



Institute of African Studies Course Outline

COURSE:	The African City - AFRI 3004A
TERM:	Winter 2023
PRECLUSIONS:	N/A
CLASS:	Day & Time: Mondays 18:05 - 20:55 Room: Southam Hall, Room # 416
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Lale Eskicioglu
CONTACT:	Office Hrs.: Fridays 10:00 am – 11:00 am, appointment by email Building: Dunton Tower Room No: 1709 Email: LaleEskicioglu@cunet.carleton.ca

Until the lions have their own historians, the history of the hunt will always glorify the hunter.

—Chinua Achebe

A city is like a poem. You enter it, and you are into a world of concentrated time.

—Odia Ofeimun

Course Description:

This course examines the historical emergence and contemporary issues of the African city. Largely interdisciplinary in approach, the course seeks to acquaint students with a composite knowledge of the African city and life worlds by focusing on a few “representative” cities across the regions of the continent. The course emphasizes the contemporary African city with its rapid urbanization, growing youth population, cultural developments, and the socio-economic challenges of everyday urban life and livelihood. The readings include historical, political, literary, and cultural texts drawn from traditional and electronic formats to underline the common and distinctive sociopolitical and economic features of the African city.

Learning Objectives:

After completing this course, the students will be able to:

- Hone their critical thinking, presentation, and essay writing skills.
- Understand the historic context for several African cities and assess the impact of colonialism on

Africa's urban development.

- Evaluate what “postcolonialism” means for African cities.
- Investigate the ongoing effects of neo-colonial practices; examine global and socio-political structures of power.
- Identify and critically analyze the representation of African cities in art, literature, and culture.
- Learn by heart the major capital cities of Africa; their populations and demographics; their positions in the global economic systems; their contributions to music, literature, cinema, art, and fashion; their major modes of public transportation, architecture, and other significant characteristics.

Course Format:

Every week, the class will begin with an hour-long lecture. There will be occasional pop-quizzes (see the “Evaluation” section). Students must prepare by studying the texts (including movies and YouTube videos) required for each class and come prepared to discuss them.

Required Texts:

Note: All the texts required for this course are available electronically. You can find them either through the MacOdrum Library, or they will be made available by the instructor through Brightspace/Ares.

Freund, Bill. *The African City: a History*. Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Murray, Martin J., and Garth Andrew. Myers. *Cities in Contemporary Africa*. 1st ed. 2006., Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.

Tambling, Jeremy. *The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and the City*. Edited by Jeremy Tambling, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp 475-565.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Pop-quizzes - 20% (5 x 4%):

There will be 7 pop-quizzes during class times on randomly chosen dates. Out of these 7 quizzes, top 5 marks will count, each valued at 4%. The quizzes will be based on the materials for the day and from previous classes. There will be no make-ups for the quizzes. You will be given 15 minutes for each quiz-test. The quizzes will be in the form of multiple-choice, true-false, or short-answer questions.

In-class presentations - 20%:

Each student will make a presentation to the class, either individually or as a part of a group. At the first class, students will sign up for possible topics and presentation dates. The content of the presentations will be drawn from the course materials (assigned readings, videos, or movies). The presentations should be 10-15 minutes long for each presenter. PowerPoint or other audiovisual aids are welcome. Please email a copy of your presentation to me before noon on the day you are presenting. Presentations will be evaluated based on originality, substantiveness, clarity and coherence of the content, use of relevant sources (and their citations at the end), use of correct grammar and spelling, clear delivery technique and respecting the

allotted time.

Mid-term essay - 25%: 1700-2000 words. Deadline: Mar. 1, 2023, 11:59 pm.

Students will write an essay focusing on a topic of their choice (history, natural resources, literature, art, culture, music, fashion, politics, economics, infrastructure, architecture, religion etc.) in relation to one or more African cities. Essay writing tips and evaluation rubric will be discussed in class on 13th of February and they will be posted on Brightspace the same day. On 27th of February, we will review these once more and answer any questions.

Final essay - 35%: 2000-2500 words. Deadline: Apr. 12, 2023, 11:59 pm.

This is an opportunity for you to show all you have learned through our readings and discussions. In a capstone work that you will be proud of, you will engage with multiple texts of our course as well as including ample and relevant outside research. You will adopt an African city as case study for your essay.. More information will be provided in the assignment prompt which will be discussed in class on 25th of March and posted on Brightspace the same day.

