PSCI 3100A
The Politics of African Development
Mondays: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Deborah Simpson
Office: B647
Office Hours: Monday 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Phone: (613) 520-2600, ext. 4129
Email: Deborah.Simpson@carleton.ca

Please read this syllabus in its entirety to ensure you understand the course requirements and course policies.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
The historical background of African independence, and contemporary struggle for democracy and economic development in Africa.

COURSE CONTENT, AIMS, AND OBJECTIVES:
The aim of this course is to introduce the political, economic and social development of Sub-Saharan Africa. Though a diverse continent, Africa has certain commonalities in its development which we will explore through the course. The course is divided into two parts: (1) an introduction to the historical and political context of African development, and (2) core development questions pertaining to contemporary Africa.

In the first part of the course we will begin by considering the impact and legacy of colonialism. We will then move to a discussion of the role of “Big Men” in African politics and how this created a system of personal rule and patronage politics. This will be followed by an exploration of party systems and democratic trajectories as African countries have gone through a process of democratization. Following this we will consider the impact of conflict, war, and state fragility on Africa’s development.

In the second part of the course we will begin by considering the role of growth (or lack of growth) and transformation in Africa. This will be followed by a discussion of the political economy of policy reform, particularly the impact of Structural Adjustment Programs on African development. Following this we will consider the role of the international aid system in Africa’s development. This will be followed by a discussion of the history and impact of international debt in Africa. We will then look at poverty, health and human development. Finally, we will consider demography, urbanization and inequality and their impact on African development.
There are a number of objectives across the course:

- Students will understand broad historical shifts in the political, economic and social development of Africa over the last 200 years
- Students will have a specific understanding of key development issues in Africa’s historical and contemporary development
- Students will engage in analysis of commonalities of African development whilst developing a more complete understanding of local and national contexts within Africa
- Students will be able to analyse how Africa relates to the world and in turn how the world relates to Africa
- Students will reflect on the nature of “Africa” and “African politics” as a discrete unit of study

TEXTBOOKS:

*Required:*


A selection of journal articles listed in the class schedule and available from the Carleton University library collection.

Students are also expected to actively follow news coverage of Sub-Saharan political, economic, and social events by regularly reading reputable sources of news and analysis. You can find a selection of national news outlets at: [http://www.thebigproject.co.uk/news/african%20newspapers%20in%20english.html#.W1dSQmeMU_n](http://www.thebigproject.co.uk/news/african%20newspapers%20in%20english.html#.W1dSQmeMU_n)

The following also offer extensive coverage of African issues and events:

- All Africa: [https://www.AllAfrica.com](https://www.AllAfrica.com)
- Al Jazeera Africa: [https://www.aljazeera.com/topics/regions/africa.html](https://www.aljazeera.com/topics/regions/africa.html)

*Recommended:*


COURSE ASSESSMENT:

The following table outlines the forms of assessment for the course, their value towards the overall course grade, and their respective due dates (where applicable). Students must complete all aspects of the evaluative elements to receive a passing grade.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Assessment</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article synthesis, presentation, and class discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Between September 17th and December 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>October 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Proposal and Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>November 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Abstract and Research Presentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Abstract: November 19th and Presentation: December 7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Research Essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>December 7th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class participation:

Classes will consist of lectures and class discussion. As such, each student is expected to complete the required reading in advance of class and come prepared to discuss the readings and larger issues raised by them. The success of the course is dependent on this preparation and on a willingness to engage in constructive discussion with each other. The participation mark will be based on attendance and contributions to class discussion which will be evaluated based on both the quantity and quality of participation. In other words, talking a lot but not connecting it to the readings will not result in a good participation mark.

Article synthesis, presentation, and class discussion:

Students will be responsible for preparing a synthesis of an article or chapter to be shared with the class in a brief presentation followed by leading a class discussion based on questions prepared by the presenters. The aim is to facilitate a discussion amongst the class rather than just go over the reading in detail.

Midterm test:

The midterm test will consist of short answer and essay questions covering the lectures and readings for the first section of the course. The test will be worth 20% of the class grade. Further information on how to prepare for the test will be shared in class.

