SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

IRL 3060:   **AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Faculty: Muliro Wilfred; **Email: wmuliro@usiu.ac.ke (0722274399)**

Consultation Venue:

Credit: 3 Hours

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1.   COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A survey of relations among selected African states, and among African states and other regions of the world; the course also examines the role of ideology, foreign economic and political pressures, and personality on African international policies.

2.   COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The key objectives of this course are to enable students to understand:

- The domestic and international politics of Africa.
- The concepts and theoretical frameworks used to analyze African politics.
- The link between the analysis of African politics and the theoretical analysis of politics in general, with reference to both normative and empirical issues.

3.   COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should:

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

4.   LINK TO PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs):

This course is linked to the following International Relations PLOs:

- ✓ Explain concepts and theories in International Relations

- ✓ Explain and use research methodology in International Relations

- ✓ Collect, collate, analyze and respond critically to information

- ✓ Critically analyze the dynamics of world politics

- ✓ Identify threats and opportunities to national strategic interests, and formulate policies in response

- ✓ Apply understanding of a global, multi-cultural and complex interconnected world to explain and predict issues in International Relations

5. TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

The course will be conducted through class lectures, power point presentations, active class discussions, group presentations and documentaries.

6. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are expected to read and follow the schedule in the course syllabus, to read assigned text chapters, to read assigned lecture notes, and to seek and read additional suggested resources as provided by the course text and instructor. In addition, students are expected to participate in class discussions.

Individual and group assignments will be issued during the course of the semester. All assignments are to be completed within the deadlines given by the instructor, and any special instructions for the written assignments are to be followed precisely. Each student should hand in hard copies.

7. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

An attendance roster is kept and students are expected to attend all sessions on time and as scheduled. If a session is to be missed for circumstances beyond the student's control, permission from the instructor must be obtained. As per the university rules, any student who has more than **seven** absenteeism will get grade **F**.

NB: You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner. This includes using proper language in your interactions in and out of class with the instructor and treating one another with respect. Examples of unprofessional behavior include but are not limited to: leaving your phone on during class, texting/tweeting/or using social media during class, using gadgets of any kind for other reasons than taking notes, leaving class once it has started (unless it is an absolute emergency), arriving late to class, and emailing the professor as if you were sending a text message to a friend. Obviously, you cannot earn participation points for days that you do not attend class. Any violations of these guidelines will be penalized. The course outline might change depending on many factors and it will be communicated via blackboard.

8. ACADEMIC AND CLASS CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Academic and classroom misconduct will not be tolerated. Students must read the "Code of Student Conduct" in the new Student Handbook for an understanding of what will be expected of them within the academic setting. Faculty regulations require that all cases of suspected plagiarism and cheating in exams be referred to the Dean. This matter is taken very seriously within the university and punishment in past cases has been severe; may result in failure in the course or expulsion from the degree program. Plagiarism occurs when students quote or adopt or simply cut and paste ideas from any source, without appropriate attribution (by the use of

in-text citations, references and quotation marks in cases of direct quotes). Students are strongly advised to make use of the writing guidelines provided on Blackboard. For further information on USIU's exam regulations, kindly download and read the document titled *Examination Regulations* from Blackboard.

9. COURSE TEXTS:

1. McGowan, J., Cornelissen, S., and Nel, P. (eds) 2006. *Power, Wealth and Global Equity: An International Relations Textbook for Africa.* Cape Town: UCT Press.

2. Murithi, T. 2013. Ed. *Handbook of Africa's International Relations.* London: Routledge.

Further Readings

1. Christopher Clapham, 1996. *Africa and The International System: The Politics of State Survival*, Cambridge University Press

2. Dunn, K. and Shaw T., (Eds) 2001. *Africa's Challenge to International Relations Theory*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan

3. Jones B. G., (ed) 2006. *Decolonizing International Relations*. Plymouth: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers

10. COURSE CONTENT:

WEEK 1   INTRODUCTION: EVOLUTION OF AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Learning Outcome

✓ Trace the history and development of African International Relations through the various global milestones.

Discussion Topics

- Introduction to African IR

- Trajectory of African international relations-colonial era, Cold War and post-colonial period.

- Colonialism, African state and African IR

- Theoretical Approaches to Africa's international relations.

Reading Assignments

- McGowan *et al.*, pp. 240 – 242

- Murithi, pp. 1 – 20

- Dunn & Shaw. pp1-6

- Clapham, pp 1-27

WEEK 2   PAN AFRICANISM

Learning Outcomes

✓ Identify and explain the origin and meaning of pan-Africanism
✓ Identify key figures in Pan-Africanism.

✓ Examine the impact of pan-Africanism in Self-determination and African unity

✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

Discussion Topics

- Historical overview of Pan Africanism; African Identity and Pan Africanism

- The Struggle For Self Determination: Pan Africanism as an ideology

- Key figures in pan-Africanism and African Unity: Garvey, Du Bois, Nkrumah, Nyerere, Jomo Kenyatta etc

- The OAU and Pan Africanism: failure and success of Pan Africanism

- Re-emergence of Pan-Africanism

Reading Assignments

- Jones, pp 1-16

- Muriithi (2014), pp 21-28

- Muriithi T (ed) Towards a Union Government for Africa, Pretoria and Tshwane: Institute for Security Studies, 2008, 183-189.

- Zeleza, Paul T. "The inventions of African identities and languages: The discursive and developmental implications." (2006). Selected Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference on African Linguistics,ed. Olaoba F. Arasanyin and Michael A. Pemberton, 14-26. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.

