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. We 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 themes that characterize the nature of politics in Africa.

Format
The course will be held entirely online, synchronously. We will use Zoom, accessed via Quercus, as our primary platform.

Synchronous classes function largely like in-person classes: all members of the class will log into Bb Collaborate at the normal class time, and the instructor will lead the class, combining lectures and discussion. Classes will be recorded for those who are absent and lectures are posted during the second term.

Readings
The required reading for the course will be available through online resources provided by the library and available via Quercus. They can be found under the “Library Course Reserves” tab on Quercus.

Format and requirements
Course evaluation will include two papers, a short quiz, a mid-term test and a final test.
1. Review essay (First semester) 20%
2. Reading responses (First semester) 30%
3. Research essay (Second semester) 25%
4. End of year test (Second semester) 25%
Reading Responses:
In the first semester, you will be responsible for two kinds of reading responses:
  a. The class will be organized into teams to analyse the class readings. Each week, one
team will be selected to present key themes and issues to the rest of the class. The
team grade will be made up as follows:
    - One written summary of the selected reading (max 150 words) = 10%
    - One oral presentation of a course reading to the rest of the class (max 5 minutes)
      = 10%
  b. On an individual basis record a three minute (max) video in which you present a
     news report covering contemporary events somewhere in Africa/relating to the
     continent, and explain how it connects to one or more of the course readings = 10%
     Due date: Can be submitted at any time but no later than 1 June 2021.

Essays:
All students will be expected to complete two short essays (a review essay of 2,500 words in
the first semester; and a research essay of 3,000 words in the second semester) 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.

Before submitting your essays, you must also review the Academic Integrity Checklist,
included at the end of this syllabus and make sure that you are able to check every category
on this checklist. By submitting your essay, you are pledging that you have read the checklist
and can check every item

Review essay: Topics already posted (see Assignment section in Quercus)
Essay to be submitted on 15 June 2021
= 20%

Research essay: Topics to be posted by TBA
Essay to be submitted on TBA.
= 25%

Unless you specifically make alternative arrangements in advance, essays should be
submitted via Turnitin through Quercus. If you have a principled objection to the use of
Turnitin and wish to make an alternative arrangement for the submission of your essay, this
must be discussed well in advance of the submission deadline with the course instructor, and
certainly no later than two weeks before that deadline.

Late penalty: There will be a penalty of 1% per day for late papers (including weekends i.e.
penalties will continue to accrue at 1% per day over the weekend).

Please ensure that you follow every step of this submission process
1. Read the academic integrity checklist and ensure that you are able to check every
item. By submitting your essay, you are directly signaling that you have done so.
2. Navigate to the Assignments section of the course Quercus site and submit your
essay via Turnitin. The date and time of submission here will serve as the official
record of when you handed your essay in;
Because the term papers will be graded by the TA, they will organize two sets of office hours prior to the submission of the papers, for those seeking additional support. You can arrange to meet with the TA by contacting them directly.

**General Guidelines for Written Assignments:**

*Rough Work and Drafts:* 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 officially at the end of the year. Please print your essays double-sided i.e. using both sides of the page to save paper.

*Academic integrity:* Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto’s *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* ([http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm](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.

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 ask you to review the Academic Integrity Checklist (attached to the back of this syllabus); by submitting your paper, you are attesting that you have read that checklist and that your work meets those criterion.

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.

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.

How to contact us

You are very warmly encouraged to stop by during our virtual office hours or those of the TA for any questions you may have or if you would like to discuss any matters relating to the course. If you can't make the assigned office hours, email your instructor to set up an alternative appointment.

We will do our best to respond to e-mails 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.
Logging in to Quercus
Like many other courses, POL301 uses Quercus for course delivery. To access the website, go to the UofT portal login page at http://q.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 POL301 where you will find all of the course materials.

Accessibility Needs
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach the course instructor and/or Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

Accessibility staff (located in room 2037, Davis Building) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. Please call 905-569-4699 or email access.utm@utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

If you face particular challenges associated with online learning / online access to course materials, please get in touch with your instructor immediately at the beginning of term. Similarly, if you are studying overseas or from a very different timezone and this might affect your engagement in class in any way, please communicate that to us at the beginning of term.

Feeling stressed? Overwhelmed? Get some help
Even on the toughest days, there are ways to find hope. Discover the resources you need right now: https://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/

First Semester: Tracing the historical origins of contemporary Africa

Lecture 1: 4th May
An Introduction
No assigned readings

Recommended reading:

Lecture 2: 6th May
Medieval Africa and Pre-colonial Forms of Rule


Lecture 3: 11th May
The Advent of Colonialism


Lecture 4: 13th May

The Political Logic of Colonial Rule
Crawford Young: *The African Colonial State in Comparative Perspective*, New Haven: Yale University Press (1994), Chapter 1: pp1-2; Chapter 4: pp77-95


** No lecture on 18th May – University is Closed **

Lecture 5: 20th May

Independence and the new generation of African states
Either:


OR


OR


Lecture 6: 25th May

Political Organization and Nation Building


Lecture 7: 27th May
Ideologies and Development Strategies


Lecture 8: 1st June
The Onset of Economic Crisis


Lecture 9: 3rd June
African Militaries and Political Instability


Lecture 10: 8th June
Structural Adjustment and the Politics of Economic Reform


Lecture 11: 10th June
Crisis and Political Reconfiguration: 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

Lecture 12: 15th June
Pan-Africanism and Regionalism on the continent

Second Semester: Themes in African Politics

Lecture 1:
The state


Lecture 2:
Ethnic identification and so-called ethnic conflict
**Research Essay topic and instructions posted on this date**

Introduction in Courtney Jung, Then I was Black, New Haven: Yale University Press (2000)


Lecture 3:
Security, war and military conflict


Lecture 4:
The wars of liberation in the settler states


**Lecture 5:**

**South Africa: Exceptional or paradigmatic African state?**  
Mahmoud Mamdani, "Beyond settler and native as political identities: Overcoming the political legacy of colonialism" in Comparative Studies in Society and History, Vol. 43, No. 4 (October 2001), pp651-664


**Lecture 6:**

**Agriculture and the peasantry**  


**Lecture 7:**

**Business, industry and the urban elite**  


**Lecture 8:**

**Women in African Politics and Economy**

Lecture 9: Disease and Development: 
**TB, Malaria and HIV/AIDS**


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**Lecture 10:**
**Africa's international relations**


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**Lecture 11:**
Review session

**Session 12:**
In-class final term test
Academic Integrity Checklist

POL 301 – Government and Politics in Africa

Academic Integrity Pledge

By submitting this written work, I, (insert your name here), affirm that this assignment represents entirely my own efforts, and in particular that:

- □ I have acknowledged the use of another’s ideas with accurate citations;
- □ If I used the words of another (e.g., author, instructor, information source), I have acknowledged this with quotation marks (or appropriate indentation) and proper citation;
- □ When paraphrasing the work of others, I put the idea into my own words and did not just change a few words or rearrange the sentence structure;
- □ I have checked my work against my notes to be sure I have correctly referenced all direct quotes or borrowed ideas;
- □ My bibliography includes only the sources used to complete this assignment;
- □ This is the first time I have submitted this assignment (in whole or in part) for credit;
- □ Any proofreading by another was limited to indicating areas of concern which I then corrected myself;
- □ This is the final version of my assignment and not a draft;
- □ I have kept my work to myself and did not share answers/content with others, unless otherwise directed by my instructor; and

- □ I understand the consequences of violating the University’s academic integrity policies as outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.

By submitting my essay, I agree that all of the statements above are true.