

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE/SECTION: SOCIOLOGY 475:05 L02 ETHNICITY IN AFRICA  
SESSION: Winter, 2009

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Amal Madibbo  
OFFICE: SS 948  
CONTACT: Phone: 220-6512: Email: [amadibbo@ucalgary.ca](mailto:amadibbo@ucalgary.ca)  
OFFICE HOURS: TuThu: 12:40 - 13:40 or by appointment  
LECTURES: MWF: 11:00 - 11:50 am  
LOCATION: ST 064

SOCIOLOGY WEBSITE: <http://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

BLACKBOARD: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca> or my.ucalgary.ca

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will explore particular conceptual and social issues associated with ethnicity in Africa. It will examine various theoretical conceptions of ethnicity and interrogate their relevance and implications to the study of this social phenomenon in the African context. It will assess both the positive and negative aspects of ethnicity in post-colonial Africa. The content will include colonialism and neo-colonialism; politicized ethnicity; immigration and displacement; race; gender; mechanisms of conflict regulation, and projects of democratization. We will consider the possibility to anticipate future forms of ethnic articulation that will help create peace and stability and foster development in Africa.

**The class format** is primarily organized around lectures and discussions of the assigned readings. As well there will, on occasions, be DVD/video documentaries and/or guest speakers.

The instructor may make some changes to the content and/or format of the course.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT EVALUATION:**

The final grade for this course will be based on a (1) mid-term exam, a final exam, a term paper outline, a major term paper and a group presentation.

## **1. Examinations**

A one (1) **mid-term examination** will be held in class on **Friday February 13<sup>th</sup>**.

A **final exam** will be held during the official exam period.

These exams questions are based on required readings, lecture notes, guest speakers lectures and documentaries we watch in class. These exams will consist of short answer questions, multiple choice questions and short-essay questions.

## **2. Term Paper Outline**

A term paper outline of (1½ - 2) double-spaced pages (12 font, Times New Roman), not including the bibliography, is due on **Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>**. The term paper outline identifies the research topic you select for the major term paper, your main argument, your research questions and how you plan to conduct your research. It also includes a bibliography (a list of 5-7 sources you plan to use). The sources may include books, journal articles, two (2) internet sources, one (1) media report, or one (1) documentary. The bibliography incorporates two (2) sources from the assigned readings.

## **3. Major Term Paper**

A major term paper of ten to twelve (10-12) double-spaced pages (12 font, Times New Roman), not including the bibliography, is due on **Friday April 17<sup>th</sup>**. You must choose a topic relevant to ethnicity in Africa. Your topic can be on, but does not have to be limited to, any issue or debate we cover in class. You may, for example, choose to focus on a subject such as ethnic conflicts, conflict regulation, migration, education, race, gender, development or projects of decmocratization in a particular country or in a number of countries in Africa.

Your paper needs to include:

- 1. A Title Page:** Consists of your name and student number, the topic's title, the course's title and number, and the instructor's name.
- 2. An Introduction:** Outlines the overview/summary of the main themes, issues and objectives discussed in the paper.
- 3. Analysis:** Analyzes the main concepts, themes and issues. Incorporates the relevant literature review. You need to be analytical (not only describing real social events and issues, but explaining why and how they occur)
- 4. A Conclusion:** Summarizes the topic discussed and the findings of your research.
- 5. A Bibliography:** A list of the sources used in the paper (8-10 sources).

The sources may include books, journal articles, three (3) internet sources, one (1) media report, one (1) newspaper article and two (2) films/documentaries. The bibliography incorporates three to 4 (3-4) sources from the assigned readings.

**Referencing:** The paper should consist of proper referencing in the body of the paper, as well as in the bibliography section at the end of the paper. You may choose to use the style of the American Psychological Association (APA) below:

An example of a style you may wish to use in the body of your paper is the following:

**Example:** Deng (2006) found that ethnic relations are shaped by a number of social and political determinants.

Examples of a style you may wish to use in the bibliography section:

**Examples:**

1. Straus, S. (2006). *The Order of Genocide: Race, Power and War in Rwanda*. New York: Cornell University Press.
2. Totten, S. and Marusen, E. (2006). The Darfur Crisis. In S. Totten and E. Marusen, E. (Eds.), *Genocide in Darfur: Investigating the Atrocities in the Sudan* (pp. Xiii-xIi). London & New York: Routledge.

