

University of Toronto  
Department of Political Science  
**POL 301Y1Y**  
**Government and Politics in Africa**  
**2013-14**

Instructors:	<b>Fall semester</b> Prof. Wilson Prichard	<b>Winter semester</b> Prof. Antoinette Handley
Office Hours:	Tuesday 10.00 – 12.00	Wed 12.00 – 14.00
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Source: [http://www.africanoz.com/af\\_arts/af\\_arts.html](http://www.africanoz.com/af_arts/af_arts.html)  
Karibu Mgeni means “welcome visitor” or “welcome stranger” in Swahili.

### **Themes**

This year-long class is designed to introduce students to the political dynamics of contemporary Africa. The course will explore two related sets of issues: first, state formation and nation building and second, the origins and nature of the continent’s economic crisis. The course will trace the historical development of the modern state system on the continent and the rise of contemporary African economies before moving on, in the second half of the year, to consider particular themes that characterize the nature of politics in Africa.

## Readings

Those readings available electronically (marked [ER] on the syllabus) can be accessed through the course website via Portal. The course reader contains the remainder of the necessary readings (marked [CR] on the syllabus). The course reader for the first term is available from Image X-Press at their office.

190 College St

Tel: 416-596-1708

Email: [imagexprs@gmail.com](mailto:imagexprs@gmail.com)

The second term course reader is available from the Uof T bookstore. Copies may also be purchased from Canadian Scholar's Press at their office or online.

180 Bloor St West

Suite 801

Tel: 416 929 2774

[www.cspi.org](http://www.cspi.org)

Second-hand copies may also be available from students from previous years but please note that the readings for this year may not be exactly the same as those in previous years. A course packet of the readings is also available from short-term reserve in Robarts Library. An additional copy may also be made available for sign-out from the reception for the Politics Dept on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Sidney Smith Hall, where it can be signed out for two hours at a time, using your student card.

## Format and requirements

Course evaluation will include two papers, a short quiz, a mid-term test and a final test.

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|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Map quiz (Fall semester):          | 5%  |
| 2. Review essay (Fall semester)       | 20% |
| 3. Research essay (Spring semester)   | 25% |
| 4. Mid-term test (Fall semester)      | 25% |
| 5. End of year test (Spring semester) | 25% |

### Map quiz:

All students will be required to acquire a basic knowledge of African geography by the fourth week of the course, failing which their final grade will attract an automatic penalty. The map quiz will take place on October 3.

### Essays:

All students will be expected to complete two short essays (2,500 and 3,000 words respectively) drawing on a combination of course readings and some additional external research. Broad topic areas and guidelines will be distributed in class early in both terms.

*Review essay:* Topics to be posted by September 25, 2013.

Essay to be due in class, at the beginning of class on November 6, 2013.

*Research essay:* Topics to be posted by January 22, 2014.

Essay to be due in class, at the beginning of class on March 5, 2014.

NB: Please note that there will be a **three-step submission process** for both of your papers.

- First, you need to submit an electronic copy of your paper to Turnitin.com (instructions will be posted on Blackboard). You need to do this *ahead of time*. You must staple the receipt from Turnitin to the hardcopy of your paper;

- Second, you should read, complete and sign the academic integrity checklist that is included in the instructions for the essay. This should also be stapled to the front of your paper; and
- Third, you should submit this package (comprising your paper, the turnitin receipt and the academic integrity checklist) in class, at the beginning of class, on the due date.

*Guidelines for written assignments:* Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work as well as hard copies of their assignment before handing them in. These should be kept until the marked assignments have been returned. All graded assignments are to be kept by students until the grades have been posted on ROSI.

Please print your essays double-sided i.e. using both sides of the page to save paper.

*Late penalty:* There will be a penalty of 3% per day for late papers (including weekends i.e. penalties will continue to accrue at 3% per day over the weekend). Papers handed in after the start of class but before 5pm on the due date will be subject to a 2% penalty. Late papers must be submitted to the Politics Department on the 3rd floor of Sidney Smith during business hours. You must ensure that the paper is dated and stamped. You should never attempt to submit your paper by leaving it under an office door or sending it by e-mail or fax.

*Extensions:* Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances that could not be anticipated ahead of time and with appropriate supporting documentation. You are urged to contact the instructor as soon as you become aware that you may require an extension. Extensions after the fact are likely to be treated much less sympathetically by your instructor. You should never assume that you will be granted an extension.

