

University of Toronto
Department of Political Science

POL 301Y
Government and Politics in Africa

Time: Monday, Wednesday 10 -12
Place: SS1083

Instructors:	First semester Antoinette Handley	Second semester Luke Melchiorre
Office Hours:	Monday 12 - 2	Monday-Wednesday 1-2
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Themes

This full year class is offered during the summer session. It is designed to provide students with an introduction to the central dynamics and major themes of contemporary African politics. The course will explore two related sets of issues: first, incipient processes of state formation and nation building and second, the origins and nature of the continent's economic crisis and its political ramifications. In the first half of the course, our focus will be on tracing the historical development of the modern state system and the emergence of contemporary African economies before continuing on, in the second half of the year, to considering salient themes that characterize the nature of African politics. The lectures will not summarize the readings as it is expected that you will have completed the required readings in advance of the lectures.

Readings

Readings are made available electronically through the course website on BlackBoard – see the “Course Materials” section.

Format and requirements

Course evaluation will include two essays, a short quiz, one in-class test, and a final examination.

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| 1. Review essay (First semester) | 25% |
| 2. Research essay (Second semester) | 25% |
| 3. Map quiz (First semester):
below | 10% - see grading guidelines |
| 4. Mid-term test (First semester) | 20% |
| 5. Final Test (Second semester) | 20% |

Map quiz:

The course will cover empirical material drawn from a wide range of African countries. As such, it is imperative that all students have a basic knowledge of African geography. With that in mind, students will be required to complete a map quiz, which will take place unannounced ahead of time, in class any time on or after the 20th May. It will be worth 10% of students' final mark.

Essays:

All students will be expected to complete two short essays (+/-2500 words), which will require them to engage with a combination of course readings and additional external research material. Assignment questions and guidelines will be distributed in class early in both terms.

You are urged to make a copy of your paper before submitting it.

Review essay: Topics to be posted by the end of the first week of class, (May 15th, 2015).

Essay to be due in class, at the beginning of class on June 8th, 2015.

Research essay: Topics to be posted by July 13th, 2015.

Essay to be due in class, at the beginning of class on TBD

NB: Please note that because we are using Turnitin.com, there will be a **two-step submission process** for both of your papers.

1. 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*.
2. Second, you must staple the receipts from Turnitin to the hardcopy of your paper and submit it in class, at the beginning of class, on the due date.

Rough Work: Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and 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.

Late penalty: There will be a penalty of 4% per day for late papers (including weekends i.e. penalties will continue to accrue at 4% 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 and certainly *ahead of the relevant deadline*. 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.

Plagiarism is a most serious academic offense and the offender will be punished. 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.

Please see

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>

and

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/document.html>

for two important documents entitled *How Not to Plagiarize* and *Standard Documentation Formats* respectively.

Should you require any further assistance with how to properly reference and footnote your work, please consult one of the many guides available in the library or the Writing Center. Your instructors are also happy to provide guidance at any point prior to the submission of your work as to what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it.

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 two-step submission process for essays outlined above.

If you object to using Turnitin.com please 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.

Mid-term Test:

The mid-term test will take place during the mid-term exam period. It will call for both short paragraph and longer essay answers.

Missing the map quiz, the end-of-term test or the end-of-year term 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.

Blackboard

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 or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> .

Resources on Africa

Columbia University has a great web-page which will provide you with links to all kinds of web-based resources on Africa.

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/africa/cuvl/>

Pambazuka News <http://www.pambazuka.org>

All Africa <http://allafrica.com>

Africa Files <http://www.africafiles.org>

Africa is a Country <http://africasacountry.com>

Part I: Tracing the historical origins of contemporary Africa

Monday 11 May

Lecture 1: Africa in the long duree

- Steven Feierman, "African histories and the dissolution of world history" Chap 6, in Bates, Robert, VY Mudimbe and Jean Barr (eds) *Africa and the Disciplines*, University of Chicago Press (1993)
- B Jewsiewicki and VY Mudimbe, "Africans' memories and contemporary history of Africa," in *History and Theory*, vol32, no. 4, Beiheft 32: History Making in Africa (December 1993), pp1-11

