



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

IRL 3045: POLITICS OF REGIONALISM IN AFRICA

CREDIT UNITS: 3 UNITS

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Regional integration, regionalism, and the search for greater unity among Africans is not a new phenomenon. Africans and peoples of African descent have held and maintained feelings and dreams of achieving greater unity – both in psychological and concrete senses – in response to the challenges of being an African in an international system dominated by those who negated the humanity of Africans.

This course provides an historical overview of attempts at regionalism as a contemporary manifestation of this historical urge to a unity of Africans as well as analysis of contemporary realities of these schemes on the African continent.

The course attempts to address emerging themes on regionalism, including the link between regionalism, peace and security, the political economy of regionalism and regional integration, as well as regionalism and issues of governance.

This is supposed to be an exciting exploratory conversation about issues in Africa's age-old search for greater unity, be it economic, social, cultural and political. In order to facilitate learning and more fulfilling discovery, students will grapple with and seek to answer the following questions:

- ✓ What are the drivers, both historical and contemporary, of Africa's efforts towards regionalism?
- ✓ What is the balance sheet of the processes and efforts towards regional integration in Africa?
- ✓ How can we solve the enduring conflict and tensions between continentalism and sub-regionalism?
- ✓ What viable strategies can move the integration agenda forward in a manner consistent with the dreams of many Africans in the continent?
- ✓ How can the developmental state in Africa seek and achieve regional integration in ways that enhance - and not – contradict (supposedly divergent) national goals?

How can we have a regional integration model that centres the citizens and translate into tangible benefits for the people? In other words, how can we achieve 'integration from below?'

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course will be conducted through class lectures, power point presentations, active class discussions, group presentations, analysis of relevant documentaries and sometimes guest speakers whenever these may be available.

The course will provide students with:

- i. Skills to analyse and evaluate socio-economic, political and cultural dimensions to 'regionalism as integration'
- ii. Appreciation of the various regional institutions and communities as outlined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union
- iii. Knowledge of the historical evolution of the ideas of pan-African unity;
- iv. Understanding of regionalism as a manifestation of the grander dream of pan-African unity
- v. Evaluate the potential of regionalism model to Africa's transformation

1. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Identify, explain and use concepts in regionalism.
- Understand the approaches to regionalism
- Recognize, analyze and apply ideologies in regionalism to explain regionalism in Africa
- Be able to discuss new regionalism and the trends in regional integration
- Identify and critically analyze the challenges of regionalism in Africa

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week 1: INTRODUCTION, terms and concepts

Required reading:

- Fawcett, Louise and Gandois, Helene. 2010. 'Regionalism in Africa and the Middle East: Implications for EU Studies.' *Journal of European Integration*, 32(6): 617 – 636.

Week 2: REGIONALISM AS/AND AFRICAN UNITY

- Pan Africanism, from antiquity to the present
- Nkrumah and the gospel of 'Africa Must Unite'

Required reading:

- West, Michael O. 2005. 'Global Africa: the emergence and evolution of an idea.' *Research Foundation of SUNY and Review*, 28(1): 85-108.
- Biney, Ama. 2008. 'The legacy of Kwame Nkrumah in retrospect.' *The Journal of Pan African Studies*, 2(3): 129-159.

Week 3: DEBATES ABOUT REGIONALISM IN AFRICA

- Historical overview of regionalism in Africa.
- Contemporary insights on regionalism in Africa.

Required reading:

- Lee, Margaret. 2002. 'Regionalism in Africa: a part of problem or a part of solution?' *Numero Special*, Vol. 9
- Söderbaum, Fredrik. 2008. 'Consolidating comparative regionalism: From Euro-centrism to global comparison.' Paper for the GARNET 2008 Annual Conference, Sciences Po Bordeaux, University of Bordeaux 17-19 September.

Week 4: INDEPENDENCE, OAU AND THE GREAT COMPROMISE

Week 5: APPROACHES TO REGIONALISM

- Neo-/Functionalism
- Trade and Market Integration theory
- Regional Cooperation

Required reading:

- Söderbaum, Fredrik. 2008. 'Consolidating comparative regionalism: From Euro-centrism to global comparison.' Paper for the GARNET 2008 Annual Conference, Sciences Po Bordeaux, University of Bordeaux 17-19 September.
- Lee, Margaret. 2002. 'Regionalism in Africa: a part of problem or a part of solution?' *Numero Special*, Vol. 9

Week 6: THE NEW REGIONALISM

- New Regionalism Theory (NRT)
- Developmental regionalism

Required reading:

- Söderbaum, Fredrik. 2008. 'Consolidating comparative regionalism: From Euro-centrism to global comparison.' Paper for the GARNET 2008 Annual Conference, Sciences Po Bordeaux, University of Bordeaux 17-19 September.

