

AFRICA IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Spring 2019

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Sections: ECS4110 (3911); AFS4905 (302D)
Credits: 4
Times/room: T and R P 3-4, MAT 002
Office hours: T 2-3PM and F 1:30-2:30 PM

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 internet connectivity, 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;
- Proven in depth knowledge of 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 contribute to class activities and discussions, and be ready to answer to questions about the day's reading.

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. *Two Short Assignments (10%)*

These assignments will require students to locate and analyze data or other information on global economic issues. The purposes of these exercise is to acquire familiarity with data, place into context the information learned from the readings, and better prepare for the class texts.

4. *Group project and presentation (20%)*

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. Guidance on topics, expectations, and dates will be provided.

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 <http://regulations.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/4041.pdf>).

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 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 undergraduates, such as:

- Dozens of courses each semester covering Africa from all disciplinary perspectives.
- Research opportunities under the guidance of experienced Faculty, including as part of the University Scholar Program (<http://www.scholars.ufl.edu/home.aspx>).
- Travel funds to attend conferences, study or do research in Africa; contact CAS Director, Dr. Brenda Chalfin (bchalfin@ufl.edu) if you want to apply for any specific Africa-related conference or project.

- 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. The present course can be counted for your Minor in African Studies or other concentration. Check your options with CAS Associate 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

- Jan 8: Course overview
- Jan 10: Africa in the Globalized world
 - B. House-Soremekun and T. Falola, eds., *Globalization and Sustainable Development in Africa*, University of Rochester Press, 2011, pp. 43-50, 21-37.
 - T. Moss, "Where does Africa fits in the Globalization Puzzle", *Yale Insights*, 06/23/2009:
- Jan 15: Global players and their policies
 - F. Bakoup, *Africa and Economic Policy*, Anthem Press, 2014, pp. 137-152.
 - 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
- Jan 17: Unequal grounds: winners and losers in globalization
 - Birdsall N., "Stormy days on an open field" CGDev WP No. 81, 2006.
 - Collier P., *The Bottom Billion*, OUP, 2007, Ch. 6.
- Jan 22: Effects of world crises on African economies:
 - Scott-Villiers P. et al *Precarious Lives: Food, Work and Care after the Global Food Crisis*, IDS and Oxfam, 2016 (read pp. 13-25 of the Main Report)
 - Ali, S. "Impact of the financial crisis on Africa" *International Economic Bulletin*, 04/15/2009.
- Jan 24: More on effects of crises and new takes on globalization
 - Christian, P. "Impact of the Economic Crisis and Increase in Food Prices on Child Mortality: Exploring Nutritional Pathways", *Journal of Nutrition*, 140 (1), 2010.
 - D. Dollar, "The poor like globalization" *Yale Global Online*
 - C. Juma "Globalization as we know it has failed. Africa has an alternative"
- Jan 29: Group work organization and kick-off

Home assignment 1 due

2. International trade: some key concepts

- Jan 31: Trade theories and policy instruments
 - Todaro and Smith, *Economic Development*, 12th ed. 2015 (selection from Ch 12)
- Feb 5: Guest Lecture (tbc)
- Feb 7: Trade liberalization policies
 - Center for Global Development, "Global trade, jobs and labor standards"
 - UNCTAD, 2008 *Export Performance following Trade Liberalization*, Ch. 1

3. International Agricultural Markets and Food Supply

- Feb 12: Northern Agricultural subsidies and WTO disputes
 - Oxfam, 2002, "Cultivating Poverty. The Impact of US cotton subsidies on Africa"

- Strubenhoff, H., “The WTO’s decision to end agricultural export subsidies” *Brookings Future Development*, 02/08/2016.
- Feb 14: Liberalization in traditional African cash crops
 - Gilbert and Varangis, 2003 “Globalization and international commodity trade with specific reference to the West African cocoa producers”
- Feb 19: High-value agricultural exports
 - English, Jaffee and Okello “Exporting out of Africa. The Kenya horticulture success story”
- Feb 21: Is Fair trade a valid option?
 - Tallontire, A. 2006 “Fair Trade and Development in African Agriculture” in: *Handbook of Research on Fair Trade*, Edward Elgar 2015.
- Feb 26: Class Test 1

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

- Feb 28: FDIs globally and in Africa
 - PIIE, *FDI in Extractive Industries*, Peterson Institute for international Economics
 - M Sarr, “Debunking Africa’s resource curse”, EFD News, 11/30/2015.

MARCH 1-8: SPRING BREAK

- Mar 12: FDIs from within Africa
 - UNCTAD, 2009 “Strengthening regional economic integration for Africa’s development” Ch. 3 only on Africa intra-trade.
- Mar 14: Industrial sectors and the role of AGOA
 - World Bank (2015) *Manufacturing FDI in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Washington, DC (pp. 13-33).
 - Gibbon, P. 2003 “The African Growth and Opportunity Act and the global commodity chain for clothing” *World Development*, 31 (11): 1809-27.
- Mar 19: Chinese investment in Africa
 - Brautigam, D. (2009) *The Dragon's Gift: the Real Story of China in Africa*, Oxford University Press (selected pages)

Home assignment 2 due

5. International migration and remittances

- Mar 21: Global and African trends in migration
 - A. Shimeles, “Migration patterns, trends, and policy issues in Africa” *African Development Bank WP 119*, 2010.
- Mar 26: Migration and development
 - Rapoport, H. “Migration and Globalization: What’s in it for developing countries?” *International Journal of Manpower*, forthcoming.
 - Bahar, D. and Rapoport, H. “Migration, Knowledge Diffusion and the Comparative Advantage of Nations” CESifo Working Paper Series No. 5769, 2016.
- Mar 28: The economic role of remittances
 - Mohapatra, S., Joseph, G., Ratha, D. 2012. “Remittances and Natural Disasters: Ex-post Response and Contribution to Ex-ante Preparedness”, *Environment, Development and Sustainability*, 14 (3): 365-87.
 - World Bank, 2011, *Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills and Investment*, Read Introduction/Summary.
- Apr 2: Brain drain and brain gain

- Martineau, Decker and Bundred, 2004, “Brain Drain of health professionals: from rhetoric to responsible action” *Health Policy*, 7 (1).
- Lant Pritchett, 2006, *Let their People Come*, Brookings Institution Press, (selected pages).

6. International Aid and Debt

- **Apr 4:** Major donors and the aid debate
 - Swandon, A. “Does Foreign Aid always help the poor?” *World Economic Forum*, Oct 23, 2015.
 - Dreher, A. et al. “Aid on demand: African leaders and the geography of China’s foreign assistance” AidData WP No. 3, 2016.
 - <http://www.globalissues.org/article/35/foreign-aid-development-assistance>
 - http://www.cgdev.org/section/topics/aid_effectiveness
- **Apr 9:** Scrutinizing international aid systems
 - Du Bois, M. and C. Wake, *The Ebola response in West Africa: Exposing the politics and culture of international aid*, Humanitarian Policy Group WP, ODI, 2015.
- **Apr 11:** The issue of international debt: Mozambique case study
 - <http://www.dw.com/en/africas-new-sovereign-debt-crisis/a-38024607>
 - <http://www.cadtm.org/The-Mozambican-debt-crisis-How-a>
 - <http://africanarguments.org/2017/07/19/mozambique-debt-scandal-impunity-is-the-catch-of-the-day-2/>
- **Apr 16:** Concluding reflections on aid and debt
- **Apr 18: Class Test 2**
- **Apr 23:** Conclusions