Objective: The course is designed to bring students closer to understanding the complex problems faced by the many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. It combines aspects of comparative politics and international relations as well as historical and contemporary factors that account for the current condition of the African polity today. It is expected that by the end of the semester, students should have acquired the necessary knowledge for instructive explanations of politics in Africa.

Textbooks: Vincent Khapoya: *The African Experience*

Howard W. French: *China’s Second Continent: How a Million Migrants are Building a New Empire in Africa*

Tests, Papers & Exams: There will be a small early take-home test, a midterm exam, and a research paper and presentation on (the politics, problems and prospects of) and African country of your choice, and a final exam. Details of these assignments will be made known as need arises.

Student Responsibilities: Attendance in all class sessions is required. Familiarity with reading material is highly encouraged. Also, students should find on-going information on Africa on a regular basis. Given the distance separating Africa from the United States and the paucity of information on Africa in the U.S., students should take an extra initiative in learning for this course.

Grades: The grades for the course will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>(Daily)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Take-Home Test</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>(Due Fri. Feb. 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) NYT Multiple Choice</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>(March 09; April 29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
<td>(March 11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Review (5 pg)</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>(Due Fri. April 01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>20+5 pts</td>
<td>(Presentations begin Apr. 20/Paper Due Apr. 25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>(Thurs. May 05; 12:30-2:30pm)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100 - 95</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94.9 - 90</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89.9 - 87</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>64.9 - 60</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>59.9 – 57</td>
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</table>
LECTURE OUTLINE & READING ASSIGNMENT

Jan. 13 - 22  
Course Intro: Why Study Africa?
- Relevance and Condition
- Challenge and Opportunities
  Readings: Khapoya Chap. 1

Jan. 25 - 30  
African Heterogeneity
- Regional & Country Diversity, Physical Environment
- Civilizations of Africa
  Readings: Khapoya Chap. 2, 3

Feb. 1 - 5  
Historical Background
- Pre-Colonial Politics: Decline vs. Persistence
  Slave Trade: Open Discussion
- Colonialism: Rationale and Impact
- Decolonization: Peaceful vs. Violent Patterns
  Readings: Khapoya Chap. 3, 4

Feb. 12  
Return Take-Home Exam

Feb. 12 - 26  
Post-Colonial Africa
- The Illusions of Independence
- The Political Crisis: Leadership, Nation Building, One Party System, Military Rule, Civil War
- The Economic Crisis: Dualism and Underdevelopment
  Readings: Khapoya Chap. 5, 6

Feb. 29 – Mar. 4  
The China Text/Overview

Mar. 9 & 11  
NYT Multiple Choice (March 9) / Midterm Exam (March 11)

Mar. 14 - 18  
Diverse Subjects
- Apartheid: then and now
- Aids Crisis/Ebola
- Gender Issues
- Writers, Film, Music

Mar. 21 - 30  
Redefining Africa
- Transformation vs. Tenacity: A Moment vs. An Enduring Quest
- Africa’s New Age: The Civil Society
- Recent Traits: Democratic Disarray
- The Economic Outcome
April 1          China Text / 5 pg Book Review Due

April 4 - 15    Africa’s International Relations
                - The Old Trend: Ties with the Outside world
                - The New Trend: Intra-African Intervention
                - Africa on the World Stage: Current Struggles
                  Readings: Khapoya Chapel. 8

April 18        Conclusion: The Future
                - Conflicting Scenarios

April 20        Country Research Presentations begin

April 25        Country Research Paper Due

April 27 - 29   Return Papers / Pre-Final Grades / Review Session / NYT Multiple Choice

Thursday, May 05 Final Exam (12:30-2:30 pm)