

The International Politics of Africa

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Sciences Po Bordeaux

February-April 2019

Themes and Content

This course analyses the international relations of Sub-Saharan Africa, primarily in the period since 1960. The course will be assessed by a written essay. Attendance in all classes is compulsory and students are expected to have read two bibliographical references.

Weekly Course topics

1. African modern states in the international system
2. Africa and the Cold War
3. The International Politics of Economic Crisis and Reform in Africa
4. Post-Cold War Civil Conflict and Foreign Intervention in Africa
5. The International Politics of Natural Resources
6. African States and Regional and Multilateral Organizations
7. The Rising Powers in Africa
8. The Global Political Economy of “Africa Rising”, 2004-2014

Reading List

General Readings on Africa and International Relations

- Rita Abrahamsen, “Research Note: Africa and International Relations: assembling Africa, studying the world”, *African Affairs* 116, 462 (2017).
- M. Ayooob, “Subaltern Realism: International Relations Theory Meets the Third World”, in S Neumann (ed.) *International Relations Theory and the Third World*, 1998.
- J-F Bayart, *L’Etat en Afrique*, 1989, OR J.-F. Bayart, "Africa within the world: a history of extraversion", *African Affairs*, 99: 395, 2000.
- W. Brown, “A Question of Agency: Africa in International Politics”, *Third World Quarterly* 33(10), 2012.
- T. Callaghy, R. Kassimir and R. Latham, *Intervention and Transnationalism in Africa*, 2001.
- * C. Clapham, *Africa and the International System*, 1996 [START HERE]
- F. Cooper, *Africa Since 1940*, 2002.
- S. Cornelissen, F. Cheru and T. Shaw, eds., *Africa and International Relations in the 21st Century*, 2012.
- K. Dunn and T. Shaw, eds., *Africa’s Challenge to International Relations Theory*, 2000.
- Frantz Fanon, *Les Damnés de la terre*, 1961.
- J. Ferguson, *Global Shadows: Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*, 2006.

S. Harman and W. Brown, 'In from the margins? The changing place of Africa in International Relations', *International Affairs*, 89 (1), 2013.
J. Herbst, *States and Power in Africa: Comparative lessons in authority and control*, 2014.
Karen Smith, "Has Africa got anything to say? African contributions to the theoretical development of International Relations", *The Round Table* 98 (402), 2009.
I. Taylor and P. Williams (eds), *Africa in International Politics: External Involvement on the Continent*, 2004.
I. Taylor, *The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa*, 2010.
O. A. Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 2005 [especially Chapters 6 and 7]

Week 1. Modern African States in the International System

Most of the general readings are relevant here, but read these three especially:
Clapham, *Africa in the International System*.
Cooper, *Africa Since 1940*.
Taylor and Williams, *Africa in International Politics*.

Week 2. Africa and the Cold War

Westad, *The Global Cold War*.
J. Byrne, "Africa's Cold War", in *The Cold War in the Third World*, ed. by Robert J. McMahon, 2013.
Sara R. Dorman, "Post-liberation Politics in Africa: examining the political legacy of struggle", *Third World Quarterly* 27(6), 2006.

Week 3. The International Politics of Economic Crisis and Reform in Africa

G. Arrighi, "The African Crisis: World Systemic and Regional Aspects", *New Left Review* 15, May-June 2002.
N. Van de Walle, *African Economies and the Politics of Permanent Crisis*, 2001.
L. Whitfield, ed. *The Politics of Aid*, 2009.

Week 4. Conflict and Foreign Intervention in Africa

Warfare

C. Cramer, *War is not a Stupid Thing: Accounting for Violence in Developing Countries*, 2006.
W. Reno, *Warfare in Independent Africa*, 2011.
J. Herbst, "Economic Incentives, Natural Resources and Conflict in Africa" *Journal of African Economies*, 2000.
P. Williams, *War and Conflict in Africa*, 2011.

Intervention

P. Englebret and D. Tull, "Post-conflict Reconstruction in Africa: Flawed Ideas about Failed States", *International Security*, 32, 4 (2008).
R. Soares de Oliveira, "Illiberal Peacebuilding in Angola", *Journal of Modern African Studies* 49, 2 (2011).

R. Soares de Oliveira and Harry Verhoeven, 'Taming Intervention: Sovereignty, Statehood and Political Order in Africa,' *Survival* 60, 2 (2018).

Week 5. The Political Economy of Natural Resources

Alison J. Ayers, "Beyond Myths, Lies and Stereotypes: The Political Economy of a 'New Scramble for Africa'", *New Political Economy* 18, 2 (2013).

P. Le Billon, *Wars of Plunder: Conflict, Profits and the Politics of Resources*, 2012.

R. Soares de Oliveira, *Oil and Politics in the Gulf of Guinea*, 2007.

W. Reno, "Clandestine economies, violence and states in Africa." *Journal of International Affairs* 53(2), 2000.

Week 6. African States and Regional and Multilateral Organizations

Daniel Bach, *Regionalism in Africa: Genealogies, Institutions and trans-state Networks*, 2016.

Alex Bellamy and P. Williams, "The new politics of protection? Côte d'Ivoire, Libya and the responsibility to protect", *International Affairs* 87, 2011.

J. Hongoh, "The Asian-African Conference (Bandung) and Pan-Africanism: the challenge of reconciling continental solidarity with national sovereignty", *Australian Journal of International Affairs* 70, 4 (2016).

Tim Murithi, "The African union at ten: An appraisal" *African Affairs* 111 (445) (2012).

P. Williams, "From non-intervention to non-indifference: the origins and development of the African Union's security culture", *African Affairs* 106 (423), 2007.

Week 7. The Rising Powers in Africa

C. Alden, Daniel Large and R. Soares de Oliveira, eds., *China Returns to Africa*, 2008.

C. Alden, S. Morphet and M. A. Vieira, *The South in World Politics*, 2010.

D. Large, 'Beyond "Dragon in the Bush": the study of China-Africa relations', *African Affairs* 107: 426, 2008.

E. Mawdsley and G. McCann, "The Elephant in the Corner?: Reviewing India-Africa Relations in New Millennium", *Geography Compass* 4(2), 2010.

Week 8. The Global Political Economy of "Africa Rising", 2004-2014

Elsje Fourie, 'China's example for Meles' Ethiopia: when development 'models' land', *Journal of Modern African Studies* 53, 3 (2015).

Tobias Hagmann and P. Reyntjens (eds) *Aid and Authoritarianism in Africa*, 2016.

William Jones, R. Soares de Oliveira and H. Verhoeven, "Africa's Illiberal Statebuilders", *RSC Working Paper Series* 89, 2013.

Thandika Mkandawire, "Neopatrimonialism and the Political Economy of Economic Performance in Africa: Critical Reflections," (working paper 2013/1, Institute for Futures Studies, Stockholm), 2013.

I. Taylor, *Africa Rising?: BRICS – Diversifying Dependence*, 2014.