



DSS 5311

Strategic Survey of Africa

Fall 2016

Monday: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Sergeants Major Academy

Course Information

Professor: Dr. Christopher Linebarger

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Course Website: <https://blackboardlearn.utep.edu/>

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Description

Sub-Saharan Africa plays an increasingly important role for US foreign policy. Insurgency in Nigeria, disease in Liberia, and intervention by foreign powers have each brought Africa to our collective attention. It is therefore the purpose of this graduate seminar to provide students with a brief, yet intensive introduction to the processes of international politics, foreign policy, and comparative government within the region. Although we will briefly examine the legacies of the colonial and pre-colonial periods, most of the course will cover Africa after independence in the 1960s. An emphasis will also be placed on the causes, consequences, and solutions to insurgency and political violence within the region. Organizationally, the class will first cover the origin of the state-system in Africa, and the causes and consequences

of state failure. This will be followed by an examination of political violence and civil war, with an eye to possible solutions. We will then examine some issues related to economic development and international relations.

Required Course Materials

There are no required text books for this class. Instead, all course readings will consist of articles from academic and policy journals, which can be found on the course's website. These are listed on the course calendar below.

Assignments & Expectations

Participation (15% of grade). All students are expected to come to each class meeting prepared to discuss the readings and the lectures. This will involve spending the time to read each item on the required reading list, and thinking about what each contributes to the topic. Discussion each week will focus on such issues as arguments that are made by the readings, and your own informed thoughts and opinions on the topic.

Online Participation (25% of grade). Because this is a hybrid course, a part of the class will be conducted online. As such, each week, one or more students should select one or more of the recommended readings and post an analysis on the discussion boards supplied in Blackboard. This analysis should be approximately 500 words in length. This analysis should not simply summarize the readings, but should offer a critical analysis. That is to say, do you agree with the author's conclusions, their methods, etc. The analysis will be due at the start of each in-person class (starting on Week 2). The other students should then reply on the discussion board before the end of the week with a 250 word response. The response should not simply be an agreement or disagreement with the original post, but a critical response.

Movie Review (2 pages, 25%). In addition, students will write review of a movie that examines a topic of the student's interest and that relates to the themes of the class. Students are free to select any movie they wish, so long as it pertains to African security and the topic(s) of the course. The review should be written in 12 point font, double-spaced, with one inch margins, and in the standard fonts. The review *should not* be a typical "Hollywood" review in which acting, plot, etc. are criticized. Rather, students should endeavor to explain whether the movie accurately portrays the themes and topics covered in class. Each student will briefly discuss their review on the day that it is due. This talk should be about 5–10 minutes in length. PowerPoint slides are not necessary.

You are free to choose any movie related to African security, but here are some suggestions (in no particular order):

Movies / Documentaries:

1. *Beasts of No Nation* (2015)
2. *Blood Diamond* (2006)
3. *Hotel Rwanda* (2005)
4. *Lord of War* (2005)
5. *The Last King of Scotland* (2006)
6. *Zulu* (1964)
7. *Captain Phillips* (2013)
8. *Catch a Fire* (2006)
9. *Ghosts of Rwanda* (PBS) (2005)
10. *Black Hawk Down* (2001)

Research Paper (8-10 pages, 35%) Students will write a research paper (8–10 double-spaced pages) that examines a topic of the student’s interest relating to the themes of the class. Students are free to pick any subject they wish, so long as it pertains to African security, and are encouraged to consult with the professor when choosing a topic and developing their paper. The paper should be written in 12 point font, with one inch margins, and in the standard fonts. The paper should be analytical; that is to say, it should identify a problem related to African security, situate the problem within context, offer objective analysis, explanation, or prediction, and offer a solution to the issue under analysis. The paper should not simply be a descriptive or journalistic account of events, it should make use of academic and/or policy relevant sources, and must include a bibliography. The paper is due at the start of our final class session. Citations should be parenthetical.