*Academic integrity:* Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>). It is the rule book for academic behaviour at the U of T, and you are expected to know the rules.

In the academy where the currency of the realm is ideas, to cite someone else's words or thinking without due attribution is theft. *It is not sufficient merely to list your sources in the bibliography or to only use footnotes.*

You must ensure that you identify and attribute all of your sources in text, whether you are quoting them directly or paraphrasing them.

Please note in particular that any time you are using someone else's exact words, even if you cite the original source, you **MUST** acknowledge this borrowing by use also of quotation marks.

Potential academic offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Copying material word-for-word from a source (including lecture and study group notes) and not placing the words within quotation marks.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.

- Making up sources or facts.
- Including references to sources that you did not use.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment including
- working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work,
- having someone rewrite or add material to your work while “editing”.
- Lending your work to a classmate who submits it as his/her own without your permission.

On tests:

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else’s answers
- Letting someone else look at your answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation:

- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including doctor’s notes.
- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.

To remind you of these expectations, and help you avoid accidental offences, the course instructors will ask you to include a signed Academic Integrity Checklist with every paper you submit. If you do not include the statement, your work will not be graded.

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the *Code*. The consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including a failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact the course instructors or the course TA. If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, seek out additional information from me, or from other available campus resources like the [U of T Writing Website](#). If you are experiencing personal challenges that are having an impact on your academic work, please speak to me or seek the advice of your college registrar.

*Turnitin.com*: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

Please note the three-step submission process for essays outlined above.

If you object to using Turnitin.com you must contract the relevant course instructor well ahead of time (i.e. at least two weeks before your essay is due) to establish appropriate alternative arrangements for submission of your written assignments. This will involve devising alternative methods for verifying the originality of your work, likely including submitting rough work along with your essay and having a brief interview about the work with the relevant instructor.

**Tests:**

The mid-term and the final class test will each last an hour and 50 minutes and will take place during regular class time in the final week of the first and second semester respectively, as indicated on the class schedule. Both tests will be formatted in a similar fashion and will call for both short paragraph and longer essay answers. The mid-term will cover material from the Fall semester. The final will assume that you know and understand the material covered in the Fall but will focus on the material covered in the Winter semester.

Missing the map quiz, the end-of-term test or the final test, or handing a paper in late will require an acceptable doctor's note or other documentation. This must be submitted within one week of the test or assignment date and it should be submitted on the official UofT Medical Note form.

**How to contact us**

Please feel free to stop by the office of the appropriate instructor during their office hours. If you can't make those, you should set up an alternative appointment with the instructor, either by phone or e-mail.

We will do our best to respond to e-mails and phone calls within 48hrs. Please note that we will not, however, be checking our e-mails on weekends or after hours so do not leave your requests or queries to the last minute.

At times, we may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all UofT students are required to have a valid UofT email address and to check it regularly. You are responsible for ensuring that your UofT email address is set up AND properly entered in the ROSI system.

**Portal****Logging in to Blackboard**

Like many other courses, POL301 uses Blackboard for its course website. To access the website, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the POL301 course website along with the link to all your other Blackboard-based courses.

**Accessibility Needs**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.

## **Part 1: Tracing the historical origins of contemporary Africa**

### **Week 1: Introduction**

### **Week 2: The Advent of Colonialism**

[CR] Jeff Herbst, “Power and space in precolonial Africa” and “The Europeans and the African Problem” in *States and Power in Africa*, Princeton: Princeton University Press (2000), pp 35-97

[CR] Bill Freund, “The Material Basis of Colonial Society”, extract from *The Making of Contemporary Africa 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* London: MacMillan Press, 1998, chapter 6, pp 97-124

### **Week 3: The Political Logic of Colonial Rule**

[CR] Mahmood Mamdani, “Decentralized despotism” in *Citizen and Subject*, Princeton: Princeton University Press (1996), Chapter 2, pp 37-61

[CR] Crawford Young, Miscellaneous and “Constructing Bula Matari” extracts from *The African Colonial State in Comparative Perspective*, New Haven: Yale University Press (1994), Excerpt from Chapter 1, and Chapter 4, pp 1-2, 77-140 (pp 77-95 recommended)

### **Week 4: Independence and the new generation of African states**

#### **\*\*\*Map Quiz\*\*\***

[CR] Irving Markovitz, “Autonomy, nationalism and independence” extract from *Leopold Sedar Senghor and the Politics of Negritude*, London: Heinemann (1969), Chapter 4, pp 102 - 118

