Instructor: Mohamed Ali  
Lecture: Tuesday: 14:35p.m.-17:25p.m.  
Class Location: 624 Southam Hall  
Office: 453 Paterson  
Office Hours: Mondays 16:30-17:30  
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext.1815 (during office hours)  
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**Course Description:** The course explores the economic, social and political challenges facing the Horn of Africa, placing them in historical and global context. We will start examining the major landmark events in the history of this region from antiquity to the present, with focus on the 20th and 21st centuries.

This region, made up of Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan and South Sudan is a key geopolitical pressure point in World politics. The strategic importance of the Horn's location has always attracted international interest, given by the proximity to the Middle East region. For 150 years, the Horn has been a theatre for strategic power struggles-the British Empire's demand to control the Red Sea, Egypt's attempts to control the Nile waters, the end of the Cold war confrontations in which each of the Horn countries switched sides a crucial junctures, and most recently the US administration's "global war on terror". It suffers from protracted political strife, stemming from local national grievance, identity politics and regional inter-state rivalries, making it difficult to build a lasting and meaningful peace and security in the region and beyond.

The course is divided into five parts. The major themes explored during the first section of the course include discussions on the long and fascinating history and traditions of the societies in the region. The second section explores colonialism, struggles for political independence and colonial legacies. Section three will examine the politics of the post-independence era including the rise of one-party states, increased political centralization, and economic experiments in socialism. Section four will analyze modern social forces contemporary politics: ethnic groups, economic classes, religion, and civil society. With an understanding of the political background and the political force in operation, we will examine the causes of the conflicts in the Horn of Africa and the prospects of democratic governance. Unfamiliar observers generally make hasty conclusions about the origins and nature of these conflicts. We will evaluate and critique these arguments. We will also identify and assess competing scholarly explanations of the underpinnings of the Horn's conflict. Finally in section five we will look into contemporary issues in the Horn and their challenges including recent events-piracy and radical Islam.
A broad range of topics will be considered and class discussion will be predicated on the student having read the assigned material for the week. Films and videos will be used whenever appropriate to provide you images of Africa: the environment, people, and cultures.

The structure of the course rests on the following format: lectures, which provide overviews of broad themes and periods; the readings which provide detail and texture to the themes and periods covered in the lecture; and the class discussions which give you the opportunity to ask questions about aspects of the readings and lectures that either confuse or inspire your interest.

**Required Texts**

Saheed A. Adejumobi, *The History of Ethiopia*

Raphael Chijioke Njoku, *The History of Somalia*

Richard J. Reid, *Frontiers of Violence in North-East Africa: Genealogies of Conflict*

**Recommended Text**

Peter Woodward, *Crises in the Horn of Africa: Politics, Piracy and the Threat of Terror (on reserve)*

All required texts are available for purchase at the Carleton Bookstore.

**Grading Method**

Your grade in class will be computed in the following manner:

- Midterm: 35% of the final exam
- Research topic: 15% of the final exam
- Final Exam: 50% of the final exam

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- **Short Assignment**

2. **Examinations**

   a) There will be a **midterm exam (in class)**. The questions will come from the readings, assignments, and lectures.

   b) A **three-hour final examination** based on the work of the entire term.

The final exam will be scheduled in the formal examination period.
3. One research paper or book reports (8-10 pages)

Selected research topics must relate to the themes of the course and must have the instructor's approval. Using a minimum of 4 scholarly books and 3 articles, write a 8-10 page typed (double-spaced) paper investigating the historical origins of the present conflicts of the Horn. It should include a title page, page numbers. The text should include proper footnotes and relevant citations and a full bibliography of the sources included. Two copies of research papers and book reports should be handed if you wish one returned. Late papers will be penalized. Papers should be delivered to me in hard copy.

Course outline

Week 1

January 12  Introduction: Land and People of the Horn- Overview
             -Physical context of Horn History: Geography and Environment

Readings:   Woodward, Introduction and Chapter 1(on reserve)
             Reid, Chapter 1 (pages 1-23)

Week 2&3

Jan.19-26   COSMOPOLITAN AFRICA

Precolonal states and societies in the Horn of Africa
             -Historical developments in ancient, medieval and early modern Horn of Africa

In this session we will look into how the old idea of Africans as stagnant and bound by unchanging traditions does not accurately reflect the way Horn of African societies were connected to each other and to other parts of the world by trade, the exchange of ideas and the migration of new peoples.

