

**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
SPECIAL TOPICS: POLITICAL SCIENCE 3390F
AFRICA IN WORLD POLITICS
SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2012**

ph: (519) 661-2111, ext. 85177

Term Office Hours:

UWO: Social Science Centre 4143: Monday 1:30-3:30, Wednesday 1:30-3:30

Dr. R. VandeWetering

Wed 10:30-12:30

SSC 4255

E-mail: Please check your UWO e-mail account for periodic messages. My e-mail address is rvandewe@uwo.ca. When you e-mail me, put in the subject heading "3390F–your last name". This will help prevent your message being deleted as spam.

Important Notice Re: Prerequisites/Antirequisites *Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for an appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.*

Prerequisites: Politics 2231E or International Relations 2701E

Course Description

Africa is growing in importance in International Relations. In this course we will examine the place of Africa in world politics. This will be done by applying the writings of prominent international relations theorists to several case studies involving African states. The states chosen reflect the diversity of situations (including problems and opportunities) that exist on the continent. As part of this, we will examine the concept of 'Africa' itself, along with ideas about the state, power, imperialism, legitimacy, international institutions, and colonialism.

Required Textbooks

Ayittey, George B.N. Africa Unchained. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.

Mbembe, Achilles. On the Postcolony. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001.

Rodney, Walter. How Europe Underdeveloped Africa. Cape Town: Pambazuka Press, 2012.

Evaluation

Presentation	20%	
Essay	40%	due Nov 14 at the beginning of class
Final Exam	40%	during exam period

Note: one of the goals of this course is to familiarize you with an array of I.R. theories. Therefore you may not do both your presentation and essay on the same theorist. Huntington does not count as one of the four theorists.

Essays: 3000 words (not including bibliography or footnotes); typed; double-spaced; you must keep a copy for yourself and you must keep your notes and rough drafts; if you make a reference to or quote from the internet, you must print the page cited, highlight the quote, and include it with the essay as an appendix. Include page numbers with every non-internet reference. Include a title page—please do not put your name on the inside of the essay; also include your e-mail address on the title-page. Note: your essay may be checked against an electronic database. You must submit an essay proposal during a meeting with me at my office. A sign-up sheet will be posted on my office door. **Late Proposals:** the late penalty for essay proposals is **5% per day** off your essay mark. Contact me if your proposal will be late. **Late essays:** Papers must be submitted to me **personally** in class, during office-hours, or at times specified on or before the due-date. Do not place papers under the instructor's door. Extensions will only be granted in exceptional—and properly documented—medical circumstances, and by prior arrangement with instructor. Computer problems do not qualify as an excuse: prepare your essay assuming that you will have problems with your hard drive. Late papers will be penalized **10% per day**, including weekends. Social science students should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> if you have a problem.

Essay Topics: note: you may not write on the theorist who is the subject of your presentation, nor about Mali, Somalia, or South Africa.

1. Using one of the theorists, examine the situation of an African state.
2. Evaluate a theorist's book: how does 'Africa' challenge their theory?

Presentations: One person per presentation. A handout laying out expectations for the presentation will be distributed shortly. You will be able to sign up for your presentation on Friday, September 27th; the list will be posted on my office door by 10:00 A.M..

For each presentation, you are expected to read the pertinent entries in The Political Handbook of the World. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. DBW Quick Ref JF 37.P6 2011; economic data at the CIA World Fact Book www.cia.gov/library/publications, Wikipedia "Fortune Global 500" and "Africa-China economic relations"; foreign aid data at the OECD website <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TABLE2A> and Wikipedia: "United States Foreign Aid".

Final: 3 hours. 1 essay question (in essay format: intro, thesis, conc).

Important notice Re: attendance. Please note: In order for a seminar to be successful, students must attend and be prepared. Therefore, if you attend fewer than 75% of the classes (in the period Sept 19th-Dec 5th inclusive) you will not be allowed to write the final exam.

Preparation for class: Students should make a habit of accessing any of the following Africa-related news sources on line: Daily Mail and Guardian (<http://www.mg.co.za/>), Afrol News (<http://www.afrol.com/>) Africa Files (<http://www.africafiles.org>), BBC Africa (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/>), the Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN),– Africa (<http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp>), Al-Jazeera <http://www.aljazeera.com>., [AfricaNews](http://www.africanews.com) (<http://www.africanews.com>), and AllAfrica (<http://allafrica.com/>).

Schedule

date	topic	readings
Sept 12	Introduction; Realism; <i>What are the important questions to ask about African states from the perspective of Realism?</i>	Kenneth Waltz. <u>Theory of International Politics</u> . Boston: McGraw-Hill, 1979. pp. 102-128, 151-160, 168-176, 194-210.
Sept 19	Realism: <i>What are the important questions to ask about African states from the perspective of Realism?</i>	Robert Kaplan “The Coming Anarchy” in <u>The Atlantic Monthly</u> . pp. 44-76; Ayittey pp. 1-171
Sept 26	Liberalism: What are the important questions to ask about African states from the perspective of Liberalism?	Ayittey pp. 172-446
Oct 3	Marxism: <i>What are the important questions to ask about African states from the perspective of Marxism?</i> nb: class will take place in the Dean’s office SSC 9420 Essay Proposal Appointment Oct 3-5	Rodney
Oct 10	Post-colonialism: <i>What are the important questions to ask about African states from the perspective of Post-colonialism?</i>	Mbembe
Oct 17	Presentations on Mali (Realism and Liberalism)	see <u>Political Handbook of the World</u> and websites
Oct 24	Presentations on Mali (Marxism and Post-colonialism)	ditto
Oct 31	Presentations on Somalia (Realism and Liberalism)	ditto
Nov 7	Presentations on Somalia (Marxism and Post-colonialism)	ditto
Nov 14	Civilizationism: Huntington ESSAY DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS	Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations” in <u>Foreign Affairs</u> (Vol 72, no 3, Summer 1993). pp. 22-50; Quaison-Sackey, Alex. <u>Africa Unbound</u> . New York: Praeger, 1963. pp. 35-40, 43-5, 48-51, 53-5, 56-8, 159-162.
Nov 21	Presentations on South Africa (Realism and Liberalism)	see <u>Political Handbook of the World</u> and websites
Nov 28	Presentations on South Africa (Marxism and Post-colonialism)	ditto
Dec 5	Conclusion; <i>New Questions?</i>	

ESSAY PROPOSAL(your copy–fill out the one below for your professor)
UWO
Dept of Political Science
due at essay meeting Oct 3-5

Name:

Proposed Topic:

Upon which Theorist will you focus? Which books?

Signatures:

Student: _____ Instructor: _____

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**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

Mental Health at Western: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.