

# Course Outline 2019

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**COURSE:** Introduction to African Studies: AFRI 1001 A

**TERM:** Summer 2019 (July 2 to August 14)

**CLASS:** **Day & Time:** Mondays and Wednesdays 11:35 – 14:35  
**Room:** Southam Hall 520

**INSTRUCTOR:** Adj Prof Firoze Manji

**CONTACT:** **Office:** Rm 457 Patterson Hall  
**Office Hrs:** Mondays and Wednesdays 15:00 – 17:00  
**Telephone:** 613-520-2600 extension 2229  
**Email** firozemanji@carleton.ca

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## Course Description:

- I. 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. **Schedule, topics and assignments:** All topics and assignments will be posted on CU-Learn. It is your responsibility to ensure that you keep yourself informed about the topics to be covered and the schedule of assignments.
- IV. **Evaluation:**
- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Attendance and participation:  | 25 %                         |
| Midterm Exam (take home paper) | 35% (July 22 to July 24)     |
| Paper/ Take home exam due:     | 40 % (August 7 to August 14) |

#### **Attendance and participation**

You are required to sign an attendance sheet at the beginning of each class. You will also be assessed both by attendance (10%) and by the extent of your active participation in class discussion and activities (15%).

#### **Midterm Exam**

You will be required to submit one essay question of at least 2000 words length that must be submitted before midnight on July 24 and handed in both electronically, via CU Learn, through the African Studies drop box on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Patterson building.

#### **Final Take Home Exam/Paper**

The final take home exam/paper will be due on August 14 and should be handed in both electronically, via CU Learn, through the African Studies drop box on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Patterson building. Students are required to hand in a paper of 3000-4000 words that relates to or expands on one 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.

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### **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:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B - = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A - = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F Failure. No academic credit WDN Withdrawn from the course

ABS Absent from the final examination

DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND 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.

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 July 4.

## **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

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## Class Schedule

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### July 3: Introduction to Course: Objectives, Themes, Assignments & Evaluation

### July 8: 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. <http://bit.ly/2YPJfKK>
3. Jacques Depelchin, "Silences in African History: Between the syndromes of discovery and abolition," Chapter 1 (1 – 21)
4. Cheikh Anta Diop, *The Meaning of Our Work* Chapter 2, Perspectives on Africa (A)
5. The Mandé Charter: <http://bit.ly/2YYdEH1>

### July 10: Slavery and resistance

1. Gerald Horne: *The Apocalypse of Settler Colonialism*. Monthly Review Press, 2018. pp 1-49
2. Equiano, Olaudah (2008) *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* (Hogarth Blake Ltd) <http://www.hh-bb.com/equiano.pdf>
3. Douglass Frederick (1845) *The Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass an American Slave* (Anti-Slavery Office: Boston) [http://www.ibiblio.org/ebooks/Douglass/Narrative/Douglass\\_Narrative.pdf](http://www.ibiblio.org/ebooks/Douglass/Narrative/Douglass_Narrative.pdf)
4. Gilbert, Olive (2000) *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth* (1850) Dictated by Sojourner Truth (ca.1797-1883) (Pennsylvania State University: Pennsylvania) <http://www2.hn.psu.edu/faculty/jmanis/sojtruth/sojtruth.pdf>
5. James, CLR (1989) *The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L' Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution* (Vintage Books: New York)
6. A Lynching Memorial Is Opening. The Country Has Never Seen Anything Like It. <https://nyti.ms/2YR89tk>

### July 15: Colonialism, Independence and the state

1. Aimé Césaire: *Discourse on Colonialism*. (New York : Monthly Review Press, 2000). pp 29-78
2. Adam Hochschild: *King Leopold's Ghost* (Mariner Books, 1998). Part I
3. Fanon, Frantz: *The Wretched of the Earth*. Chapter 3: "The Trials and Tribulations of National Consciousness".
4. Sembene, Ousmane: *Gods Bits of Wood*. <http://bit.ly/30LBDug>
5. Africa: A Continent Drenched in the Blood of Revolutionary Heroes" Victoria Brittain, The Guardian, January 17, 2011.