Readings:

Adejumobi, Chapters 1 & 2
Njoku, Chapters 1 & 2
Erik Gilbert, Ancient Nubia and the Horn in the Ancient World (Pages78-81).
Erik Gilbert, Chapter 6
Reid, Chapter 2

Week 4&5

Feb. 2-9    Demarcating Identity
**The European Colonial Experience**

We will focus on politics, social and economic forces that have shaped the history of the Horn since the late nineteenth century.

- Ethiopia - Building the State: The Imperial Model

Globalization and Modernization

**Readings:**
- Adejumobi, Chapters 3-4
- Njoku, Chapters 3-4
- Reid, Chapters 3-5

African Nationalism and the Struggle for Freedom

Khapoya, 5-6 (on reserve)

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**Week 6 & 7**

**Personal Rule, Military Rule and Militarism**

**Feb. 23-Mar.1**

Revolution, "Liberation" and Militant Identity, 1974-1990

- Emerging markets of violence, ethnic and nationalist borderlands

**Ethiopia** - Rebuilding the State: The Socialist Model

- "Afro-Marxism": Engaging Local and Global Orthodoxies and the Price of Revolution

**Readings**
- Adejumobi, Chapters 5-6

**Somalia:** Mohamed Siad Barre and the "New Era'.

**Sudan:** The Era of Jaafar Nimeiri

Njoku, Chapters 6-7

Reid, Chapters 2-6

Woodward, Chapter 2 (on reserve)

P.M.Holt and M.W.Daly, Chapters 13-14 (on reserve)

**Midterm examination (Mar.1)**

**Research topics will be assigned (Mar.1)**
Week 8&9

Mar. 8, 15  Democracy, Liberal Democracy and the Horn

We will investigate the fate of democracy on the continent, the challenges of both economic and political liberalization and the extent to which democracy has improved conditions of the Horn of African societies.

Globalization and Other Postmodern Configurations: Ethiopia at Home and the Abroad Since 1991

New States, Old Wars

Readings: V.B Khapoya, Chapter 7
Reid, Chapters 8 & 9
Woodward, Chapters 3 & 6
Ali, M.Tasisier and Matthews, Chapter 2 (on reserve)


The Sudan and the New Millennium

Readings:


Readings:
Week 10 & 11

ROOTS CAUSES OF THE CONFLICT IN THE HORN

Mar. 22, 29

The Horn is a region that is most threatened by three interrelated crisis: devastating conflicts, including inter-state wars, civil wars and inter-communal conflicts. The aim of this unit is to look at each country's conflicts as a case study and be acquainted with the theoretical tools to analyze the conflicts.

Mapping Inter-State conflicts in the Horn

Case 1: The North-South Conflict of the Sudan

Since independence, violent and continuous civil wars have been raging in post-colonial Sudan. The civil war in the South entered the record books as the longest war in Africa.

Readings:


Case 2: Ethiopian-Somali Conflict


**Case 3: Ethiopia and Eritrea**

Readings:


**Case: Somali Civil War**


**Research papers due (March 29)**

**Week 12** CONTEMPORARY HORN, RECENT EVENTS AND RELATED ISSUES

**April 5** Radical Political Islam in Africa

**Somali terrorism and Political Islam**

Readings:


Peter Woodward, “Crises in the Horn of Africa: Politics, Piracy and the Threat of Terror”, Chapter 7-8 (on reserve)


**Conflict and Collapsed States in the Post-Cold War.**

The Cold war had had a great impact in the Horn but it had often shown the inability of either superpower to dominate events.

**Somali Piracy**

Erik Gilbert, pages 382

**Regional and International Relations**

The growth of the Somali pirates made Djibouti port as important regional centre for navies deployed in anti-piracy as well as the anti-terrorism activities of the USA.

- China's growing presence in the Horn of Africa

Readings: Woodward, Chapters 7-9

Erik Gilbert, China and Africa (pages 407-408)

**Review**

**Three-hour final exam-April 11-23 (tba)**

**Your Instructor**

Mohamed Nuuh Alli, Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, Formerly Dean of College of Education, Lafole and Professor of African History, Somali National University.

**Academic Accommodations**

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University
Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by (March 8th, 2013 for April examinations).

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional 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 Deans of the Faculty conduct 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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Grades:** Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**CUNET Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Institute of African Studies will be via cuMail. Important course and University information is also distributed via the CUNET email system. It is the student’s responsibility to monitor their CuMail account.