PSCI 0202: AFRICAN POLITICS
Middlebury College
Fall 2017

Lectures: Monday and Wednesday 10:10-11:00 in RAJ CON
Discussions: Wednesday 12:30-1:20 (Y) and 1:45-2:55 (Z) in LaForce 121

Ms. Nadia Rabesahala Horning
Office: 118 RAJ
Phone: 443-3428
e-mail: nhorning@middlebury.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-noon
or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What challenges and opportunities does Sub-Saharan Africa present in our era of globalization? We will look at the process of state formation in order to appreciate the relationships between historical legacies, politics and economic development. Case studies from Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone Africa will be used to shed light on these linkages. Themes explored include colonization, decolonization, authoritarian rule, democratization, (non-)development, foreign aid, resource politics, civil strife, and innovation.

REQUIREMENTS

Texts: Copies of required texts are available for purchase at the College Store. They are also on reserve at the Library. Readings marked “□” are available on electronic reserve. Those marked “[web]” and “[lib]” are available online and through the library, respectively. The password for e-Res for this course is 4232nh.


Additional course materials are accessible on our course website at
http://sites.middlebury.edu/nhorningpsci0202/

1 NOTE: We will read some, but not all, books in their entirety. You may want to consider making personal copies of some of the assigned passages.
Students are expected to:

- Attend lectures on Monday and Wednesday morning and discussions on Wednesday afternoon.
- Actively participate in lecture and discussion (Note: Attendance in discussion is mandatory, not optional. Please do not confuse quality of participation with quantity).
- Complete the assigned readings before lecture and discussion. Please keep in mind that readings are designed to accompany or complement lectures. It is each student’s responsibility to make the connections between lectures, readings and screenings.
- Become familiar with the continent’s geography (see political map at http://mapsof.net/uploads/static-maps/africa_political_map.png; alternatively, see http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/africa/africa_pol98.jpg or play online games, e.g. on http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/afrquiz.html).
- Keep up with the news from the sub-continent, using traditional sources (New York Times, BBC’s web sites, National Public Radio, Le Monde, Jeune Afrique, rfi.com, france24.com, International Crisis Group web site, etc.) as well as allafrica.com, which is recommended. My personal favorite is Aljazeera.com

Students will complete

- A short analytical essay (1,250 words or 5 pages)
- 3 Unit Summaries (500 words, double-spaced, each)
- A mid-term exam (blue book type)
- A research paper OR final exam (the choice is yours)

according to the following schedule:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement/Assignment</th>
<th>Due When? (2017)</th>
<th>Due Where?</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<td>Participation in discussion</td>
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<td>Unit Summaries (3 total)</td>
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<td>Short Essay (1,250 words)</td>
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<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
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<td>Final Exam OR Final Paper</td>
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<td>12/15 by 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>Extra Credit Options (optional written response, 500 words)</td>
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<td>10/16 Zimbabwe lecture, response due 10/13</td>
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**Attendance Policy:**

*Class and screenings attendance is mandatory, not optional.* If you miss more than 2 classes without valid explanation over the course of the semester, your grade will suffer by one-third of a grade per absence.
Late Paper Policy:

No extensions will be given for any of the assigned work, with the exception of (1) family emergencies and (2) personal health problems reported to me by the student’s dean. Since the answer will otherwise be “no,” please do not ask.

All assignments turned in late will be marked down one-third of a grade (e.g., A- to B+; B to B-, etc.) for each day that they are late. To be clear, turning in an assignment any time during the first 24 hours after it is due will be penalized a third of a grade. Assignments not turned within a week of the due date will automatically receive a failing grade (F).

"Students who have Letters of Accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact me as early in the semester as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For those without Letters of Accommodation, assistance is available to eligible students through Student Accessibility Services. Please contact Jodi Litchfield or Courtney Cioffredi, the ADA Coordinators, for more information: Courtney Cioffredi can be reached at ccioffredi@middlebury.edu or 802-443-2169 and Jodi Litchfield can be reached at litchfie@middlebury.edu or 802-443-5936. All discussions will remain confidential."

Academic Conduct:

Academic honesty is the expected norm at Middlebury College. This means that all the work you hand in must be your own. If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarizing, please refer to Middlebury College’s Academic Disciplinary Policies at http://www.middlebury.edu/about/handbook/student/Academic_Disciplinary_Policies or ask me. The rule of thumb is, “when in doubt, ask the instructor.”

