UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-AFRICA
SEMESTER:
IRL 4001: REGIONAL CONFLICT IN AFRICA
COURSE SYLLABUS
INSTRUCTOR:
DAYS/TIME:
CONSULTATION HOURS:
VENUE:
CREDIT; 3 UNITS

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys past and present trends in conflict and cooperation in Africa. It examines the role of military and economic organizations in the management of African conflicts, and analyses in detail the role of the OAU/AU in conflict management in Africa. The course also examines the role of extra-continental actors in the conflicts.

2. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the major forces and causes surrounding conflicts in Africa. It provides students with the tools with which to analyse trends of conflict and its management in Africa.

3. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Explain concepts and theories in International Relations.
2. Explain and use Research Methodology in International Relations.
3. Collect, Collate, analyse and respond to critically to information.
4. Critically analyze the dynamics of world politics.
5. Identify threats and opportunities to national strategic interests, and formulate policies in response.
6. Apply understanding of a global, multicultural and complex interconnected world to explain and predict issues in International Relations.
7. Demonstrate diplomatic etiquette in the International context.

4. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course the students should be able to:

1. Define and provide a broad survey of conflicts in Africa in its national, regional and international context.
2. Identify the causes and actors of conflicts in Africa.
3. Distinguish between the different types of conflicts in Africa.
4. Analyze the changing dynamics and the new trends of conflicts
5. Identity the threat of regional conflicts in Africa.
6. Discuss the theories, processes and issues that have characterized conflicts in Africa.

5. COURSE CONTENT

Week 1
Introduction
Learning Outcomes
- Understand the historic overview of Africa
- Define the term conflict
- Identify the characteristics of Conflict

Discussion Topics
- Introduction: Historical Overview
- Definition/Concepts of Conflict
- Characteristics of Conflict

Assignments
- Lecture notes
- Mwagiru, Makumi (2000), *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*, Nairobi, Watermark Publications. Chapter One, p.1-3

Week 2
Stages, Types and Theories of Conflict
Learning Outcomes
- Explain stages of conflict
- Identify the different types of conflict
- Discuss the theories of conflict

Discussion Topics
- Conflict Resolution
- Conflict Management
- Conflict Transformation
- Types of conflicts in Africa
- Theories of Conflict

Assignments
- Mwagiru, Makumi (2000), *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*, Nairobi, Watermark Publications. Chapter Two, p.14-22

Week 3
Causes, Actors and Early warning of Regional Conflicts in Africa
Learning Outcomes
- Analyze the causes of regional conflicts in Africa
- Identify the actors of regional conflicts in Africa
- Distinguish between early warning and preventive diplomacy for regional conflicts in Africa

Discussion Topics
- Causes
- Actors
- Early Warning and Preventive Diplomacy for Regional Conflicts in Africa

Assignments
- Mwagiru, Makumi (2000), *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*, Nairobi, Watermark Publications. Chapter One, p.4-10

Week 4
Outside influences and Sub-Regional organizations in Conflict Management
Learning Outcomes
- Identify the external influences of regional conflicts in Africa
- Discuss the role of Sub-Regional organization in Conflict Management using the example of ECOWAS, IGAD and UN/AU

Discussion Topics
- External influences
- ECOWAS
- IGAD
- UN/AU

Assignments
- Mwagiru, Makumi (2000), *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*, Nairobi, Watermark Publications. Chapter Thirteen, p.145-158

Week 5
Trends in Regional Conflicts in Africa
Learning Outcomes
- Understand the role and impact of conflict on women in Africa

Discussion Topic
- Women and Armed conflict in Africa
- Filming the Documentary "Our Bodies their Battleground, Gender Based Violence during War"

Assignments
- Lecture notes

Week 6
Trends in Regional Conflicts Africa
Learning Outcomes
- Discuss the role of Hate Media in Conflicts using the case study of 1994 Rwanda Genocide
- Explain the role of Private Military Services in Regional Conflicts in Africa

Discussion Topics
- The Role of Hate Media in Conflicts: The case study of 1994 Rwandan Genocide
- The Role of Private Military Services in Regional Conflicts in Africa

Assignments
- Lecture notes
- Handouts

Week 7
 MID-TERM EXAMS
Guest speaker or Film

Week 8
Regional Conflicts in Northern Africa (Group Presentation)
Learning Outcomes
- Discuss the different countries involved in conflict in Northern Africa
- Analyze the causes, actors, trends and external influences of the conflict in Northern Africa

Discussion Topics
- Algeria
- Chad
- Egypt
- Morocco/Western Saharan Conflict

Assignments
- Group Presentations

Week 9
Regional Conflicts in West Africa (Mano River Basin) (Group Presentation)
Learning Outcomes
- Understand the causes, actors and trends of the conflict in West Africa
- Identify factors that influence the spread of conflict in West Africa

Discussion Topics
- Liberia
- Sierra Leone
- Guinea
- Ivory Coast
- Nigeria

Assignments
Group Presentations

Week 10
Regional Conflicts in Southern Africa (Group Presentation)
Learning Outcomes
- Identify the causes, actors, and external influences of the conflict in Southern Africa

Discussion Topics
- Angola
- Mozambique
- South African (Apartheid Regime)
- Zimbabwe

Assignments
- Group Presentations

Week 11
Regional Conflicts in the Great Lakes Region (Group Presentation)
Learning Outcomes
- Explain the causes, actors, trends and external influences of the conflict in the Great lakes Region

Discussion Topics
- Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC Congo)
- Rwanda
- Burundi
- Central African Republic (CAR)

Assignments
- Group Presentations

Week 12
Regional Conflicts in the Horn of Africa (Group Presentation)
Learning Outcomes
- Identify the countries involved in conflict in the Horn of Africa
- Discuss the causes, actors, trends and external influences of the conflict in the Horn of Africa

Discussion Topics
- Ethiopia/Eritrea
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Uganda

Assignments
- Group Presentations

Week 13
Recent conflicts in the Horn of Africa (Group Presentation)
Guest Speaker or Film
Learning Outcomes
- Understand the causes, actors and the role of recent conflicts in Africa

Discussions Topics
- Kenya
- Comoros Island

Assignments
- Group Presentations

Week 14
FINAL EXAMS

6. COURSE TEXT

Mwagiru, Makumi (2000), *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*, Nairobi, Watermark Publications.

HANDSOUTS WILL BE PROVIDED DURING THE COURSE AS ADDITIONALREADINGS.

7. TEACHING METHODOLOGY

-The course will be conducted using lectures, active class discussion and student presentations.
-PowerPoint Presentation
-Representation of Countries
-Guest speaker and video/ shows will be arranged as appropriate.
-Student punctuality and active participation is highly encouraged. Participatory learning is the ideal.

8. UNIVERSITY POLICY

Students are expected to attend all classes. Upon being absent from five classes, an "**F" grade will be awarded automatically**. Your are responsible for any course work due on the day of your return to class and any course work missed while absent, if you miss classes because of sickness, you need to provide an official verification (stamp, signature and address) from a doctor.

NB: PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONES DURING CLASS TIME.

9. COURSE EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation	- 10%
Group presentation	- 10%
Simulation paper	- 20%
Mid-Term Examination	- 30%
Final Examination	30%
Total	100%

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10. GRADING SYSYEM

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