



SUMMER 2024 (May-June)

AFRI 1002A – Introduction to African Studies

Course Instructor: Dr. Paul Mkandawire
Class times: Tuesday and Thursday 6.05pm-8.55pm - online
Online office hours: Thursday 5-6pm or by appointment
Email: Brightspace or Paul.Mkandawire@carleton.ca
Course duration: May 4 – June 16

Course Description

This online course provides a foundational understanding of political, social, and economic dimensions of post-colonial and contemporary Africa.

Learning Outcomes

- Recognize the diversity of African peoples inside and outside of continental Africa.
- Identify and explain some of the historical, political, economic, cultural, social, gendered, and racialized dynamics that have shaped the lives of African peoples in the post-colonial era.
- Recognize the diversity of African peoples inside and outside of Africa, while demonstrating the wider national, regional, and global forces that create connections between them.
- Assess critically media and other popular representations concerning Africa.

Lectures and Course Materials

There is no assigned textbook for this online course. Carleton Library system has made available all required readings for this course in ARES in your Brightspace. To access these readings in your course Brightspace go to Tools>ARES>Reserves. You must complete the prerequisite readings first before engaging with the lecture. The lectures will not just verbalize the assigned readings; they will also build upon a variety of other relevant sources. I expect you to visit Brightspace regularly for notes, updates, tests/exams, grades and other course related instructions and announcements.

Evaluation

Include a quiz (timed), a mid-term exam (timed) and a final take-home exam, weighted as follows:

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| • Participation in synchronous sessions | 10% |
| • Test (May 16, 6-.30pm, online) | 20% |
| • Mid-term (May 30, 6-8.30pm, online) | 30% |
| • Final take home exam (Due June TBA) | 40% |

Test – The duration of the Quiz is 2 hours. The test is online, timed and closed-book format. You will write the test in Brightspace. The test will consist of eight short answer questions (150-200 words per answer) and will focus on definitions and concise explanations of issues and terms



related to post-colonial Africa.

Midterm -The Mid-term is also online and has a duration of 2.5 hours. It will consist of 6 short answer questions (150-200 words) and one long answer question. A long answer question on the mid-term will take the form of a long essay of about 700 words in length, with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.

Take home exam -The take home exam will be one long essay (minimum of 3000 words) on a topic/question to be provided to everyone via Brightspace on the last day of class and is due on the last day of the exam period. You will submit your essay through a submission portal in Brightspace.

Please note that a **late penalty** of one-third of one grade point will be imposed for every 10 minutes the quiz or mid-term is late, and the same measure of penalty for each 24-hours the submission of the final take-home exam paper is delayed.

Class Schedule (S=synchronous; A= asynchronous)

- May 7 -S Course introduction and overview
No readings assigned for this week.
- May 9 - S Political Dimensions of Post-colonial Africa
Readings: Nugent, Paul (2012). *Africa Since Independence*. Red Globe Press: London. Chapter 1, pp. 7-57.
Anghie, Antony (2007). *Imperialism, sovereignty and the making of international law*. Cambridge University Press. New York. Chapter 2: page 90-114
- May 14 -A Decolonizing Africa
Reading: Reid, J. Richard, "Compromising Conflict: Routes to Independence" in Richard J. Reid, *A History of Modern Africa*, 2009, Chapter 19, pp. 270-287.
- May 16 Test - online
- May 21-S Sovereignty and the postcolonial African state
Reading: Jackson, R.H. and C.G Rosberg (1982). *Why Africa's Weak States Persist: The Empirical and the Juridical in Statehood*, *World Politics*, Vol. 35, 1-24.
- May 23 -A Apartheid in South Africa
Reading: Mhlauli, M. B., Salani, E., & Mokotedi, R. (2015). Understanding apartheid in South Africa through the racial contract. *International Journal of Asian Social Science*, 5(4), 203-219.