Your paper will be graded according to the following criteria:

- **Argument:** Stated in introduction? Convincing? Original?
- **Analysis:** Critical discussion/evaluation of facts? Conclusions logical?
- **Structure:** Is the essay structured? Line of argumentation? Logical Structure? Systematic approach?
- **Research:** Enough relevant sources? Quality of sources? Primary sources?
- **Language and form:** Grammar/punctuation? Page numbers? Paragraphs? Referencing? Bibliography? Respecting page-count?

Grades

Grades are assigned according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90–100%
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	0–59%

Disabilities Statement

I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities. Please send me an email or call me before or after class in the first two weeks to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. CASS can also be reached in the following ways:

Web: <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>

Phone: (915) 745-5148

Fax: (915) 747- 8712

Email: <mailto:cass@utep.edu>

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Statement

Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to: <http://www.utep.edu/dos/academic.htm> for further information.

Additional Resources

Reference Books

- Martin Meredith. 2011. *The Fate of Africa: A History of the Continent Since Independence*. PublicAffairs.
- Paul D. Williams. 2016. *War and Conflict in Africa*, 2nd Edition. Polity.
- Adam Hochschild. 1999. *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa*. Mariner Books.
- Terry Buss, et al. (eds.). 2011. *African Security and the African Command: Viewpoints on the US Role in Africa*. Kumarian Press.
- John W. Harbeson and Donald Rothchild. 2013. *Africa in World Politics: Engaging A Changing Global Order*, 5th Edition. Westview Press.
- John Reader. 1999. *Africa: A Biography of the Continent*. Vintage.

Online News

- BBC. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/default.stm>
- All Africa. <http://allafrica.com/>
- UN IRIN. <http://www.irinnews.org/africa>

Portals

- Korbel School. <http://www.du.edu/korbel/africaninitiatives/>
- UPenn. <http://www.africa.upenn.edu/>
- Stanford. <http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/guide.html>
- World Bank. <http://www.worldbank.org/afr/>
- Africa: Africa World Press Guide. <http://worldviews.igc.org/awpguide/>
- Country Pages: http://www.africa.upenn.edu//Home_Page/Country.html
- Social Conflict Analysis (Africa) Data. <http://www.scaddata.org>

Course Calendar & Assigned Readings

The following calendar is only a guide. Any changes will be announced in-class well ahead of time.

The recommended readings are *not required* for the class. They are listed simply to provide additional context, to suggest material that could be useful for writing your papers or preparing your presentations, and to provide you with direction if a particular topic interests you enough to pursue it in the future.

Articles can be downloaded from Blackboard, the UTEP Library, or from the alternate course website. Books and monographs within the recommended readings must be sought through the library or purchased through other channels.

Week 1 — October 17: Introduction & Historical Background

Required readings:

- Peter P. Ekeh. 1975. "Colonialism and the Two Publics in Africa: A Theoretical Statement." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 17(1): 91-112.

Recommended readings:

- Aristide Zolberg. 1968. "The Structure of Political Conflict in the New States of Tropical Africa." *American Political Science Review* 62(1): 70-87.
- I. William Zartman. 1967. "Africa as a Subordinate State System in International Relations." *International Organization*. 21(3): 545-564.
- Michael Crowder. 1964. "Indirect Rule: French and British Style." *Africa* 34: 197-205.
- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation." *American Economic Review* 91(5): 1369-1401.
- Martin Meredith. 2011. *The Fate of Africa: A History of the Continent Since Independence*. PublicAffairs.
- Jared Diamond. 1999. *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. W.W. Norton & Company.

Week 2 — October 24: The African State & State Failure

Required readings:

- Jeffrey Herbst. 1996/97. “Responding to State Failure in Africa.” *International Security* 21(3): 120-144.

