

Course Title: Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa
Course Number: V18.9161
Instructor: BOAFO-ARTHUR, Kwame
Activity: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Semester: Fall and Spring
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The objective of this course is to examine the nature of African politics especially after decolonization. The politics of post-independent Africa has been dominated by issues of persistent underdevelopment, instability, conflicts, and lately democratic re-construction. These form the basis for discussion in this course which combines engagement with the peculiar developmental problems of Africa with the role of Africa in the global system.. How Africa has tried over the years to overcome various developmental problems in the context of its relations with the international system shall therefore be examined. In view of the transformation of the global system and the current stress on globalization, especially after the collapse of communism, the main focus is on pertinent issues impacting on Africa as the leaders conduct various forms of interactions in the global system. The following key questions, among several others, engage our attention. What kinds of relationships exist between Africa and the global systemic order? What accounts for Africa's seemingly unending peripherization? What has been the role of the West in Africa's post-independence existence? What have been African responses to her developmental crises?

COURSE ORGANIZATION: The interactive approach is adopted in this course. Assigned readings must be fully digested before class discussions. All participants are therefore expected to participate fully in class discussions.

ASSESSMENT: **Class Participation and response papers: 20%**
 Seminar presentation: 30%
 Class tests and final exam: 50%

Required Reading

Michael Chege, "Sub-Saharan Africa: Underdevelopment's last stand" in Barbara Stallings ed., *Global Change, Regional Response*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1995, pp.309-345.

Naomi Chazan, et. al., *Politics and Society in Contemporary Africa* (See Sections 3 & 4 on Political Economy and International Relations), Boulder, Lynne Rienner, 1992.

Harberson John W. & Donald Rothchild eds, *Africa in World Politics*, Boulder, Westview Press, 1995 Second Ed.

Kempe Roland H. & Bornwell Chikula C., *Corruption and Development in Africa: Lessons from Cross-Country Studies*, St. Martins: New York, 1999, Chapter 1, pp.17-39.

Week 1: Overview: Africa and the International System (incorporation and marginalization).

1. Harberson John W. & Donald Rothchild eds, *Africa in World Politics*, Boulder, Westview Press, Chapters 1-3.
2. Colin Leys, *Underdevelopment in Kenya: The Political Economy of Neo-Colonialism, 1961-1971*, Berkeley, University of California Press, 1975.

Week 2: Post-Independence Africa: Nature, Conditions, and outcomes of International Interactions (Dimensions of Africa's developmental problems).

Chazan et. al., *Politics and Society in Contemporary Africa* (See Sections 3 & 4 on Political Economy and International Relations), Boulder, Lynne Rienner, 1992 & all the readings listed under topic 1.

Weeks 3 & 4: International Financial Institutions and Africa:

The Nature and Role of the Bretton Woods System (B.W.S.) in Africa's Development.

1. Naomi Chazan et. al., *Politics and Society in Contemporary Africa*, Chapter 10.
2. Matthew Martin, "Negotiating Adjustment and External Finance", in Donald Rothchild ed., *Ghana: The Political Economy of Recovery*, Boulder, Lynne Rienner, 1991.
3. Bjorn Beckman, "Empowerment or Repression? The World Bank and the Politics of Adjustment", in Peter Gibbon, Yusuf Bangura and Arve Ofstad eds., *Authoritarianism, Democracy and Adjustment: The Politics of Economic Reform in Africa*, Uppsala, Nordic African Institute Press, 1992.
4. Miles Kahler, "International Financial Institutions and the Politics of Adjustment", in Joan Nelson et. al., *The Fragile Coalition: The Politics of Economic Adjustment*, Transaction Books, Oxford, UK, 1989, pp.139-157.

AFRICAN RESPONSES TO DEVELOPMENTAL CRISES

Weeks 5& 6: Regionalism and Regional Integration

1. Ademola Oyejide, Ibrahim Elbadawi, and Paul Collier, "Introduction and Overview", in Ademola Oyejide & Ibrahim Elbadawi eds., *Regional Integration*

- and Trade Liberalization in Sub-Saharan Africa, Vol.1, Framework, Issues and Methodological Perspectives*, London, Macmillan Press, 1997.
2. Okolo Julius E. & Stephen Wright eds., *West African Regional Integratin and Development*, Boulder, Westview Press, 1990. (See introduction and chapters 6, 7, 8 & 12).
 3. Real Lavergne ed., *Regional Integration and Cooperation in West Africa: A Multidimensional Perspective*, Trenton NJ, Africa World Press, 1997.

Weeks 7 & 8: Democratization and Governance in Africa

1. Luckham Robin & Gordon White eds., *Democratizatin in the South: The Jagged Wave*, Manchester: Manchester Univ. Press, 1996 (chapters 1 & 3).
2. Ninsin, K.A., *Ghana: Transition to Democracy*, Dakar, CODESRIA (Compare and Contrast chapter contributions by Jebuni and Abena Oduro/Boafo-Arthur, K. and G.K. Bluwey/Ninsin/Jonah).
3. Joan M. Nelson and Stephanie S. Elington, *Encouraging Democracy: What Role for Conditional Aid*, IDS Bulletin.
4. World Bank, *Sub-Saharan Africa: From Crisis to Sustainable Growth*, Washington, D.C. 1989.
5. Richard Joseph, ed., *State, Conflict and Democracy in Africa*, Lynne Rienner, Boulder Colorado, 1999 (Part 5 Elections and Democratization).
6. Goran Hyden and Michael Bratton eds., *Governance and Politics in Africa*, Boulder, Lynne Rienner, 1992 (chapters 1 & 12).

Weeks 9 & 10: The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD)

1. AU: NEPAD, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 2001.
2. Anyang' Nyong'o P., et. al., *NEPAD: A New Path?* Heinrich Boll Foundation, 2002.
3. Anneke van Woudenberg, *Africa at the Crossroads*, Oxfarm Briefing Paper, 2002.

Weeks 11 & 12: G8 African Response

1. US Department of State, *G8 Africa Action Plan*.
2. Boafo-Arthur, K., "Strengthening the G8-Africa Partnership: African Performance", Council of Foreign Relations, CSR No.2A, February 2005.
3. John Kirton and Ella Kokotsis, "Keeping Faith with Africa: Assessing Compliance with the G8's Commitments at Kananaskis and Evian Council on Foreign Relations, CSR No.2A, February 2005.

Weeks 13 & 14: Africa's Future in the age of Globalization

1. E.C.A (Economic Commission for Africa), *African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Program of Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation*, Addis Ababa: E.C.A., 1989.
2. Mittelman James H., *Globalization: Critical Reflections*, Boulder, Lynne Rienner, 1996.
3. Barry Gils, "Editorial: Globalization and the Politics of Resistance", *New Political Economy*, March 1997.
4. Charles Oman, *Globalization and Regionalization: The Challenge for Developing Countries*, OECD, 1994.
5. Callaghy Thomas M., "Globalization and Marginalization: Debt and International Underclass", *Current History*, Vol.96, No.613, November 1997.

Week 15: Final Exam