

Exams: The midterm will cover the first half of the course and the final will cover the second half. For each exam, you will answer six short answer questions and one essay question. The exams will be conducted through Canvas and you are allowed to use your notes.

REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:

The books listed below are available at the bookstore. Readings marked with an asterisk (*) are linked through Canvas (<http://canvas.uncc.edu>). The site also includes lecture slides, grades, and other course information. For assignment changes and other updates, check your UNC Charlotte email account regularly.

Whitaker, Beth Elise, and John F. Clark. 2018. *Africa's International Relations: Balancing Domestic & Global Interests*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Farah, Nuruddin. 2011. *Gifts: A Novel*. New York: Arcade (originally published 1992).

Beah, Ishmael. 2007. *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*. New York: Sarah Crichton Books.

LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE (subject to change):

Historical Context

January 9: Introduction & overview

Wainaina, Binyavanga. 2005. "[How to Write about Africa](#)." *Granta: The Magazine of New Writing* 92.

January 14: Africa in international relations

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 1: "Understanding Africa's International Relations"

January 16 & 23: Colonialism and its legacy (MAP QUIZ Wednesday January 23rd)

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 2: "From Kingdoms to States"

*Herbst, Jeffrey. 1989. "The creation and maintenance of national boundaries in Africa." *International Organization* 43(4): 673-692.

Schemm, Paul. 2015. "[How a breakaway region of Somalia hopes to build a new country](#)." *The Washington Post* (December 26).

January 28 & 30: Cold War competition for Africa

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 3: "Africa During the Cold War"

*David, Steven R. 1991. "Explaining Third World Alignment." *World Politics* 43(2): 233-256.

The Politics of Aid Dependence

February 4: Foreign aid and economic development

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 4: "Foreign Aid and Economic Conditionality"

February 6: DEBATE #1 on marketing products to support development causes (Teams A & B)

*Ponte, Stefano & Lisa Ann Richey. 2014. "Buying into development? Brand Aid forms of cause-related marketing." *Third World Quarterly* 35(1): 65-87.

February 11: Foreign aid and political reform

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 5: "External Pressures for Political Reform and Human Rights"

*Peiffer, Caryn & Pierre Englebort. 2012. "Extraversion, vulnerability to donors, and political liberalization in Africa." *African Affairs* 111(444): 355-378.

February 13: “Good Fortune” documentary
Moyo, Dambisa. 2009. “[Why Foreign Aid is Hurting Africa.](#)” *Wall Street Journal* (March 21).

February 18: The pursuit of African integration
Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 6: “The Elusive Goal of African Unity”
Mwaba, Anna K. 2017. “[The African Union is now complete, but at what cost?](#)” *Africa is a Country* (May 3).

February 20: DEBATE #2 on African participation in the International Criminal Court (Teams C & D)
Shilaho, Westen. 2018. “[The International Criminal Court and the African Union: Is the ICC a bulwark against impunity or an imperial Trojan horse?](#)” *African Journal on Conflict Resolution* 18(1).

February 25: BOOK QUIZ and discussion about Nuruddin Farah’s *Gifts* (read entire book)

February 27: MIDTERM EXAM (available on Canvas at 8:00 a.m. for 24 hours)

Conflict and Security in Africa

March 11 & 13: Regional security challenges
Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 7: “The Regionalization of Conflict”
*Straus, Scott. 2012. “Wars Do End! Changing Patterns of Political Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa.” *African Affairs* 111(443): 179-201.

March 18: DEBATE #3 on restoring conflict minerals provisions of Dodd-Frank law (Teams E & F)
Freudenthal, Emmanuel. 2017. “[Who pays the hidden price for Congo’s conflict-free minerals?](#)” *IRIN* (February 14). (Also read [this response](#) by Sasha Lezhnev.)

March 20 & 25: The politics of humanitarian assistance
Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 8: “Humanitarian Assistance and Peace Operations”
*Autesserre, Séverine. 2012. “Dangerous tales: Dominant narratives on the Congo and their unintended consequences.” *African Affairs* 111(443): 202-222.
Watch “[Kony 2012](#)” documentary (30 minutes).

March 27: BOOK QUIZ and discussion about Ishmael Beah’s *A Long Way Gone* (read entire book)

April 1 & 3: Refugees and migration
Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 9: “The Politics of Migration”
McCormick, Ty. 2016. “[In Pursuit of the African Dream.](#)” *Foreign Policy* (August 19).
*Ikanda, Fred Nyangesa. 2018. “Somali Refugees in Kenya and Social Resilience: Resettlement Imaginings and the Longing for Minnesota.” *African Affairs* 117(469): 569-591.
Play “[Find Me in Kakuma](#)” and learn about the lives of children in a Kenyan refugee camp.

Africa’s External Relations

April 8 & 10: Africa’s relations with Europe and Asia
Whitaker & Clark, Chapters 11 (“Africa and Europe”) & 12 (“Africa and the Emerging Powers”)

April 15: DEBATE #4 on emerging power engagement in Africa (Teams G & H)
*Cheru, Fantu & Cyril Obi. 2011. “Chinese and Indian Engagement in Africa: Competitive or Mutually Reinforcing Strategies?” *Journal of International Affairs* 64(2): 91-110.

April 17 & 22: U.S. policy toward Africa

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 10: "Africa and the United States"

*Menkhaus, Ken. 2010. "Stabilisation and humanitarian access in a collapsed state: the Somali case." *Disasters* 34(3): 320-341.

April 24: Securitization of U.S.-African relations

*Dowd, Caitriona & Clionadh Raleigh. 2013. "The Myth of Global Islamic Terrorism and Local Conflict in Mali and the Sahel." *African Affairs* 112(448): 498-509.

*Mogire, Edward & Kennedy Mkutu Agade. 2011. "Counter-terrorism in Kenya." *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* 29(4): 473-491.

April 29: Building a constituency for Africa in the United States (CURRENT EVENT ANALYSIS DUE)

Whitaker & Clark, Chapter 13: "International Relations and Domestic Politics Entwined"

Rickford, Russell. 2018. "[I have a problem with Black Panther.](#)" *Africa is a Country* (Feb 22).

May 6: FINAL EXAM (available on Canvas during exam time 2:00-4:30 p.m.)

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:

You are all adults and will be treated as such. In return, you are expected to behave as adults and to conduct yourself in a professional manner. This includes addressing the professor appropriately, using proper grammar and punctuation in your emails, and treating one another with respect. Examples of unprofessional behavior include but are not limited to: leaving your phone on during class, texting during class, leaving class once it has started (unless it is an absolute emergency), arriving late to class, and emailing the professor as if you were sending a text message to a friend. As adults, you can determine legitimate reasons to miss class; I do not get into the business of determining excused versus unexcused absences. Instead, you are given two "personal days" during the term to use as you wish; any additional absences after these two will be penalized.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of the [UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity](#). This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases, the course grade is reduced to "F." Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

DISABILITY SERVICES:

UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please send me your accommodation letter as early as possible in the semester. You are encouraged to meet with me to discuss the accommodations outlined in your letter. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 (Fretwell 230).

COUNSELING CENTER:

The Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers individual counseling, group counseling, couples counseling, and consultative services at no charge to students. Students come to counseling to get help for a variety of concerns, including anxiety, symptoms of depression, and relationship issues. To make an initial appointment with a counselor, call 704-687-0311 or stop by CAPS in the building behind the Student Health Center. This first session will help you assess your needs with a counselor and make a plan for how best to address your concerns. CAPS also offers outreach programs including prevention, awareness, and education about mental health treatment.