- Biney, Ama. "The legacy of Kwame Nkrumah in retrospect." *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 2, no. 3 (2008): 129-159.

- K. Mathews, "Renaissance of Pan-Africanism: the African Union," *India International Centre Quarterly*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (SPRING 2005), p.p 143-155.

- Roy-Campbell, Z.M., 1996. Pan-African Women Organizing for the Future: The Formation of the Pan African Women's Liberation Organization and Beyond. *African Journal of Political Science/Revue Africaine de Science Politique*, *1*(1), pp.45-57.

WEEK 3: AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Learning Outcomes

✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

Discussion Topics

- From OAU to AU, the failure of OAU and AU prospects

- Overview of African Union in International System: APSA (AU Peace and Security Architecture), NEPAD etc

- Future of African Unity: AU Prospects

Reading Assignments

- Muriithi (2014), pp 62-71 &

- Ayittey, George BN. "The United States of Africa: A Revisit." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 632, no. 1 (2010): 86-102.

- Kofi Oteng Kufuor, "The Collapse of the Organization of African Unity,"*Journal of African Law,* Vol. 49, No.2 (2005), pp.132-144.

- Mathews, K. "Renaissance of Pan-Africanism: the African Union." *India International Centre Quarterly* 31, no. 4 (2005): 143-155.

WEEK 4: REGIONAL INTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Learning Outcome

✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

Discussion Topics

- Regional Integrations

- Inter-trade in Africa

- Regional Economic Communities

- Security challenges

Reading Assignments

- Muriithi (2014), pp 73-91

- Richard Gibb, "Regional Integration and Africa's Development Trajectory: Metatheories, Expectations and Reality," *Third World Quarterly,* Vol.30, No. 4 (2009), pp.701-720

- Peter Arthur, "ECOWAS and Regional Peacekeeping Integration in West Africa: Lessons for the future," *Africa Today,* Vol.57, No. 2 (Winter 2010), pp.2-24.

WEEK 5   AFRICA & GLOBALIZATION

Learning Outcomes

✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

Discussion Topics

- Globalization perspectives: Democratization and Liberalization

- Africa and Economic globalization

- Impact of globalization on Africa

- Africa and emerging issues in globalization: Rise of nationalism-BREXIT, US elections, Changing relations with major powers

Reading Assignments

- Muriithi (2014), pp 30-37

- Zeleza, Paul Tiyambe. "The Africa-China relationship: challenges and opportunities." *Canadian Journal of African Studies/La Revue Canadienne Des Études Africaines* 48, no. 1 (2014): 145-169.

- Stolte, Christina. "Brazil in Africa: Just another BRICS country seeking resources?." *Chatham House Briefing Paper* 1 (2012).

WEEKS 6   AFRICA AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

Discussion Topics

- Africa and International security: global war on terrorism, transnational organized crime, International Peace operations

- Africa, Wars/conflicts and International Criminal Court

- Africa and International Human Rights; Africa, refugees and migrants

Reading Assignments

- Muriithi (2014), pp 153-282

- McGowan, pp247-276

WEEK 7: MID-SEMESTER EXAM

WEEK 8: TRADE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES IN AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

Discussion Topics

- Africa and international trade policy: WTO talks

- The World Bank and the IMF in Africa.

- Official development assistance to Africa.

- Foreign aid and Debt crisis

Reading Assignments

McGowan *et al*., pp. 247 – 260

Murithi, pp. 125 -133; 219 – 230; 251 – 260; 261 – 281.

WEEKS 9: AFRICA AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa

Discussion Topics

- Africa and United Nations (UN)

- Africa and the European Union (EU).

- Africa and Emerging powers: IBSA, BRIC, TICAD (Japan)

- South to South cooperation.

Reading Assignments

McGowan *et al*., pp. 301 – 385.

Murithi, pp. 303 – 408

WEEK 10: FUTURE OF AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.
- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

Discussion Topics

- New Scramble for Africa

- African Agency in International Relations

- Prospects for African International Relations

Reading Assignments

McGowan *et al*., pp. 241-263

Murithi, pp. 408-410.

Dunn, pp204-219

Chipaike1 and Matarutse, "The question of African agency in international relations" *Cogent Social Sciences* (2018)

WEEKS 11 – 13: WEEK 10: CASE STUDY: Group Presentations

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Identify and explain the key principles, institutions, procedures and decision making processes of the political systems of selected African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the impact of historical events and/or developments to contemporary political issues, debates and outcomes in African states.

- ✓ Evaluate the basic strengths and weaknesses of the political systems in Africa through the application of political concepts and ideas.

- ✓ Identify and critically analyze the complexities of the institutions and actors in African politics.

- ✓ Have a broad international perspective on current debates about politics in Africa.

Discussion Topics

- Presentations on Africa and USA Relations.

- Presentations on Africa and EU relations.

- Presentations on Africa and the Middle East

- Presentations on Africa and global climate change.

- Presentations on Africa and global war on terror.

- Presentation on Colonialism and African international relations

- Presentation on Africa and International Peace Operations

- Presentation on Africa International Relations: Prospects and Challenges

WEEK 14: END OF SEMESTER EXAM

11. COURSE EVALUATION

- Attendance and Class Participation   5%
- Group presentation & paper (critical analysis paper)   25%
- Article review/ Term paper (individual)   20%
- Mid-semester Exam   20%
- Final Exam   30%
- TOTAL   100%

12. GRADING SYSTEM

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