Wednesday 13 May

Lecture 2: The advent of the colonial era

- Crawford Young: *The African Colonial State in Comparative Perspective*, New Haven: Yale University Press (1994), Chapter 4, pp77-140

*** *Be ready to take the map quiz at any point from here on* ***

Wednesday 20 May

Lecture 3: The movement towards independence

- Julius Nyerere: *Freedom and Socialism*, Dar Es Salaam: Oxford University Press (1968), Chapter 26 "The Arusha Declaration", pp230 -250
- Jomo Kenyatta: *Suffering without Bitterness*, East African Publishing House (1968), Appendix: "Constitutional Conference" and "Independence Day," pp209 - 217
- Irving Markowitz, *Leopold Sedar Senghor and the Politics of Negritude*, London: Heinemann (1969), Chapter 4, pp102 - 118

Monday 25 May

Lecture 4: The new generation of independent African states

- Robert Jackson and Carl Rosberg, "Sovereignty and Underdevelopment" in *Journal of Modern African Studies* 24, 1, (1986) pp1-31
- Aristide R Zolberg, *Creating Political Order*, Chicago: Rand McNally and Co. (1980), Introduction and Chapter 1, pp1 - 36

Wednesday 27 May

Lecture 5: The onset of economic crisis

- Richard Sandbrook: *The Politics of Economic Stagnation*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (1985), Chapters 1 and 2, pp 1 - 41

Recommended:

- World Bank, *Can Africa Claim the 21st Century?*, Washington DC (2000)
<http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/canafricaclaim.pdf>

Monday 1 June

Lecture 6: Political decline

- Richard Sandbrook *The Politics of Economic Stagnation*, chapter 5
- Robert Jackson and Carl Rosberg, "Personal Rule in Africa" in *Africa: Dilemmas of Development* edited by Peter Lewis, Westview (1988), Chapter 1, pp17 - 43

Wednesday 3 June

Lecture 7: African militaries

- Edward Luttwak, *Coup d'Etat: A Practical Handbook*, New York: Alfred A Knopf (1989), Chapter 1, pp3-12
- Samuel Decalo, *Coups and Army Rule in Africa*, New Haven: Yale University Press (1990), Chapter 1, pp1 - 32
- William Reno, *Warlord Politics and African States*, London: Lynne Rienner (1998) Introduction and Chapter 1, pp 1- 44

Monday 8 June

*** Essay due in class, at the beginning of class, today! ***

Lecture 8: Structural Adjustment Programmes and the pressure to reform

- Benno Ndulu, Nicholas van de Walle, and contributors. *Agenda for Africa's Renewal*, New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers (1996), Overview, pp3 - 31

Wednesday 10 June

Lecture 9: The wave of democratization

- Michael Bratton and Nicholas van de Walle: "Neopatrimonial regimes and political transitions in Africa" *World Politics* 46, 4 (1994) pp 453-489
- Thomas Callaghy "Political Passions and Economic Interests" in Thomas Callaghy and John Ravenhill (eds) *Hemmed In: Responses to Africa's economic Decline*, New York: Columbia University Press (1993), Chapter 12, pp 463 - 519

Monday 15 June

Lecture 10: Pan-Africanism and Regionalism on the continent

- Amy Jacques-Garvey (ed.) *Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*, New York: Arno Press (1968), "Africa for the Africans" pp68 - 72
- Christopher Clapham, *Africa and the International System*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (1996), Chapter 5, pp106 - 133.

Wednesday 17 June

Final class: Test review session

*** Mid term test will be scheduled during the June exam period ***
(June 22-26, 2015)

Part 2: Themes in African Politics

Monday 29 June

Lecture 1: Rethinking the African state

- [PDF] Bayart, Jean Francois. "Introduction: The Historicity of African Societies" in *The State in Africa: The Politics of the Belly*. London: Longman (1993), pp 1-37
- [PDF] Young, Crawford (2004). "The End of the Post-Colonial State in Africa: Reflecting on Changing African Political Dynamics." *African Affairs*. Pp. 23-49
- [PDF] Davidson, Basil. Chapter 7, "The Black Man's Burden" in Davidson, Basil. *The Black Man's Burden*. London: Times Books (1992), pp 197-242