To be accepted, your work will need to be submitted in hard copy form, with the honor code pledge written, signed, and respected.

Computer use in the classroom:

Laptops are permitted in class, but students must stay offline for the duration of class unless instructor specifically says otherwise.
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*Final Exam (in class) 12/12 from 9 to noon in RAJ CON*

Final research papers will be due in 118 RAJ on 12/15 by 4:00 p.m.
UNIT I. FROM COLONIES TO INDEPENDENT STATES

Week 1

Monday Course Overview and Logistics + Africa, a Big and Diverse Continent

Wednesday Pre-Colonial Experiences

Mali Empire Constitution (handout on website)

Week 2

Monday Colonizing Africa

Hochschild, Adam. *King Leopold’s Ghost*, pp. 21-139 [140+ recommended].
Moss, Chapter 2

Wednesday Colonial Experiences

Césaire, Aimé. *Discourse on Colonialism*, pp. 31-94.
Nkrumah, Kwame. 1963. Speech (handout on website)

Week 3

Monday The Road to Independence

Nyerere, Julius. 1966. “Ujamaa—The basis of African Socialism” (handout on website)

Extra-Credit Opportunity: 4:30 p.m. Lecture by Professor Frank Gunderson on how Radio Tanzania invested in song composition and censorship from 1973 to 1993 [Attend and React in 500 words]

Tuesday DAFRA KURA BAND Wilson Hall, 7:30 p.m. (optional)

Wednesday Decolonization


Friday Unit I Summary
UNIT II. POST-INDEPENDENCE STATES AND NATIONS

Week 4

Monday Independence: Early Years

Moss, Chapter 3

Monday Short Essay Questions Distributed (essay due on Monday in Week 5)

Wednesday The Age of Authoritarianism


Friday Extra-Credit Opportunity: Lecture by Professor Tim Scarnecchia, "Zimbabwe as a 'Race State': The Troubled History of Racializing International Relations." RAJ Conf 12:30-1:30 p.m. [Attend and react in 500 words]

Week 5

Monday Conflicts Short Essay Due


Wednesday Ethnic Conflicts

Chabal & Daloz, Ch. 4.

Week 6

Monday The 1994 Rwandan Genocide

Screening of Rwanda: The Weapon (2005), a film by William Gentile and Ted Koppel. ABC Nightline (in class)
☐ Gourevitch, Philip. 1999. We Wish to Inform You that Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families: Stories from Rwanda. Ch. 4, pp. 47-62.
Wednesday Kenya’s 2007-2008 Post-Electoral Crisis (Lecture) Côte d’Ivoire’s 2010 Election


Week 7  SPRING RECESS (Wednesday class only)

Wednesday Giant Steps toward Democracy

Moss, Chapter 5


Recommended:


Week 8

Monday Democracy, Africa’s Way


Wednesday Mid-Term Exam in Class

Friday Unit II Summary

Week 9

Monday (Non-)Development

Moss, Chapter 6

Wednesday Foreign Aid

Moss, Chapter 8
Screening of Our Friends at the Bank (1997), a film by Peter Chappell (Part I) [in class]

UNIT III. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Week 10

Monday Development: Good Aid, Bad Aid

Screening of “Change your Channel” by Mallence Bart Williams [in class]
Chabal & Daloz, Ch. 8 & 9
Moss, Chapter 9

Wednesday The “Good Life”?

Screening of What Are We Doing Here? By Klein Brothers (excerpts), Kenya’s AIDS orphans [in class]

Break Week (Class meets on Monday only)

Monday Natural Resources as Political Tools (International Realm)


Week 11

Monday Natural Resources as Political Tools (Domestic Realm)


Tuesday Film is available online through the library:

Mugabe and the White African (Lucy Bailey and Andrew Thompson, Dirs.) 2010 [94 min.]
Wednesday Conservation Politics (Connecting Domestic and International Realms)


**Week 12**

**Monday** Initiatives and Innovations

Screening of *What Are We Doing Here?* By Klein Brothers (excerpts), Somaliland [in class]


**Recommended:**


**Wednesday** Initiatives and Innovations

Screening of African initiatives and innovations: agriculture, health, education, etc. Chabal & Daloz, Ch. 10.

**Friday** Unit III Summary

**Week 13**

**Monday** Course Recap and Course Response Forms

**Tuesday** Final Exam 9:00-noon (in RAJ CONF)

**Friday** Final research papers due by 4:00 p.m. (118 RAJ)