More discussion and details on the paper will occur in class. If an extension has not been granted the late penalty is a deduction of 10% from the mark you earn on your paper, per day if it is late.

**Ethics Research:** Students are advised that any research with human subjects—including any interviews (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation—must have the approval of the Department Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

#### **4. Group Presentation**

A fifteen to twenty (15-20) minute power-point presentation of one of the films/DVDs that will be watched in class. Presentations will be done by small groups. Students need to formulate and reply to 4-5 questions related to the film/DVD. The questions and answers need to be relevant to the course materials and discussions. The groups and documentaries will be assigned by the instructor.

## **5. Breakdown, Weight, and Due Date of Student Evaluation**

<i>Assignment / Exams</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>% Grade</i>
Mid-term Exam	Friday, Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	10 %
Group Presentation	TBA	10%
Paper Outline	Friday, March 18 <sup>th</sup>	10 %
Final Term Paper	Friday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>	40 %
Final Exam	During Official Exams Period	30 %

## **5. Letter Grade Assignment**

95 - 100 = A +	67 - 71 = C +
90 - 94 = A	63 - 66 = C
85 - 89 = A -	59 - 62 = C -
80 - 84 = B +	54 - 58 = D +
76 - 79 = B	50 - 53 = D
72 - 75 = B -	00 - 49 = F

**Academic Accommodation:** Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 293, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

### **Deferrals:**

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a "make up" test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a "make up" test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U. of C. Calendar. You can find the forms you need at:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf>

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre.

To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions.

**Student's Union Social Science Rep: Email: [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)**

**Safewalk Service:** The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

**Academic Misconduct:** cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the 2007-2008 University Calendar at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/2005/how/How\\_LB.htm](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/2005/how/How_LB.htm), which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

**The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP)** legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public space, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

## **6. Handing in Papers Outside of the Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades**

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public space, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the sociology Department. They are only available online.

## **COURSE READINGS**

### **COURSE PACKAGES:**

You will also need to purchase a course package consisting of various other articles for the course. Course packages can be ordered online (<http://www.calgarybookstore.ca>) or picked up from the University of Calgary Bookstore, First Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.

### **RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:**

The following textbooks may be useful for researching your term papers. They are in the MacKimmie Library.

1. Berman, B., Eyoh, D. and Kymlicka, W. (Eds.). 2004. Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa. Oxford: James Currey, Athens: Ohio University Press.
2. Hameso, S. 1997. Ethnicity in Africa: Towards a Positive Approach. London: TSC.

The following articles may be useful for researching your term papers. The references for these articles are posted on the course's blackboard.

Ake, C. "What is the problem of ethnicity in Africa?" Accessed on Dec 20, 2008.  
<http://www.transformation.ukzn.ac.za/archive/tran022/tran022002.pdf>

Assefa, H. "Ethnic conflict in the Horn of Africa: Myth and reality". Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/uu12ee/uu12ee06.htm>

Volman, D. 2006. "The Scramble for African Oil". Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200605251026.html>

## **CLASS SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

The online articles are not included in the course's package. The links to the articles are indicated in the course syllabus and the course's blackboard.

### **Week 1: Introduction: Colonialism and Post-colonialism**

January 12: Introduction to course and review of syllabus - no readings assigned

Jan 14 & Jan 16: Colonialism and Post-colonialism – Lecture notes - No readings assigned

### **Week 2: The Political Manipulation of Ethnicity in Africa 1**

January 19

Deng, F. 1997. "Ethnicity: An African Predicament". Brooking. Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. [http://www.brookings.edu/articles/1997/summer\\_africa\\_deng.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/articles/1997/summer_africa_deng.aspx) &

January 21

Opondo, O. 2007. "Ethnicity: a Cause of Political Instability in Africa?" Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://www.grandslacs.net/doc/2731.pdf> &

Rawlinson, A. 2003. "The political Manipulation of Ethnicity in Africa". Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://home.sandiego.edu/~baberglobalethics/rawlinsonethnicity.pdf>

