**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

# AFRI 4000A/ANTH 4620B/ANTH 5209W
# WINTER 2022
# POLITICAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF AFRICA

**Instructor:** Vivian Solana
**Office Hours:** By appointment
**Email:** VivianSolana@cunet.carleton.ca

**Course Schedule:** Wednesdays 2:35-4:25pm
**Method of Delivery:** Online. The seminar will meet synchronously on a weekly basis through Zoom on Wednesdays from 2.35 to 4.25 p.m. Note that on March 30th we will meet from 2.35-5.25 p.m. A recurring Zoom link to this weekly virtual classroom is found on the course's Brightspace page.

**Course Description:** This course examines anthropological approaches to African political formations. We will read postcolonial theory and ethnography to explore the numerous means through which various social groups seek to attain and transform power as well as the constraints they face. Through an interrogation of the power relations and structural forces that shape Africa's political landscape, we will draw on ethnographic research to explore how the domain of the "political" is constituted through dynamic socio-cultural fields that intersect with economic, kinship and environmental configurations, gender relations, practices of mobility, practices of political violence, transnational networks, and other global forces.
**Prerequisites:** third year standing or permission from the professor.

**Reading (s)/Textbook (s):**
Omolade Adunbi. 2015. Oil Wealth and Insurgency in Nigeria, Indiana University Press.

**Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**
- Reading forum 40%
- Group presentation 10%
- Participation 10%
- Capstone assignment 40%