Recommended readings:

- Robert H. Jackson and Carl G. Rosberg. 1982. “Why Africa’s Weak States Persist.” *World Politics* 35(1): 1–24.
- Robin Theobald. 1982. “Patrimonialism.” *World Politics*. 34(4): 548–559.
- Michael Bratton and Nicolas Van De Walle. 1994. “Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa.” *World Politics*. 46(4): 453– 489.
- Pierre Englebort. 2000. “Pre-Colonial Institutions, Post-Colonial States, and Economic Development in Tropical Africa.” *Political Research Quarterly* 53(1): 7–36.
- Morten Boas. 2001. Liberia and Sierra Leone-Dead Ringers? The Logic of Neopatrimonial Rule. *Third World Quarterly*. 22(5): 697–723.
- Robert Bates. 2008. *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late-Century Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Jeffrey Herbst. 2000. *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson. 2012. *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. Crown Publishing Group.

Week 3 — October 31: The Causes of African Conflict (Motivations)

Required readings:

- Daniel Posner. 2004. "The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review* 98(4): 529–545.

Recommended readings:

- Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 2004. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War." *Oxford Economic Papers* 56: 563–595.
- James Fearon and David Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review*. 97(1): 75–90.
- Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 2002. "On the Incidence of Civil War in Africa." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 46(1): 13–28.
- Michael Ross. 2004. "How do natural resources influence civil war? Evidence from thirteen cases." *International Organization*. 58(1): 35–67.
- Ibrahim Elbadawi and Nicholas Sambanis. 2000. "Why are there so many civil wars in Africa? Understanding and preventing violent conflict." *Journal of African Economies* 9(2): 244–269.
- John Mueller. 2000. "The Banality of Ethnic War." *International Security* 25(1): 42–70.
- Paul D. Williams. 2016. *War and Conflict in Africa*, 2nd Edition. Polity.
- Gerard Prunier. 2011. *Africa's World War: Congo: the Rwandan Genocide, and the Making of a Continental Catastrophe*. Oxford University Press.
- William Reno. 2011. *Warfare in Independent Africa*. Cambridge University Press.
- Morten Boas and Kevin Dunn. 2007. *African Guerrillas: Raging Against the Machine*. Reinner Press.
- Karl DeRouen, Jr. 2014. *An Introduction to Civil Wars*. CQ Press.

Week 4 — November 7: The Causes of African Conflict (Opportunity, and Organization)

Required readings:

- Paul Collier et al, “Breaking the Conflict Trap”, Chs. 2–3.

Recommended readings:

- Paul Collier et al, “Breaking the Conflict Trap”, Chs. 1 & 4.
- Steve Brayton. 2002. “Outsourcing War: Mercenaries and the Privatization of Peacekeeping.” *International Affairs*. 55(2): 202–329.
- John Frank Clark. 2007. “The Decline of the African Military Coup.” *Journal of Democracy*. 18(3): 141–55.
- Paul D. Williams. 2007. “Thinking About Security in Africa.” *International Affairs* 83(6): 1021–1038.
- Jeffrey Herbst. 2004. “African Militaries and Rebellion: The Political Economy of Threat and Combat Effectiveness.” *Journal of Peace Research* 41(3): 357-369.
- Paul Collier. 2005. *Understanding Civil War: Africa*. Vol. 1. World Bank Publications.
- Odd Arne Westad. 2007. *The Global Cold War*. Cambridge University Press.
- Phillip Gourevitch. 1999. *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will be Killed With Our Families: Stories from Rwanda*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Jason Stearns. 2012. *Dancing in the Glory of Monsters: The Collapse of the Congo and the Great War of Africa*. Public Affairs.

