

Political Science 262  
African Politics  
Mr. Grey  
Fall, 2004

Carnegie 309, Ext. 3147  
1109 Main St., 236-1043  
Office hours: 3:15- 4:15, M- F

The world thinks of African countries as in desperate condition, weak states characterized by vulnerability to outside pressures, instability and violence, authoritarian rule, military or civilian, and, finally, inability to realize their goals, particularly those of economic development. Yet there are countervailing tendencies. There is, for instance, a strong movement to reintroduce on the continent multi-party, pluralist democracy. The goal of the course will be to examine African developments, and to come to some conclusions, however tentative, both on what is happening politically in Africa, and on the causes of these developments. We will do this in five stages. First we will do a broad overview of the African experience in general, and the legacies of colonialism in particular. We will follow this with a look at some of the debates about how best to understand African politics. Next, we will focus on a series of crucial topics: the role of the state, democratization, , Africa's political economy, ethnicity and class in politics, the role of the military and, finally the nature of Africa's position in the world. Then we will examine in some depth the politics of two African countries. Interspersed during the semester will be a set of debates. Every student will participate in one of these.

Books to Buy

Thomas Callaghy, Ronald Kassimir and Robert Latham,  
**Intervention & Transnationalism in Africa: Global-  
Local Networks of Power**, 2001  
Frederick Cooper, **Africa Since 1940: The Past of the Present**,  
2002  
Tony Hodges, **Angola: Anatomy of an Oil State**, 2004  
David K. Leonard and Scott Straus, **Africa's Stalled  
Development: International Causes and Cures**, 2003  
Peter D. Little, **Somalia: Economy Without State**, 2003  
Richard Joseph, **State, Conflict and Democracy in Africa**, 1999  
Peter Schraeder, **African Politics and Society**, 2004

Writing Assignments: Debate paper, due a week subsequent to the debate, and a take home final, due on the assigned exam date.

## Class Assignments

### Pre-Colonial and Early Colonial History

- Aug. 27 - Introduction
- Aug. 30 - Schraeder, Chs. 2 and 3

### Late Colonialism: The Nationalist Movements and Independence

- Sept. 1 - Schraeder, Ch. 4; Cooper, Chs. 1-3
- Sept. 3 - NO CLASS

### Making Sense of African Politics and Economics

- Sept. 6 - Cooper, Chs. 4 and 6
- Sept. 8 - Schraeder, Chs. 1, 13 and 14
- Sept. 10 - Callaghy et al, Chs. 1-3
- Sept. 13 - Callaghy et al, Chs. 4-5

### The State of the State

- Sept. 15 - Schraeder, Ch. 8; Joseph, Chs. 9-10
- Sept. 17 - Callaghy, Chs. 6-8
- Sept. 20 - The State of the State: Cooper, Ch. 7 and articles to be distributed
- Sept. 22 - 1<sup>st</sup> Debate: State Collapse is Rare and Likely to Become More So

### Democratization as an African Project

- Sept. 24 - Joseph, Chs. 1-3
- Sept. 27 - Joseph, Ch. 4
- Sept. 29 - Joseph, Chs. 5-7
- Oct. 1 - Joseph, Ch. 8

- Oct. 4 - Joseph, Chs. 9-12
- Oct. 6 - Joseph, Chs. 13-15
- Oct. 8 - NO CLASS
- Oct. 11 - Joseph, Chs. 20-22
- Oct. 13 - Schraeder, Ch. 10
- Oct. 15 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Debate- Democracy in Africa is Real and will

## **Fall Break**

### Ethnicity in Politics

- Oct. 25 - Joseph, Chs. 16-19
- Oct. 27 - Schraeder, Ch. 5
- Oct. 29 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Debate - Politicians manipulating ethnic differences are the primary source of ethnic conflict in Africa

### Political Economy: the Development Project

- Nov. 1 - Schraeder, Ch. 6; Cooper, Ch. 5
- Nov. 3 - Leonard, Chs. 1-3
- Nov. 5 - Leonard, Chs. 4-6
- Nov. 8 - Callaghy, Chs. 9-10
- Nov. 10 - Callaghy, Chs. 11-12
- Nov. 12 - 4<sup>th</sup> Debate - Neo-colonialism/globalism dominate African political economy

### The Military in Politics

- Nov. 15 - Schraeder, Ch. 9
- Nov. 17 - Other readings to be distributed
- Nov. 19 - 5<sup>th</sup> Debate - The military will henceforth stay out of politics

### Africa and the World

- Nov. 22 - Schraeder, Chs. 11 and 12

### Case Studies

- Nov. 24 - Hodges, Chs. 1-3
- Nov. 29 - Hodges, Chs. 4-5
- Dec. 1 - Hodges, Chs. 6-8
- Dec. 3 - NO CLASS