OBJECTIVE: The course is designed to bring students closer to understanding the complex problems faced by the many countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. It combines aspects of comparative politics and international relations as well as the historical and contemporary factors that account for the 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 explanation of political development in Africa.

TEXTS: There is only one major text for the course.
Soyinka-Arewele and Edozie:
Reframing Contemporary Africa: Politics, Economics and Culture in the Global Era

Subscription to the NYT is highly encouraged.

TESTS, PAPERS, and EXAM: There will be a small early take-home test, a midterm exam, a research paper and presentation (on the politics problems and prospects of) an 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 the readings is highly encouraged. You are encouraged to find on-going information on Africa on a regular basis. Indeed, endeavor to take an extra initiative for learning in this course.

GRADES: The grades for the course will be determined as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Take Home</td>
<td>10 pts (due Tues. June 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20 pts (Mon. June 28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>20 pts (July 23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>5 pts (Begin July 16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>35 pts (Thurs. July 29; 4:00-6:00pm)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A: 100-88      B: 87.9-78      C: 77.9-68      D: 67.9-60      F: Below
LECTURE OUTLINE & READING ASSIGNMENT

June 7-9  
Course Introduction: Why Study Africa?  
Relevance and Condition  
Challenges and Opportunities  
Readings: Part 1 pp. 1-35

June 10-11  
African Heterogeneity  
Regional and Country Diversity  
Physical Environment  
Civilizations of Africa  
Readings: Part 1 pp. 36-60

June 14-16  
Historical Background  
Pre-Colonial Politics: Decline vrs. Persistence  
Slave Trade: Was it worth it?  
Colonialism: Rationale and Impact  
De-Colonization: Violent vrs. Peaceful Patterns  
Readings: Part 2 pp. 61-139

June 17-25  
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: Part 3 pp. 141-215

June 28  
Midterm Exam (In Class)

June 29-July 2  
Select Issues  
Apartheid: Then and Now  
Aids Crisis; Chapter 14  
Gender in Africa; Chapter 17-18  
African Writers/Actors; Chapters 15-16  
The New Oil Gulf of Africa; Chapter 13
July 6-9  Redefining Africa  
Transformation vrs. Tenacity  
Africa’s New Age: The civil Society  
Recent Traits: Democratic Disarray  
The Economic Outcome  
    Readings: Chapters 9, 10, & 19

July 12-14  Africa’s International Relations  
The Old Trend: Ties to the Outside World  
The New Trend: Intra-African Intervention  
Africa on the World Stage: Current Struggles  
    Readings: Chapter 20-22

July 15  Conclusion: The Future: Conflicting Scenarios

July 16-23  Country Research Presentations

July 23  Research Paper Due

July 26  Return Papers/Pre-Final Grades/Review Session

July 29 Thurs.  In-Class Final Exam (4:00-6:00pm)