

AFRICA IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Fall 2017 – incomplete reading list

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Sections: ECS4110 (2745); AFS4905 (136A)
Credits: 4
Times/room: T and R, P 3-4 in MAT 115
Office hours: T 2-3pm and F 10-11am

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Within today's seemingly global world, Africa is considered the least 'integrated' continent, due to its low shares in world trade and foreign direct investment, its poor transport and insufficient infrastructures, and its political and strategic marginalization. Yet, the African continent and people are also highly global in many significant economic dimensions, through migration and remittances, aid and trade relationships, and in virtue of the lucrative investment opportunities provided to outsiders in the natural resource and other sectors.

This course provides an opportunity to carefully examine the African continent position globally, and pay attention to the economic and financial flows taking place in and out of Africa. We will examine the challenges posed by global economic trends and by a context of unequal power relationships among world nations, but also the options available to African nations to improve their position and get a 'fair and better deal'.

The course aims to equip students with the analytical and factual instruments to think critically of the various implications of *different modes of globalization*, rather than merely glorifying or demonizing global processes. The use of several case studies will help students place the broad issues into context.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, successful students will have:

- Demonstrated a good understanding of how African economies are impacted by, and in turn influence, patterns of global trade, investment, migration, aid and debt;
- Acquired the ability to understand and interpret basic data on African economies;
- Analyzed more in depth one particular context of African interaction with the global system;
- Acquired the skills to work successfully on a group project, and give professional oral presentations.

PREREQUISITES

ECO 2013 and ECO 2023 (or equivalent for non ECO majors). This course is not normally suggested for first year students. Most students attending this course will be in their junior or senior year. If unsure whether this course is appropriate for you, please consult the instructor.

COURSE MATERIAL

- There is no textbook for this course. Course readings consist of journal articles, book chapters, and policy reports, which are available on the Canvas course site in E-Learning or through websites.
- The powerpoint files which I show during my lectures are posted few minutes before class, and are also part of the required course material.
- Please try to keep update with international and African affairs: useful internet sources are www.bbc.co.uk/africa and www.allafrica.com. *The Economist* also covers regularly African affairs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Class attendance (10%):

Attendance is essential and you are required to be in class on time. I will take attendance at the start of each class on the Canvas system, which takes points off for missed classes and late arrivals. Absence from class, as well as late arrival, can be justified with appropriate written documentation (see below attendance policy). If you missed a class, it is your responsibility to find out what was covered – therefore make sure you have the contact details of at least one other student in the class.

I require utmost attention and respect in class: use of cell phones, email, texting and similar are simply NOT TOLERATED. You can use your electronic devices only to take notes: if you are caught using it for other reasons during classes, you will be given one warning, after which your grade will be lowered. Besides being attentive in class and taking notes, you should also participate in class, ready to answer to questions about the day's reading and contribute to the class debates.

2. Two class tests (30% each, for a total of 60% of the final score)

Class tests will consist of both short questions (to test breadth of knowledge) and essay or problem type of questions (to test depth of knowledge). Each test will cover approximately one half of the class material. Test dates are in the time schedule below. More details will be given in due time.

3. Three Home Assignments (15%)

Each of the three home assignments will consist of locating, compiling and analyzing data on selected global economic issues. The purposes of these exercise is to acquire data skills, place into better context the topics from the readings, and prepare for the class texts. More information to come.

4. Group project and presentation (15%)

Groups will select a global issue and a geographical context to do research on. Each group will prepare a powerpoint or prezi and will give a presentation to the class. The purpose of these is to identify and work on interesting case studies that can illuminate the class material; and to learn how to work successfully in groups.

The final grade is determined according to the table:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Tot %	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>; <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

UF POLICIES

Attendance: Absences will be excused in accordance with UF policy. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, military obligation, & the 12-day rule. More info about attendance and make-up policies can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Academic Honesty: The University places a high premium on academic honesty. Accordingly, severe penalties are imposed for plagiarism and other instances of deception or fraud. The university's policies regarding intellectual honesty are detailed in the Student Honor Code (see <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>).

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious violation of the Student Honor Code. The Honor Code prohibits and defines plagiarism as follows: A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

- a. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
- b. Submitting a document or assignment, which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student. (University of Florida, Student Honor Code, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>).

University of Florida students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire Student Honor Code.

Important Tip: Do not copy text verbatim from any source (including your own previous work) unless you show the text as a quote with complete attribution.

If a student plagiarizes all or any part of any assignment, University policy suggests that instructors should impose a course grade penalty and report any incident of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Dean of Students. You should know that your work might be tested for its "originality" against a wide variety of databases by anti-plagiarism guardian sites to which the University subscribes, and negative reports from such sites constitute proof of plagiarism.

Software Use:

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Students with disability: students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> for more information.

Counseling & Mental Health Resources: Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).

Online Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Do you like courses with African content and you want to know more? The UF Center for African Studies is one of the very best in the US and provides many opportunities to students, including:

- Dozens of courses each semester covering Africa from all disciplinary perspectives;
- Research assistantship with experienced Faculty;
- Travel funds to attend conferences, visit Africa and more; contact CAS Director, Dr. Brenda Chalfin (bchalfin@ufl.edu) if interested.
- Courses on six African languages to meet your foreign language requirement in a different and exciting way. For more information contact Dr C. Bwenge at cbwenge@africa.ufl.edu.
- In an increasingly globalized world, adding a Minor in Area Studies is a plus. This course can be counted for your Minor in African Studies or other concentration. Check your options with CAS deputy director Dr. Todd Leedy (427 Grinter; tleedy@africa.ufl.edu).