Optional bonus activity - 5%:

Throughout the course, the instructor will post extra and optional activities on Brightspace. Students may supplement their grades up to 5% by doing one of these activities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

To successfully complete this course, students must:

- Have access to the university e-mail account and library databases. All communication for the course must be written from your valid CARLETON email address. I will send out important information, notes, announcements, and changes in the schedule via email. It is your responsibility to check your Carleton email account in a timely manner to receive all the information I send out.

Email etiquette: Please ensure that there is a clear subject line to which your message pertains. Do not be sloppy and casual in your messages to me. I consider all emails to be documents, so please be cautious as to what you write in them. Before sending urgent emails remember that it may take about two business days for me to reply to emails.

- Attend all lectures. There is a direct link between attendance and success. Participation in classes is vital for fostering your understanding of the course materials. If you miss classes, it is your responsibility to find out about any changes made to the schedule, or any assignments which were announced in class. I will not provide notes to students who miss classes.
- Submit all assignments electronically via Brightspace by midnight on the due date. All assignments are mandatory. There is a 5% penalty per day for late papers. I do not accept papers that are late more than a week. If a late submission of a paper or an assignment is unavoidable due to personal or medical reasons, please inform me before the due date.
- Come to class prepared. You are expected to arrive having read the texts and watched the movies

that are scheduled for each week. If there are changes to the schedule, the students will be informed either in class or via email.

- Ensure that the use of laptops, cellular phones, and other digital devices is limited to course-related activity. These devices should not become a distraction in class. Students engaged in other activities with their laptops may be asked to leave the class.
- Avoid sexist, racist, and homophobic remarks as these will not be tolerated in class. You must be respectful of all minority groups, at all times. Talking in class while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Any behavior considered disruptive to the professor, the teaching assistant and/or other students is not acceptable. Students engaging in such behaviour will be dealt with according to university regulations.

COURSE CALENDAR:

1st Week - 9 January 2023, Monday:

Getting Started

- Introductions; getting to know one another.
- Review of the syllabus.
- Creating the presentations calendar: By the end of the class, each student/group will have a date and the textual assignment for their presentation.

2nd Week - 16 January 2023, Monday:

Introduction to Evolution of Cities in Africa – Beginning from Old African Cities

- Freund, Bill. "Chapter 1." *The African City: A History*. Cambridge UP, 2007, pp. 1-36;
- Murray, Martin J., and Garth A. Myers. "Introduction: Situating Contemporary Cities in Africa" *Cities in Contemporary Africa*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2006, pp. 1-30.

3rd Week - 23 January 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Lagos, Nigeria

- Abani, Chris, ed. "Introduction." *Lagos Noir*. Akashic Books, 2018.
- Dibia, Jude. "What They Did That Night." *Lagos Noir*. Edited by Chris Abani. Akashic Books, 2018.
- Akande, Lani. "Nollywood Cinema's Character of Recurrence." *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, vol. 33, no. 4, 2021, pp. 456–70.
- Enwezor, Okwui. Introduction. *Under Siege, Four African Cities, Freetown, Johannesburg, Kinshasa, Lagos: Documenta 11, Platform 4*. Edited by Enwezor, Okwui, Carlos Basualdo, Ute Meta Bauer, Susanne Ghez, Sarat Maharaj, Mark Nash, and Octavio Zaya. Hatje Cantz, 2002. (<https://lirias.kuleuven.be/bitstream/123456789/135325/1/under%2Bsiege.pdf>)

4th Week - 30 January 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Accra, Ghana

- Danquah, Nana-Ama, ed. "Introduction." *Accra Noir*. Akashic Books, 2020.
- Quayson, Ato. "Introduction: Urban Theory and Performative Streetscapes." *Oxford Street, Accra: City Life and the Itineraries of Transnationalism*. Duke UP, 2014, pp. 1-33.

- Quayson, Ato. “Street Life in an African City: Oxford Street in Accra,” *Africa is a Country* blog, May 16, 2014. (<https://africasacountry.com/2014/05/street-life-in-an-african-city-oxford-street-in-accra/>).
- Collins, John E. “The Decolonization of Ghanaian Popular Entertainment.” *Urbanization and African Cultures*, edited by Toyin Falola and Steven J. Salm, Carolina Academic Press, 2005, pp. 119-138.

5th Week - 6 February 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Johannesburg and Soweto, South Africa

- Tambling, Jeremy. *The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and the City*. Edited by Jeremy Tambling, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp 475-565.
- Excerpts (as specified and provided by the instructor) from Noah, Trevor. *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*. Spiegel & Grau, 2019.

