AFRICA AND CHINA  
(INTL 390 02)  

Syllabus, Fall 2018  
Instructor: Prof. Julius Mutwol

Class times: Monday & Wednesday 2:00-3:15 p.m.  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Cell phone: 843-557-2334 (emergencies only)  
Email: juliusmutwol@yahoo.com

I. Course Description

This course examines China’s role in African economic development. Topics include historical and contemporary relationship and expanded commercial ties, trade, assistance and investment, as well as China’s policy of non-interference in Africa’s domestic affairs. We will also examine China’s investment and aid by sub-regions of Africa, and in specific sectors of African economies, especially in infrastructure development, oil extraction, mining, and agriculture. The course will also highlight controversial areas of China’s engagement with Africa, especially concerns about human rights, labor issues, and the environment.

II. Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the origin and evolution of China’s engagement with Africa
- Describe types of China’s economic assistance programs to various African states
- Identify some of the biggest projects funded by China in Africa and explain their impact on the lives of ordinary Africans
- Have a detailed understanding of China’s relations with at least one or more specific African nations
- Discuss controversial areas of China’s engagement with Africa, especially concerns about human rights, labor issues, the environment, and the policy of non-interference in the domestic affairs of African states
- Debunk the many myths that surround China’s contemporary engagement with Africa
- Articulate and defend ideas, views, and opinions, supported by appropriate evidence

Required Textbooks


Useful Websites

**The China-Africa Knowledge Project Resources Hub**  

**The Center for Chinese Studies**
The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS), at Stellenbosch University, serves as the most prominent and high quality point of reference for the study of China and East Asia on the African continent- http://www0.sun.ac.za/ccs/

The South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA) China in Africa Project endeavors to educate, inform, and link people who are concerned with South Africa’s place in the world, and to contribute to the public debate on the country’s foreign policy- https://www.ethz.ch/content/specialinterest/gess/cis/center-for-securities-studies/en/services/css-partners/partner.html/45590.

Pambazuka News-Emerging Powers in Africa
‘Pambazuka’ in Kiswahili means “the dawn” or “to arise”. This Emerging Powers in Africa Watch News Round-Up includes a comprehensive list of news stories and opinion pieces related to China, India and other emerging powers. They tend to be quite politically progressive, with hundreds of contributions from around the continent- https://www.pambazuka.org/global-south/china-africa-watch-news-roundup.

III. Assessing Student Performance

1. **Attendance and participation (10%)**
   Attendance and active participation are critical to your performance in the course. You should complete the assigned readings before the beginning of class and be prepared to make thoughtful contribution to the discussions.

2. **Map quiz (5%)**
   Although the course is on Africa-China relations generally, it is important that you have an idea of the location of individual African countries and key physical features in order to make sense of discussions in class. As such, you will be tested very early on during the semester about the location of some countries and important features like river systems, lakes, and mountains. The map quiz will be given in the first 15 minutes of class on 3 September.

3. **Socio-economic indicators assignment (10%)**
   It is important that you have a good grasp of social and economic indicators of various African states as they are the underlying factors behind Africa’s dependence on foreign economic assistance, including that from China. In this assignment, you will research total population, annual population growth rate, median age, gross domestic product, gross national product per capita, literacy rate, fertility rate, mortality under 5 (per 1,000 live births), life expectancy, daily calorie intake, foreign direct investment (net inflows), and electricity consumption per capita of the following countries: Algeria, Angola, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Zambia, Senegal, and South Africa. You will then compare them to those of China. Your assignment is due on 10 September.

4. **Midterm and final exam (25% each)**
   The midterm and final exam will have two components: several concept / identification items and essays that incorporate the major themes covered in the course. The essays will be on topics that I will select from a list that I will give to the class a week prior to the exam date.

5. **Term paper (25%)**
   Students choose one development project or area of investment funded by China (for example infrastructure development, oil extraction, mining, trade, agricultural development, and food production) in a specific African country, and research about it. What are the goals of the project? Write about details of the project, including its financial costs, impact on the environment, as well as the overall impact on the economy. You should support your research with evidence from the class textbooks and other scholarly sources. Your paper should be about 15 pages in length, and should follow the Chicago Manual of Style for footnotes. Your paper is due on 3 December.
Evaluation

Map quiz 5%
Class participation 10%
Assignment 10%
Midterm 25%
Term paper 25%
Final exam 25%

Possible points 100%

Note: Please see grading scale on the last page of the syllabus

IV. Honor Code and Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty of any variety will not be tolerated. This includes lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism. Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration-working together without permission -is a form of cheating. Any instance coming to the attention of the instructor will be reported directly to the Dean of Students. Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at: http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honorssystem/studenthandbook/index.php.
It is your responsibility to read this site, and to comply with its requirements.

V. Class Schedule and Readings

Week 1: Review of the Syllabus

An overview the course
Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 1


Week 2: A Historical Overview of China-Africa Relations

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 2


Map quiz-Monday 3 September (First 15 minutes of class)

Week 3: China-Africa Relations and Action Plans


Week 4: Political Relations and the Role of the Chinese Communist Party

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 3


Your assignment is due on Monday 10 September

Week 5: China-Africa Trade Relations

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 4


Week 6: China’s FDI in Africa

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 5, pp. 128-43.


Wednesday 26 September No class- Attending Citadel Intelligence & Cyber Security Conference
Week 7: China’s Foreign Aid

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 5, pp. 143-61.


Monday 8 October: Midterm exam

Week 8: Military and Security Ties & Peacekeeping

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 6


Week 9: China’s Relations with North Africa and Sahel

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 8

French, Chapter 7


Week 10: China’s Relations with East Africa, the Horn, and the Indian Ocean Islands

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 9

French, Chapter 9


**Monday & Tuesday (5 & 6 November): Fall Break**

**Week 11: China’s Relations with West and Central Africa**

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 10

French, Chapters 4-6 & 8


**Week 12: China’s Relations with Southern Africa**

Readings: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 11

French, Chapters 1 & 10


**Wednesday-Sunday (21-25 November): Thanksgiving Holiday. No Classes. College Closed**

**Week 13: The Future of China-Africa Relations**

Reading: Shinn/Eisenman, Chapter 12


Research paper due on Monday 3 December

Wednesday 12 December: Final exam (12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.)

Grading Scale

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