Week 5 — November 14: Conflict Resolution (Post-Conflict Peacebuilding & Peacekeeping)

Required readings:

- Paul Collier et al, “Breaking the Conflict Trap”, Chs. 5.
- “Peacekeeping Operations in Africa” <http://www.cfr.org/peacekeeping/peace-operations-africa/p9333>

Recommended readings:

- Thomas Kwasi Tieku. 2004. “Explaining the Clash and Accommodation of Interests of Major Actors in the Creation of the African Union.” *African Affairs*. 103(411): 249–267.
- Tim Murithi. 2012. “Briefing: The African Union at Ten: An Appraisal.” *African Affairs*. 111: 662–669.
- Severine Autesserre. 2009. “Hobbes and the Congo: Frames, Local Violence, and International Intervention.” *International Organization* 63(2): 249-280.
- Pierre Englebert and Denis M. Tull. 2008. “Post-conflict Reconstruction in Africa: Flawed Ideas about Failed States.” *International Security* 32(4): 106–139.
- Denis Tull and Andreas Mehler. 2005. “The Hidden Costs of Power-Sharing: Reproducing Insurgent Violence in Africa.” *African Affairs* 104(416): 375-398.
- Scott Straus. 2012. “Wars Do End! Changing patterns of political violence in sub-Saharan Africa.” *African Affairs* 111(443): 179 -201.
- Barbara Walter. 2009. “Bargaining Failure and Civil War.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 243-261.
- Michael W. Doyle and Nicholas Sambanis. 2006. *Making War and Building Peace: United Nations Peace Operations*. Princeton University Press.
- Severine Autesserre. 2010. *The Trouble with the Congo: Local Violence and the Failure of International Peacebuilding*. Cambridge University Press.

MOVIE REVIEW DUE; PRESENT MOVIE REVIEW

Week 6 — November 28: African Democracy & Democratization

Required readings:

- Nicolas van de Walle. 2002. "Africa's Range of Regimes." *Journal of Democracy* 13(2): 16–80.

Recommended readings:

- Håvard Hegre. 2001. "Toward a Democratic Civil Peace? Democracy, Political Change, and Civil War, 1816–1992." *American Political Science Review* 95(1): 33–48.
- Thomas Carothers. 2002. "The End of the Transition Paradigm." *Journal of Democracy*. 31(2): 5–21.
- Idean Salehyan and Christopher Linebarger. 2015. "Social Conflict and Elections in Africa." *Studies in Comparative International Development*. 50(1): 23–49.
- Fareed Zakaria. 1997. "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs*. 76(6): 22–43.
- Samuel P. Huntington. 1991. "Democracy's Third Wave." *Journal of Democracy*. 2(2). 12–34.
- Staffan I. Lindberg. 2006. *Democracy and Elections in Africa*. JHU Press.
- Samuel P. Huntington. 1991. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. University of Oklahoma Press.

Week 7 — December 5: African Development & International Relations

Required readings:

- Deborah A. Brautigam and Stephen Knack. 2004. "Foreign Aid, Institutions, and Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 52(2).

Recommended readings:

- Paul D. Williams. 2007. "From Non-intervention to Non-indifference: the Origins and Development of the African Union's Security Culture." *African Affairs* 106(423): 253–279.
- Nana K. Poku et. al. 2007. "Human Security and Development in Africa." *International Affairs*. 83(6): 1155–1170.
- John P. Banks et. al. 2013. "Top Five Reasons Why Africa Should Be a Priority for the United States." Brookings Africa Growth Initiative.
- John Kemoli Sagala. 2006. "HIV/AIDS and the Military in Sub-Saharan Africa: Impact on Military Organizational Effectiveness." *Africa Today* 154: 52–77.
- Arthur Goldsmith. 2001. "Foreign Aid and Statehood in Africa," *International Organization* 55(1):123-148
- Paul Collier and Jan Willem Gunning. 1999. "Why Has Africa Grown Slowly?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 13(3): 3-22.
- Macartan Humphreys and Robert Bates. 2005. "Political Institutions and Economic Policies: Lessons from Africa." *British Journal of Political Science*. 35: 403–426.
- Dambisa Moyo. 2009. *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- William Easterly. 2007. *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good*. Penguin Books
- Paul Collier. 2008. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. Oxford University Press.

Week 8 — RESEARCH PAPER DUE DEC. 12th by 5:00pm

This syllabus is a guideline and is subject to change.

UPDATED: October 17, 2016