Week 7:

- Midterm Exam

Week 8: REGIONALISM, DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS

- Regionalism and economic development in Africa

- The Lagos Plan of Action vs. the Berg Report

Required reading:

- Chacha, Mwita. 2008. 'Regional integration and trade: overlapping memberships and the challenges of regionalism in Africa.' Paper presented at the 2008 International Studies Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Week 9: REGIONALISM AND PEACE & HUMAN SECURITY

- Human security in Africa
- Regionalism and peace in Africa
- ECOWAS/IGAD/The AU etc

Required reading:

- Laakso, Liisa. 2005. 'Beyond the notion of security community: What role for the African regional organizations in peace and security?' *The Round Table*, 94(381): 489 – 502.
- Alusala, Nelson. 2010. 'Informal cross-border trade and arms smuggling along the Uganda-Rwanda Border.' *African Security Review*, 19(3): 15 – 26.
- Khadiagala, Gilbert. 2009. 'Regionalism and conflict resolution: Lessons from the Kenyan crises.' *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*, 27(3), 431 – 444.
- Kumssa, Asfaw and Jones, John F. 2010 'Climate change and human security in Africa.' *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 17(6): 453 – 461.
- Tieku, T. 2007. 'African Union promotion of human security in Africa.' *African Security Review*, 16(2): 26 - 37.

Week 10: PAN AFRICANISM FROM BELOW: TOWARDS AN INTEGRATION OF/FOR/BY THE PEOPLE:

Required reading:

- Wamba-dia-Wam̄ba, Ernest. 1996. 'Pan Africanism, democracy, social movements and mass struggles.' In Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem (eds.) **Pan Africanism: Politics, Economy and Social Change in the Twenty-first Century**. New York: NYU Press, 198-211.
- Campbell, Horace. 1996. 'Pan Africanism in the twenty-first century.' In Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem (eds.) **Pan Africanism: Politics, Economy and Social Change in the Twenty-first Century**. New York: NYU Press, 212-228.
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Week 11: GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Week 12: REGIONALISM AND GLOBALIZATION AS CAUSE-AND-EFFECT

Required reading:

- Enyinda, et al. 2000. 'The Role of Multinational Enterprises in West African Regional Economic Integration.' *Journal of African Business*, 1(2): 37-54.
- Flint, Adrian. 2009 'The End of a 'special relationship'? The new EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements.' *Review of African Political Economy*, 36(119): 79 – 92.
- Gibb, Richard. 2009. 'Regional integration and Africa's development trajectory: meta-theories, expectations and reality', *Third World Quarterly*, 30(4), 701- 721.
- Söderbaum, Fredrik. 2008. 'Unlocking the relationship between the WTO & Regional Integration Arrangements (RIAs).' *Review of African Political Economy*, 35(118): 629 – 633.
- Omotola, Shola. 2010. 'Globalization, new regionalism and the challenge of development in Africa.' *Africana* June: 103 – 136.

Week 13: WHICH WAY AFRICA? SUMMARY, REVISION AND REFLECTION

Week 14:

Final Examinations

University policy

Students are expected attend all the sessions regularly and complete all the readings in a timely fashion as specified by the class schedule. An attendance roster is kept and students are expected to attend all sessions on time and as scheduled. Prior permission **MUST** be obtained from the instructor if a class is to be missed for circumstances beyond the student's control. **As per the university rules, any student who misses more than seven (7) sessions will receive an F grade.**

NB: Please switch off your mobile phones during class and exam time.

Class assignments

Students will be divided into groups and are expected to work with their group members on a topic that will be assigned by the instructor. Each presentation will be followed by class discussions and input from instructor. Students will be graded individually on how effectively they have mastered and communicated the subject matter to the class during their presentation.

Students will individually write a term paper (maximum 7 pages including title page, 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman font size 12). The due date for the **Term Paper** is **WEEK NINE** and should be submitted the instructor personally in hard and soft copy. The essay should be analytical in nature.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course will be conducted through lectures, interactive class discussion and group work and presentations and individual research paper.

COURSE EVALUATION

Class attendance and participation	-10%
Article review/Quiz	- 10%
Group work / presentation	- 15%/ 5%
Term paper	- 20%
Mid-Term Examination	- 20%
Final Examination	<u>-20%</u>
Total	100%

GRADING SYSTEM

A	90 - 100
A-	87 - 89
B+	84 - 86
B	80 - 83
B-	77 - 79
C+	74 - 76
C	70 - 73
C-	67 - 69
D+	64 - 66
D	62 - 63
D-	60 - 61
F	0 - 59

Course Texts:

1. Africa and International Relations in the 21st Century Edited by Cornelissen, S. Cheru, F. And Shaw, T. Palgrave Macmillan, 2012
2. The state of Africa: Parameters and Legacies of Governance and Issue Areas 2010/2011 Adar, K. G. Juma, M. K. Miti, K. N. African Institute of South Africa 2010