Research essay:

A major component of the assessment of the course is a research paper. The paper should be 12 pages double-spaced and follow Political Science citation conventions. At least 80% of your sources must be ‘scholarly’ sources such as books, journal articles or formal reports (e.g. UN reports, data, etc.). The remainder of your sources can include newspaper articles, online reports, etc. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source for your essays.

Essays should use in-text/bracketed citation format and you must provide references for both quotations and paraphrased ideas. Your bibliography should only include sources which you draw on in the content of your essay. Section Five of the online Editorial Style Guide for the Canadian Journal of Political Science gives examples of this citation format for a range of types of sources (e.g. books, journal articles, online reports, etc.). It can be found at the following link: [https://www.cpsa-acsp.ca/documents/pdfs/Editorial%20Style%20Guidelines%202008.pdf](https://www.cpsa-acsp.ca/documents/pdfs/Editorial%20Style%20Guidelines%202008.pdf)
In preparation to research and write the paper you will be asked to prepare a brief proposal of about 1 or 2 pages and an annotated bibliography. You will also be expected to write an abstract of your paper to be circulated to the class and give a research presentation to the rest of the class outlining the key elements of your paper (e.g. argument, overview, key questions, and conclusion). The purpose of the presentation is to share your research and findings with the class. The proposal will be worth 5% of your mark. Though it is a minimal contribution to your overall grade the feedback and suggestions I make will help to ensure you’re on the right track with your research paper. The abstract and research presentation will be worth 5% of your overall grade whilst the research paper itself will be worth 30% of your final grade.

COURSE POLICIES:

Office Hours and Email:

If you are having difficulty with the class, see me in person during my office hours. It is better to get help with your problems early in the course, rather than leaving them for the last minute (e.g. a day or two before an assignment is due). Please note etiquette concerning email. You should write your emails in a professional manner. Please do not contact me via email to ask detailed questions regarding the course or assignments. This is the purpose of office hours.

Essay submission policy:

All written assignments are to be submitted in hardcopy and in person during class. Emailed proposals and essays will not be accepted. If for some reason you cannot hand your essay in during class, you may submit it to the Political Science Department drop box by 4 pm.

Late policy and penalties:

Extensions for written assignments will only be given in exceptional circumstances, e.g. a medical or personal emergency, and documentation will be required where appropriate. You should contact me as soon as you realize you may require an extension. All other late submissions will incur a penalty of 5% per day (including weekends and holidays).

SCHEDULE

Week One – September 10th
The Complexities of African Development

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 1,
- Thomson Ch. 1

Section One: Historical and Political Context

Week Two – September 17th
The Colonial Legacy
Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 2
- Thomson, Ch. 2

**Week Three – September 24th**
**Big Men, Personal Rule, and Patronage Politics**

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 3
- Thomson, Ch. 6

**Week Four – October 1st**
**Party Systems and Democratic Trajectories**

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 4
- Thomson, Ch. 11

**Week Five – October 8th**
**Thanksgiving Holiday – No class**

**Week Six – October 15th**
**Conflict, War, and State Fragility**

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 5
- Thomson, Ch. 7

**Week Seven – October 22nd**
**Fall Break – No class**

**Section Two: Core Development Questions**

**Week Eight – October 29th**
**Growth and Transformation**

Required reading:
Moss, Ch. 6

Week Nine – November 5th
The Political Economy of Policy Reform

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 7
- Thomson C. 9

Week Ten – November 12th
The International Aid System

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 8

Week Eleven – November 19th
Debt ... and Deja Vu?

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 9

Week Twelve – November 26th
Poverty, Health and Human Development

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 10

Week Thirteen – December 3rd
Demography, Urbanization, and Inequality

Required reading:
Section Three: Conclusion

Week Thirteen – December 7th
Uncertainty and Optimism

Required reading:
- Moss, Ch. 15
- RIP Abstracts
- Thomson, Ch. 12

Academic Accommodations

Requests for 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
Please contact your 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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation
Please contact your 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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.caPMC

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 is
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: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

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 must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your 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.

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course. Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
Submission and Return of Term Work
Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53-56</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Carleton E-mail Accounts
All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society
"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our
networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/ and our website https://carletonpss.com/, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!

**Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.