6th Week - 13 February 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

- Locatelli, Francesca, and Paul Nugent. Introduction. *African Cities: Competing Claims on Urban Spaces*. BRILL, 2009, pp 1-13.
- Freund, Bill. “Chapter 2.” *The African City: A History*. Cambridge UP, 2007, pp. 37-64.
- Freund, Bill. “Chapter 3.” *The African City: A History*. Cambridge UP, 2007, pp. 65-106.
- *Ancient Africa: A History Denied* by Ali Mazrui (1:35 hr) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-x0SHL_LYIM



8th Week – 27 February 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Cairo, Egypt

- Naguib Mahfouz – Cairo short stories “The Time and the Place” and “The Ditch.”
- Cairo and Alexandria section of *The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and the City*. Tambling, Jeremy. *The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and the City*. Edited by Jeremy Tambling, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp 475-565.



1 March 2023, Wednesday:

The mid-term essay is due; it must be submitted to Brightspace by 11:59 pm. Your essays must be in WORD format. If you submit them in any other format, then I am not able to provide feedback.

9th Week - 06 March 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Marrakesh and Casablanca, Morocco

- Adnan, Yassin, ed. "Introduction." *Marrakech Noir*. Akashic Books, 2018.
- King, Anthony D. "Introduction: Cities, Texts and Paradigms," *Representing the City: Ethnicity, Capital and Culture in the 21st-century Metropolis*. Ed. Anthony D. King. New York: New York UP, 1996, pp. 1-19.
- Locatelli, Francesca, and Paul Nugent. Introduction. *African Cities: Competing Claims on Urban Spaces*. BRILL, 2009, pp 1-13.

10th Week - 13 March 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Nairobi, Kenya

- Kimani, Peter, ed. "Introduction." *Nairobi Noir*. Akashic Books, 2020.
- Salm, Steven J. "Popular Music, Identity, and the Lumpen Youth of Nairobi." *Urbanization and African Cultures*, edited by Toyin Falola and Steven J. Salm, Carolina Academic Press, 2005, pp. 167-184.

11th Week – 20 March 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Harare, Zimbabwe

- Simone, A. M. (Abdou Maliqalim). "Introduction: Remaking African Cities." *For the City Yet to Come: Changing African Life in Four Cities*. Duke UP, 2004. pp 1-20.
- Chapter 22 of *Cities of Youth, Cities of Prosperity* by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, 2013, pp.1-2; 14-28.

12th Week 11 - 27 March 2023, Monday:

Lecture Focus: Kigali, Rwanda

- Movie *Hotel Rwanda*.
- Shearer, Samuel. "The City Is Burning! Street Economies and the Juxtacity of Kigali, Rwanda." *Urban Forum (Johannesburg)*, vol. 31, no. 3, 2020, pp. 351–71.

13th Week - 3 April 2023, Monday:

- Finishing in-class presentations if there are any.
- Review of the works we have studied.
- Answering questions regarding the final paper.



12 April 2023, Wednesday:

The final paper is due; it must be submitted as a WORD document through Brightspace by 11:59 pm.



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 Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgment;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources using proper citations when drawing from another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by 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.

Statement on Student Mental Health

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Statement on 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.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

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.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

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

accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

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 [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

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)	F= 0-49 (0) – Failure: no academic credit
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)	

The following additional final course grades may be assigned by instructors:

DEF Official deferral of final exam (see "Petitions to Defer")

GNA Grade not available. This is used when there is an allegation of an academic offence. The notation is replaced with the appropriate grade for the course as soon as it is available.

IP In Progress – a notation (IP) assigned to a course by a faculty member when: At the undergraduate level, an undergraduate thesis or course has not been completed by the end of the period of registration.

WDN Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

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

January 20, 2023: Last day to withdraw from early winter courses with a full fee adjustment.

Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.

April 12, 2023: Last day of full winter, late winter, and fall/winter classes.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to 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 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.

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

- Institute of African Studies african_studies@carleton.ca
- Registrar's Office (3500) registrar@carleton.ca
- Academic Advising Centre academicadvising@carleton.ca
- Paul Menton Centre (6608) pmc@carleton.ca
- Centre for Student Academic Support – Study Skills, Writing Tutorials, Bounce Back csas@carleton.ca

Application for Graduation Deadlines

- Spring Graduation (June): April 1
- Fall Graduation (November): September 1
- Winter Graduation (February): December 1