDUCT
The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity,
- prevent discrimination and harassment, and
- preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.

Carleton University Equity Services states that “every member of the University community has a right to study, work and live in a safe environment free of discrimination or harassment”. [In May of 2001 Carleton University’s Senate and Board of Governors approved the Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures. The establishment of these policies and procedures was the culmination of the efforts of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Human Rights and a Human Rights Implementation Committee.]

GRADING SYSTEM
Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100 (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89 (11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84 (10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79 (9)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76 (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72 (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69 (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66 (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62 (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59 (3)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-56 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52 (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WDN</td>
<td>Withdrawn from the course</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Absent from the final examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEF</td>
<td>Official deferral (see &quot;Petitions to Defer&quot;)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FND</td>
<td>Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.</td>
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Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY
Last day for academic withdrawal from early summer courses is June 13th.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation

PETITIONS TO DEFER
Students unable to complete a final term paper or write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

ADDRESSES (613-520-2600, phone ext.)
- Institute of African Studies (x2220) 439 Paterson Hall (PA)
- Registrar’s Office (x3500) 300 Tory
- Student Academic Success Centre (x7850) 302 Tory
- Paul Menton Centre (x6608) 500 Unicentre
- Learning Support Services – Study Skills, Writing Tutorial Service (x1125) 4th flr. Library

Application for Graduation Deadlines
- Spring Graduation (June): March 1
- Fall Graduation (November): September 1
- Winter Graduation (February): December 1
Class Schedule

WEEK 1

May 8: Introduction to Course: Objectives, Themes, Assignments & Evaluation

May 10: African civilizations

1. Walter Rodney: How Europe Underdeveloped Africa: Chapter 2, “How Europe Developed before the Coming of the Europeans — up to the Fifteenth Century”
2. 100 Amazing African Cities That Were Completely Destroyed by Europeans. https://www.corespirit.com/100-amazing-african-cities-that-were-completely-destroyed-by-europeans/

WEEK 2

May 15: Slavery and resistance


May 17: Colonialism, Independence and the state

3. Fanon, Frantz: The Wretched of the Earth. Chapter 3: “The Trials and Tribulations of National Consciousness”.
**WEEK 3**

**May 22: Thinking freedom: differing perspectives**
We will discuss the ideas of different African liberation leaders or organisations about freedom and emancipation. You should come prepared to discuss the ideas of one male and one female leader. These might include such people as listed here: African Feminist fighters: [http://www.africanfeministforum.com/african-feminists/african-feminist-ancestors](http://www.africanfeministforum.com/african-feminists/african-feminist-ancestors); Thomas Sankara; Amilcar Cabral; Frantz Fanon; Kwame Nkrumah; Julius Nyerere; Winnie Madikizela-Mandela; Nelson Mandela; Abahlali baseMjondolo.

**May 24: Human rights and freedoms**

**WEEK 4**

**May 29 : Midterm Exam**
You will be provided with several questions from which you must choose one. Making use of the library and other reference materials, you are required to write an essay of no more than 3000 words in response. You will be required to hand these in by May 31.

**May 31 : Miners shot down: the Marikana massacre: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssPrxvgePsc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssPrxvgePsc)**
We will discuss the origins and implications of this event.
WEEK 5

June 5: Globalization and neoliberalism and its discontents
1. Patnaik, Prabhat: Notes on Contemporary Imperialism: https://www.pambazuka.org/governance/notes-contemporary-imperialism

June 7: Aid, development and the white saviour industry
Guest Lecturer: Molly Kane

WEEK 6

June 12: Extractive industries, environment and climate change
Guest Lecturer: Kamoji Wachiira

June 14: Class Presentations

WEEK 7

June 19: Class Presentations / Take home paper review

Take home paper due electronically and in print form on June 26.