### July 17: Thinking Freedom / Thinking emancipation

1. Neocosmos, Michael: *Thinking Freedom in Africa: Toward a Theory of Emancipatory Politics*. Wits University Press, 2016. Chapter 2.
2. Firoze Manji: Emancipation, Freedom Or Taxonomy? What Does It Mean To Be African? Chapter 3 in *Racism after Apartheid*. Ed Vishwas Satgar, Wits University Press, 2019.
3. African Feminist fighters: <http://www.africanfeministforum.com/african-feminists/african-feminist-ancestors>;
4. *Thomas Sankara: The Upright Man*, 2009, directed by Robin Shuffield, (52 min), CreateSpace, ASIN:

## July 22: African movements and leaders

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>; Thomas Sankara; Amílcar Cabral; Frantz Fanon; Kwame Nkrumah; Julius Nyerere; Winnie Madikizela-Mandela; Nelson Mandela; Abahlali baseMjondolo.

You will be provided with several questions from which you must choose one. Making use of the library and other reference materials, you will be required to write an essay of 2000 to 3000 words in response. You will be required to hand these in by midnight on July 24.

## July 24: Mid term exam essays due & Human rights and freedoms

1. Issa Shivji: *The Concept of Human Rights in Africa*. 1989. 126 p. (CODESRIA) ISBN: 1870784022. Chap 2&3
2. Neocosmos, Michael: Transition, human rights and violence: rethinking a liberal political relationship in the African neo-colony. *Interface*: Volume 3(2): 359 - 399 (November 2011)
3. Mutua, M. 2002. *Human Rights: A Political and Cultural Critique*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
4. African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights <http://www.achpr.org/instruments/achpr/>
5. Bennett, Jane: Subversion and resistance: activist initiatives. (Chapter 6) In Sylvia Tamale (ed) *African Sexualities: A Reader*, Oxford Pambazuka Press 2011

## July 29: Globalization and neoliberalism and its discontents

1. Patnaik, Prabhat: Notes on Contemporary Imperialism: <https://www.pambazuka.org/governance/notes-contemporary-imperialism>
2. *Honest Accounts? The true story of Africa's billion dollar losses.* <https://www.healthpovertyaction.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2014/07/Honest-Accounts-report-v4-web.pdf>
3. Raúl Zibechi: From Social Movements to 'Other' Societies in Movement (Part 1 & 2): <http://upsidedownworld.org/archives/international/social-movements-societies-movement-part-1/>
4. Samir Amin: *Ending the Crisis of Capitalism or Ending Capitalism*. Pambazuka Press 2011
5. Video: Martin Khor: Structural Adjustment Explained: <http://www.globalissues.org/video/727/martin-khor-structural-adjustment-explained>
6. Land Rush: Why Poverty: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O\\_pKnP-2mOQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_pKnP-2mOQ)

## July 31: Aid, development and the white savior industry

1. Hickel, Jason: *The Divide: A brief Guide to Global Inequality*. (London, Heinemann, 2017). Chaps 1-4.
2. Kane, Molly: "Canada and the Third World: Development Aid", a chapter in *Canada and the Third World: Overlapping Histories*, edited by Karen Dubinsky, Sean Mills and Scott Rutherford. 2016 University of Toronto Press; International NGOs and the Aid Industry: constraints on international solidarity Sep 20, 2013 Third World Quarterly Volume 34, Issue 8, 2013

3. Manji F & O’Coill C (2002): The Missionary Position: NGOs and Development in Africa. *International Affairs* **78**, 567-83
4. Issa Shivji: *Silences in NGO Discourse: The role and future of NGOs in Africa*. Oxford, Fahamu Books

**August 5: Civic Holiday**

**August 7: Miners shot down: the Marikana massacre:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssPrxvgePsc>  
We will discuss the origins and implications of this event.

**August 12: Extractive industries, environment and climate change**

Further details to be provided (see CU-Learn)

You will receive your final exam question which you will be required to submit by ...

**August 14: Submission of final exam**

By midnight August 14.