- May 28-S Military Rule in Africa
Reading: Kposowa, A. J., & Jenkins, J. C. (1993). The structural sources of military coups in postcolonial Africa, 1957-1984. *American Journal of Sociology*, 99(1), 126-163.
- May 30 Mid-term exam (2.5 hours)
- June 4-A Democracy in Africa
Reading: MacPherson, C.B. (1965). *The real world of democracy* Chapter 3 (Non-liberal democracy and the underdeveloped variant.
Oduor, R. M. (2019). Liberal democracy: an African critique. *South African Journal of Philosophy= Suid-Afrikaanse Tydskrif vir Wysbegeerte*, 38(1), 108-122.
- June 6-S Civilization and commerce - Structural Adjustment Policies and Africa's Economic Development.
Reading: Anghie, A. (2007). *Imperialism, sovereignty and the making of international law*. Cambridge university press. New York.
- June 11-A NGOs and Politics of Development in Africa
Reading: Matanga, F. K. (2010). NGOs and the Politics of Development in Africa. *Development*, 53(1), 114-119.
Hearn, J. (2007). African NGOs: the new compradors? *Development and change*, 38(6), 1095-1110.
- June 13-S Public health in Africa
Reading: Leach, M. (2020). Echoes of Ebola: social and political warnings for the COVID-19 response in African settings. *Echoes*.
- June 18-S Course review

COURSE POLICIES

Brightspace: Brightspace may be a new learning environment for some of you so please take time to familiarize yourself with its key features and functions. All correspondence with the course instructor should be carried out through the Brightspace email system (although you can also reach me through my Carleton address). All readings, as well as assignments and discussions will be posted here. Students are fully responsible for reading and responding to all the information distributed through the course page. Information provided on this page will be considered to have been provided to all registered students within 24 hours of posting in Brightspace.



Office hours: I strongly urge you to make regular use of online office hours on Thursday 5-6pm. The purpose of office hours is to present students with the opportunity to discuss the course one-on-one with me. Please come by virtually with any questions that you may have concerning the lectures, readings, your assignments, as well as concerns you may have regarding the course and your progress. It is advisable that you come and talk to me sooner rather than later if you are struggling in the course so we can try to work out how you can get helped.

Essay/exam review policy: Your marked assignments/exams will be handed back as soon as possible. I will not discuss your grades with you until the following week. This gives you the opportunity to first read and reflect upon my comments.

Email policy: Due to the high volume of email typically associated with online courses, please allow 72 hours for a response.

Netiquette: Every student in AFRI 1002 is expected to practice good manners when communicating in an online environment. Over and above the well-known traditional classroom rules, Carleton University expects students to see beyond the computer screen and recognize that there is a human being on the other end of the communication channel. Also, you should uphold the same standards of conduct that you adhere to in real life, be sensitive to other students' time and bandwidth, carefully think about what you are going to talk about or post before hand, be nice and polite to others, and ensure you apologize for your mistakes and forgive others for their debts.

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).

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.

Pregnancy obligation: write to me 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. For more information, please visit the Equity Services website
http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm

Religious obligation: write to me 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. For more details visit the Equity Services website
http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm

Sports accommodation: <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Covid-19 accommodation: Currently Carleton University does not require a doctor's note or medical certificate if you need Covid-19-related academic accommodation. Please visit



<https://carleton.ca/covid19/cu-faq/what-academic-accommodations-are-in-place/> for more details about what you need to do instead.

Survivors of sexual violence: Carleton is committed the maintenance of a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be condoned, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations in accordance to Carleton’s Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services please visit: <https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support/sexual-violence-policy-and-protocols/>

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.

CLASS/DICUSSION FORUM CONDUCT

Carleton University’s Senate and Board of Governors enacted Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures in May of 2001. 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. 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.” It follows, therefore, that students are expected to behave in a civil manner. Within seminar groups, vigorous discussion and conflicting opinions are welcome and encouraged, but personal attacks, disrespectful comments, and gender or racial slurs WILL NOT be tolerated and students can be expelled from discussion groups if their behaviour is deemed to be disruptive.

As a community, Carleton University supports and is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated and is treated with the



seriousness it deserves. Carleton's new sexual violence policy can be found at:

<https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Sexual-Violence-Policy-December-1-2016.pdf>

Special Information for Pandemic Measures

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

ADDRESSES (613-520-2600, phone ext.)

- Institute of African Studies, 17th Floor Dunton Tower (x2220)
- Registrar's Office (x3500) 300 Tory
- Student Academic Success Centre (x7850) 302 Tory
- Paul Menton Centre (x6608)
- Learning Support Services – Study Skills, Writing Tutorial Service (x1125)