Monday 6 July

*** Research Essay topic and instructions posted on this date ***

Lecture 2: The Politicization of Ethnic Identities in Africa

- [PDF] Jung, Courtney. *Then I was Black*, New Haven: Yale University Press (2000), Introduction, pp. 1-17
- [PDF] Vail, Leroy [ed]. *The Creation of Tribalism in Southern Africa*, London: James Currey (1989), Introduction, pp. 1-19

Wednesday 8 July

Lecture 3: The wars of liberation in the settler states

- [PDF] Lan, David. *Guns and Rain*. Berkeley, CA: University of California (1985). Chapter 7 "The coming of the Guerrillas," pp 121-135
- [PDF] Reno, William. *Warfare in Independent Africa*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press (2011). Chapter 3 "Majority rule rebels," 79-117

Monday 13 July

Lecture 4: State Weakening and Violent Conflict

- [PDF] Boas, Martin and Dunn, Kevin. Chapter 2 "African Guerilla Politics: Raging Against the Machine" in Boas and Dunn (eds). *African Guerrillas: Raging Against the Machine*, Boulder: Lynne Rienner (2007), pp. 9-37.
- [PDF] Herbst, Jeffrey. "Economic Incentives, Natural Resources and Conflict in Africa." *Journal of African Economies*, Vol. 9, No. 3, [2000] pp 270-294

Wednesday 15 July

Lecture 5: Beyond 'Heroes' and 'Villains': Youth Politics in Africa

- [PDF] Comaroff, Jean and John Comaroff. "Reflections on Youth from the Past to the Postcolony." In De Boeck and Honwana (eds). *Makers and Breakers: Children and Youth in Post-Colonial Africa*. Trenton: Africa World Press, (2005), pp 19-30

- [PDF] Argenti, Nicolas. "Youth in Africa: A Major Resource for Change." In *Young Africa: Realising the Rights of Children and Youth*. de Waal A and N. Argenti (eds). Trenton: Africa World Press (2002), pp123-153

Monday 20 July

Lecture 6: The Politics of Class Formation in Africa

- [PDF] Richard L Sklar, "The Nature of Class Domination in Africa" in *Journal of Modern African Studies*, Vol. 17, no 4 (Dec 1979), pp531-552
- [PDF] Boone, Catherine. 1998. "The Making of a Rentier Class: Wealth Accumulation and Political Control in Senegal." *Journal of Development Studies*. Vol. 23, No. 3 (1990), pp 425-449

Wednesday 22 July

Lecture 7: Agricultural Politics and the Peasantry

- Bates, Robert. "The Nature and Origins of Rural Policies in Africa," in Bates, Robert. *Essays on the Political Economy of Rural Africa*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, pp 107-133
- [PDF] Barker, Jonathan. Chapter 8 "Peasant farmers as citizens," in Barker, Jonathan. *Rural Communities Under Stress*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press (1993), pp. 162-194

Monday 27 July

*** Research Essay due on this date ***

Lecture 8: The Politics of Aid and (Under)Development

- [PDF] Collier, "Better Dead than Fed?" chapter 9 in *Wars, Guns, and Votes: Democracy in Dangerous Places*, London and New Yorker, HarperCollins, 2009
- [PDF] Moyo, Dambisa, "Aid is not Working" and "The Silent Killer of Growth", chapters 2 and 3 in *Dead Aid: why aid is not working and how there is a better way for Africa*, New York: FSG, 2009

Wednesday 29 July

Lecture 9: Africa's International Relations

- [PDF] Clapham, Christopher. Chapter 8 "The Externalisation of Political Accountability" in Clapham, Christopher. *Africa and the International System*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (1996)
- [PDF] Bayart, Jean-Francois. "Africa in the World" in *African Affairs* Vol. 99, no395 (2000), pp217-267
- [PDF] Martin, W.G. 2008 "Africa's Futures: from North – South to East – South?" *Third World Quarterly* 29(2) pp. 339 – 356

Monday 3 August

CIVIC HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

Wednesday 5 August

Lecture 11: Review session

Monday 10 August

Session 12: In-class final term test