CLASS TIME SCHEDULE: The Instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule during the semester.

1. Globalization: multiple dimensions, players, and outcomes

- *Aug 22:* Course overview
- *Aug 24:* Africa in the Globalized world
 - Interview with Todd Moss (CGD), Yale Insights: <http://insights.som.yale.edu/insights/where-does-africa-fit-in-the-globalization-puzzle>
 - Forbes article: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/panosmourdukoutas/2016/09/17/africa-missed-modern-globalization-and-that-was-a-good-thing/#360dc0e7323f>
- *Aug 29:* Global players and their policies
 - Browse the following websites; familiarize with terms/policies/programs:
 - www.wto.org
 - www.worldbank.org (and also www.worldbank.org/africa)
 - www.imf.org
 - www.afdb.org
 - Google “world social forum Africa”
 - www.globalexchange.org
- *Aug 31:* Unequal grounds: winners and losers in globalization
 - Birdsall N, “Stormy days on an open field”
- *Sept 5:* Globalization: effects on African economies
 - TBC
- *Sept 7:* Different perspectives: North and South
 - “Why global development matters for the US” and “Global trade, jobs, and labor standards”: <http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/?type=65>
 - “The poor like globalization” <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/poor-globalization>
 - J. Mutethia “Africa and Globalization” *The Nigeria Guardian* Aug. 15, 2000 <http://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/211/44652.html>

2. International trade: some key concepts

- *Sept 12:* Trade theories and policy instruments
 - OCR: Ray D, *Development Economics*, pp. 627-42; 647-60; 676-79
- *Sept 14:* Trade liberalization in Africa and regional trade
 - UNCTAD, 2008 *Export Performance following Trade Liberalization*, Ch. 1 http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/aldcafrica2008ch1_en.pdf
 - UNCTAD, 2009 “Strengthening regional economic integration for Africa’s development” Ch. 2 http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/aldcafrica2009_en.pdf

- Sept 19: Guest Lecture (tbc)
- Sept 21: Fair trade
 - Tallontire, A. 2006 “The Development of Alternative and Fair Trade”

3. International Agricultural Markets and Food Supply

- Sept 26: The root of food insecurity: Food production vs. role of markets
 - A. Mittal “The 2008 Food Price Crisis: Rethinking Food Security Policy”
http://unctad.org/en/docs/gdsmdpg2420093_en.pdf
 - TBC
- Sept 28: WTO Doha Round negotiations and the issue of subsidies to agriculture
 - Oxfam, 2002, “Cultivating Poverty. The Impact of US cotton subsidies on Africa”
 - Search www.wto.org for latest news
- Oct 3: Traditional African cash crops
 - Gilbert and Varangis, 2003 “Globalization and international commodity trade with specific reference to the West African cocoa producers”
- Oct 5: High-value agricultural exports
 - English, Jaffee and Okello “Exporting out of Africa. The Kenya horticulture success story”
- **Oct 10: Class Test 1**
- Oct 12: Group work day in class

4. Foreign Direct Investment: mining, natural resources and manufacturing

- Oct 17: FDIs globally and in Africa
 - TBC
- Oct 19: FDIs from within Africa
 - UNCTAD, 2009 “Strengthening regional economic integration for Africa’s development”
Ch. 3 http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/aldcafrica2009_en.pdf
- Oct 24: China as investor in Africa
 - C Alden, *China in Africa*, (selected pages)
- Oct 26: Guest Lecture
- Oct 31: Industrial sectors
 - UNCTAD, 2008 *Export Performance following Trade Liberalization*, Ch. 3
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/aldcafrica2008ch3_en.pdf
- Nov 2: AGOA: a chance for African industrial sectors?
 - Gibbon, 2003 “The African Growth and Opportunity Act and the global commodity chain for clothing”

5. International migration and remittances

- Nov 7: Global and African trends in migration
 - UN DESA, “Overview: World Economic and Social Survey 2004: International Migration”
- Nov 9: Migration and development
 - UNDP Human Development Report 2009, “Overcoming barriers” (selection)
- Nov 14: Brain drain and brain gain
 - Martineau, Decker and Bundred, 2004, “Brain Drain of health professionals: from rhetoric to responsible action”
 - Kapur and McHale, “The global migration of talent: what does it mean for Developing Countries?”

6. Aid, economic reforms and debt

- *Nov 16*: International aid and economic reforms
 - Reading TBA
- *Nov 21*: Study day – NO CLASS
- *Nov 24*: Thanksgiving Holidays – NO CLASS
- *Nov 28*: US and other western donors
 - Read key extracts from ‘The US and foreign aid assistance’:
<http://www.globalissues.org/TradeRelated/Debt/USAid.asp>
 - Browse http://www.cgdev.org/section/topics/aid_effectiveness
- *Nov 30*: The issue of international debt
 - “Debt and Debt Relief” in: Rotchild and Keller, 2006, ch. 9
- ***Dec 5*: Class Test 2**