Course Number: INR 3253 International Politics of Africa

Department of Political Science
University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Jonathan M. Powell, Ph.D.	Term:	Fall 2014
Office:	Howard Phillips Hall 305B	Class Meeting Days:	Tuesday & Thurs
Phone:	407-823-2082	Class Meeting Hours:	1:30 – 2:45
E-Mail:	jonathan.powell@ucf.edu	Class Location:	BA1 O116
Website:	www.jonathanmpowell.com	Office Hours:	W 3-5, R 9-11, oba

I. University Course Catalog Description

The broad structures and processes of international politics and foreign policy in Africa, with particular attention on U.S.-African relations.

II. Course Objectives

Students will ultimately accomplish three broad objectives in this class. First, the will gain a stronger understanding of the theory and practice of international relations. We will begin the semester by considering traditional aspects of international relations by focusing on relationships between states. This is primarily seen in the study of interstate conflict. The semester will end with a stronger emphasis on international influences on human security. Second, students will develop a critical eye that will allow them to critically assess the utility of different theories as they are relevant to Africa. In doing so, students will gain reinforcement of the study of politics as a *science*. Finally, students will improve their professional writing skills through multiple types of writing assignments.

III. Course Prerequisites

ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or C.I.

Students are expected to enter the class with a basic understanding of the main concepts and theories of international relations. Ancillary readings meant to improve students' grasp of these concepts and theories will be suggested by the instructor. Students are also expected to either enter the class with or quickly develop a knowledge of Africa's geography, including the location of all countries, the continent's major cities, regions, terrain, bodies of water, and other important features. Geography will be a (potentially very easy) component of all exams.

IV. Course Credits

3

V. Required Texts and Materials

Primary Text: Harbeson, John, and Donald Rothchild (editors). 2013. *African in World Politics: Engaging a Changing Global Order*. 5th Edition. Westview Press. (Students should use the **5th edition**).

Additional (required) text: Moyo, Dambisa. 2010. *Dead Aid: Why Aid is not Working and How there is a Better Way for Africa*. Farrar, Staus, & Giroux.

Students will also be responsible for numerous readings from academic journals, think tank reports, news periodicals, etc., as specified in the syllabus, the course schedule, or disseminated during the semester. Given the desire to keep this class relevant to current events, some readings will not be announced until deep into the semester.

VI. Basis for Final Grade

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Attendance & Discussion	5%
Response Essay	10%
Data Assignment	10%
Midterm	25%
Paper (rough draft)	10%
Paper (final draft)	15%
Final Exam	25%
	100%

This grading scale assumes students will be good classroom citizens. The instructor reserves the right to penalize students that cause classroom disruptions. In short, a disruption can be thought of as any behavior that is not appropriate to a classroom setting and distracts either the instructor or other students.

Grading Scale (%)	
94-100	A
90-93.99	A-
87-89.99	B+
84-86.99	B
80-83.99	B-
77-79.99	C+
74-76.99	C
70-73.99	C-
67-69.99	D+
64-66.99	D
60-63.99	D-
0 – 59.99	F

VII. Grade Dissemination

Graded tests and materials in this course will be returned individually only by request. Assume each component of the grade will be graded one week after submission. You can access your scores at any time using "myUCF Grades" in the portal. If the grade is not available online, assume your assignment has not been graded. Please note that scores returned mid-semester are unofficial grades. If you need help accessing myUCF Grades, see the online tutorial: https://myucfgrades.ucf.edu/help/.

VIII. Course Policies

Late Work Policy: Materials turned in late will be assessed a penalty of 10% for each day past due, beginning at 1 minute past the announced deadline. Make up exams will be allowed only when the student can document an extraordinary circumstance that can verify there were unable to attend.

Extra Credit Policy: One extra credit opportunity will be announced after the mid-term exam.

Grades of "Incomplete": The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "I" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

Rewrite Policy: No rewrites are available in this class.

Essay Commentary Policy: Commentary on essays will be delivered in written format, at the end of the essay. However, upon request, an alternate delivery method can be used.

IX. Course Policies: Technology and Media

Email: The instructor will make a strong effort to respond to all emails by 5:00 p.m. the day the message is received.

- **All emails should include "INR 3253" or another indicator in the subject line that identifies the message as relevant to the class. I will prioritize emails coming from students enrolled in the class. In other words, EMAILS THAT DO NOT INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATE SUBJECT LINE WILL LIKELY HAVE A DELAYED RESPONSE.**
- **Emails should include a salutation.**
- **Students, per university policy, are required to correspond with their official Knights email address.**
- **Students should first consult the syllabus regarding basic requirements (this will usually save you time).**

Laptop and Electronic Usage: All electronics should be tuned off and be out of sight for the duration of the class unless the student provides a compelling reason in advance of the class or instructed by the professor. Each violation of this policy will result in a 2% deduction in the cumulative grade at the end of the semester.

X. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disability Access: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken during each session but will not represent a formal part of students' grades. However, failure to attend class will have an adverse influence on students' grade in at least three ways. First, lectures will not be simply "from the book" and will include important information that will be needed for to succeed in the class's graded components. Second, students are expected to regularly contribute to classroom discussions. Participation will be monitored throughout the class. Third, attendance will be a factor in eligibility for any extra credit, out of classroom review sessions, and rescheduling a missed lecture.