[CR] Bill Freund, “The Decolonization of Africa: 1940-60” extract from *The Making of Contemporary Africa, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* London: Macmillan Press, 1998, chapter 8, pp 167-203

[CR] Jeffrey Herbst, “*The Political Kingdom in Independent Africa*” extract from *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2000, first half of chapter 4, pp 97-113

### **Week 5: Political Organization and Nation Building**

[CR] Aristide R Zolberg, “Introduction” and “The emergence of dominant parties” in *Creating Political Order*, Chicago: Rand McNally and Co. (1980), Introduction and Chapter 1, pp 1 – 36

[ER] Robert Jackson and Carl Rosberg, “Personal rule: Theory and practice in Africa” *Comparative Politics*, 16, 4 (1984) pp 421-442

## **Week 6: Ideologies and Development Strategies**

[ER] Walt Rostow, “The Stages of Economic Growth” *The Economic History Review* 12, 1 (1959) pp 1-16

[CR] Claude Ake, “The Development Paradigm and Its Politics” in *Democracy and Development in Africa*, Washington D.C.: Brookings Institution (1996), Chapter 1, pp 1-17

## **Week 7: African Militaries and Political Instability**

[CR] Paul Nugent, “Khaki Fatigue: Military Rule in Africa, 1960-1985” extract from *Africa Since Independence*, London: Palgrave, 2004 pp 204-59

## **Week 8: The Onset of Economic Crisis**

[ER] Benno Ndulu and Stephen O’Connell, “Governance and Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 13, 3 (1996) pp 41-66

[CR] Thandika Mkandawire and Charles Soludo, “The Crisis: Diagnosis and Solution” extract from *Our Continent, Our Future: African Perspectives on Structural Adjustment* Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 1999 pp 21-48

[CR] Richard Sandbrook, “Disappointments of independence” and “Why capitalism fails” extract from *The Politics of Economic Stagnation*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (1985), Chapters 1 and 2, pp 1 – 41

## **Week 9: Structural Adjustment and the Politics of Economic Reform**

[CR] John Ravenhill “A Second Decade of Adjustment: Greater Complexity, Greater Uncertainty” extract from *Hemmed In: Responses to Africa’s Economic Decline*, New York, Columbia University Press, 1993, 18-53

[CR] Paul Nugent, “The Invasion of Acronyms: SAPs, AIDS and the NGO Takeover” extract from *Africa Since Independence*, London, Palgrave, 2004, pp.326-357

[CR] Thandika Mkandawire and Charles Soludo, “The Adjustment Experience” extract from *Our Continent, Our Future: African Perspectives on Structural Adjustment* Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 1999, pp 49 - 85

## **Week 10: Crisis and Political Reconfiguration: The Wave of Democratization**

[CR] Paul Nugent, “Democracy Rediscovered: Popular Protest, Elite Mobilisation and the Return of Multipartyism”, extract from *Africa Since Independence*, London:Palgrave, 2004, pp.368-385

[ER] Michael Bratton and Nicholas van de Walle: "Neopatrimonial regimes and political transitions in Africa" *World Politics* 46, 4 (1994) pp 453-489

[ER] Jeffrey Herbst, "The Structural Adjustment of Politics" *World Development* 18, 7 (1990) pp 949-958

**Week 11: Review**

**Week 12: In class mid-term test**



## **Part 2: Themes in African Politics**

This outline is provided for guidance only as the specifics may change. A comprehensive syllabus detailing the schedule for the Winter will be made available in due course.

**Lecture 1: The state (Jan 9)**

**Lecture 2: Ethnic identification and so-called ethnic conflict (Jan 16)**

**Lecture 3: Security, war and military conflict (Jan 23)**

**Lecture 4: The wars of liberation in the settler states (Jan 30)**

**Lecture 5: South Africa: Exceptional or paradigmatic African state?(Feb 6)**

**Lecture 6: Agriculture and the peasantry (Feb 13)**

**Reading week (18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February)**

**Lecture 7: Business, industry and the dominant class (Feb 27)**

**Lecture 8: Prospects for change: The middle class, growth and democracy (Mar 6)**

**Lecture 9: Disease and Development: TB, Malaria and HIV/AIDS (Mar 13)**

**Lecture 10: Africa's international relations (Mar 20)**

**Lecture 11: Review session (Mar 27)**

**Session 12: In-class final term test (Apr 3)**