Professionalism Policy: Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc*. **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc*., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade of up to 2% for each offense.

Academic Conduct Policy: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question AT A MINIMUM. At the instructor's discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University

Turinitin.com: In this course we will utilize turnitin.com, an automated system which instructors can use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student

papers that grows with each submission. Accordingly, you will be expected to submit all assignments in both hard copy and electronic format. After the assignment is processed, as instructor I receive a report from turnitin.com that states if and how another author's work was used in the assignment. For a more detailed look at this process visit http://www.turnitin.com. Essays are due at turnitin.com the same day as in class.

University Writing Center: The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at http://www.uwc.ucf.edu, stop by MOD 608, or call 407.823.2197.

Religious Observances

Students are expected to notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith. For a current schedule of major religious holidays, see the Faculty Center's main web page under "Calendars," and for additional information, contact the Office of Diversity Initiatives at 407-823-6479.

XI. Schedule (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Date	Finish This Before Class	Topics to be Discussed in Class
8/19	First day of class; no homework is due	**Syllabus, Class expectations** **Fluid Properties, Pressure**
8/21	Garrett, Laurie. 2007. "The Challenge of Global Health." *Foreign Affairs* 14-38.	**Health Challenges. Current events look at the West African Ebola outbreak. Brief essay due by 5:00 Friday.**
8/26	H&R Chapter 2: The Heritage of Colonialism	**Scramble for Africa; Colonialism**
8/28	Read ONE of the following: First, Ruth. *Power in Africa*. Pp 27-57. Or Fanon, Frantz. "On Violence." From *The Wretched of the Earth*.	**Decolonization and the Colonial Inheritence**
9/2	H&R Chapter 3: Africa's Love-Hate Relationship with International Capital And H&R Chapter 4: Africa and Other Civilizations	**Africa's place in the world**
9/4	Current events discussion	**TBD**
9/9	H&R Chapter 5: Democracy and Autocracy	**Democratization**
9/11	H&R Chapter 6: In Pursuit of Authority	
9/16	H&R Chapter 9: The Changing Role of the AU Commission in Inter-African Relations	**African Union**
9/18	Read ONE of the following: Marinov, Nikolay, and Hein Goemans. 2014. "Coups and Democracy." *British Journal of Political Science*. Forthcoming. Or Thyne, Clayton, and Jonathan Powell. 2014. "Coup d'etat or Coup d'Autocracy: How Coups Impact Democratization, 1950-2008."	**Coups and Democratization**
9/23	Souaré, Issaka. 2014. "The African Union as a Norm Entrepreneur on Military Coups d'état in Africa (1952-2012): An Empirical Assessment." *Journal of Modern African Studies* 52(1):69-94.	**African Union**
9/25	H&R Chapter 7: The International Factor in Warfare **AND**	**Warfare in Africa**

	H&R Chapter 8: The Diplomacy of Boundaries	
9/30	Herbst, Jeffrey. 1990. "War and the State in Africa." *International Security* 14(4):117-139.	**Warfare in Africa**
10/2	Read ONE of the following: Valeriano, Brandon. 2011. "Power Politics and Interstate War in Africa." *African Security* 4:195-221." Or Mambo, Andrew, and Julian Schofield. 2007. "Military Diversion in the 1978 Uganda-Tanzania War." *Journal of Political and Military Sociology* 35(2):299-321.	**Warfare in Africa**
10/7	Henderson, Errol. 2009. "Disturbing the Peace: African Warfare, Political Inversion and the Universality of the Democratic Peace Thesis." *British Journal of Political Science* 39(1):25-58. Or David, Steven R. 1991. "Explaining Third World Alignment." *World Politics* 43(2):233-256.	**War and Alliances in Africa**
10/9	Current Events discussion	**TBD**
10/14	Mid-Term Exam (Part 1)	
10/16	Mid-Term Exam (Part 2)	
10/21	Read ONE of the following: Howe, Herbert. 1998. "Private Security Forces and African Stability: The Case of Executive Outcomes." *Journal of Modern African Studies* 36(2):307-331. Or Lasley, Trace, and Clayton Thyne. 2014. "Secession, Legitimacy, and the Use of Child Soldiers." *Conflict Management and Peace Science*.	**Private Military Firms and Child Soldiers**
10/23	H&R Chapter 12: War in The Great Lakes Region	
10/28	Reading TBD	**Women as Politicians, Conflict Victims, Fighters, and Peacebuilders**
10/30	Reading TBD	**Women and Politics**
11/4	Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72(3):22-49. Or Daniel. 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):529-544.	**Ethnicity and Conflict**
11/6	Current Events discussion	**TBD**
11/11	H&R Chapter 10: Bilateral v. Multilateral Peace Building	**Peacekeeping**
11/13	*Dead Aid*	**Foreign Aid**
11/18	*Dead Aid*	**Foreign Aid**
11/20	*Dead Aid* plus TBD reading	**Foreign Aid**
11/25	Collier, Paul. 2008. "Politics of Hunger: How Illusion and Greed Fan the Food Crisis." *Foreign Affairs* 87(6):67-79.	**Politics of Food**
11/27	No Class	
12/2	Reading TBD	**Water and the Environment**
12/4	Discussion	**Health**
12/9	FINAL EXAM	