January 23: Lecture notes - No readings assigned

### **Week 3: The Political Manipulation of Ethnicity in Africa 2**

Jan 26 & 28: DVD - The Last King of Scotland

Jan 30: Lecture notes – No readings assigned

### **Week 4: Towards Positive Ethnicity in Africa**

February 2 & Feb 4

Dzorgbo, D-B. "Ethnicity in Africa: Towards a Positive Approach by Seyoum Yameso". Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://www.sidamaconcern.com/ethn.html> &

Hameso, S. "Towards Positive Ethnicity in Africa". Accessed on Dec 20, 2007. [http://www.sidamaconcern.com/articles/Towards\\_positive\\_ethnicity\\_in\\_Africa.pdf](http://www.sidamaconcern.com/articles/Towards_positive_ethnicity_in_Africa.pdf)

February 6: Lecture notes – No readings assigned

## **Week 5: Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention and Management**

Feb 9 & Feb 11

Gottu, S. 1991. "The OAU's New Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution". *CODESRIA Bulletin*, pp. 15-20. &

Kwesi, A. 2005. "The Challenges of Civil Wars to Multilateral Interventions –UN, ECOWAS, and Complex Political Emergencies in West Africa: A Critical Analysis". *African and Asian Studies*, 4(1-2):1-20.

February 13: **Midterm Exam**

**February 15-22 Reading Week – No classes**

## **Week 6: Refugees and Immigration in African Contexts**

February 23 & Feb 25

Adepoju, A. "Migration in West Africa". Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://www.gcim.org/attachements/RS8.pdf>

Zlotnik, H. 2004. "International Migration in Africa: An Analysis Based on Estimates of the Migrant Stock". *Migration Information Source*. Accessed on Dec 20, 2008. <http://www.migrationinformation.org/USfocus/print.cfm?id=252> &

Department for International Development. 2004. "Migration in East Africa". Accessed on October 20, 2007. [http://www.livelihoods.org/hot\\_topics/docs/eastAfrica.pdf](http://www.livelihoods.org/hot_topics/docs/eastAfrica.pdf)

February 27: DVD - The Imam and the Pastor

## **Week 7: Gender in African Contexts: Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kenya**

March 2 & March 4

Shabaya, J. and Konadu-Agyemang, D. 2004. "Unequal Access, unequal participation: Some spatial and socio-economic dimensions of the gender gap in education in Africa with special reference to Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kenya". *Compare*, 34(4): 395-424. &

Olurode, L. 2003. "Gender, Globalization and Marginalization in Africa". Africa Development. 35(3&4): 67-88.

March 6: Lecture notes – No readings assigned

### **Week 8: South Africa 1**

March 9

Bekker, S. and Leildé. 2003. "Is Multiculturalism a Workable Policy in South Africa?" International Journal on Multicultural Societies, 5(2):119-134.

March 11

Fattar, A. 2005. "Discourse, Differentiation, and Agency: Muslim Community Schools in Postapartheid Cape Town". Comparative Education Review, 49(1): 23-35.

March 13: DVD - Sarafina

### **Week 9: South Africa 2**

March 16: DVD Sarafina

March 18 & 20: Lecture notes – No readings assigned

### **Paper Outline due on March 20<sup>th</sup>**

### **Week 10: Sudan**

March 23: DVD - Darfur Now

March 25 & March 27

Totten, S. and Marusen, E. (Eds). 2006. "Introduction" & "Chronology: The Darfur Crisis". Genocide in Darfur: Investigating the Atrocities in the Sudan, pp. Xiii-xli. London & New York: Routledge.

### **Week 11: Rwanda**

March 30

Prunier, G. 1995. "Rwandese Society and the Colonial Impact: The Making of a Cultural Mythology (1894-1959)". The Rwanda Crisis: History of a Genocide, pp. 1-40. London: Hurst & Company. &

Straus, S. 2006. "Genocide at the National and Regional Levels". The Order of Genocide: Race, Power and War in Rwanda, pp. 41-64. Ithacka, New York: Cornell University Press.

April 1 & April 3: DVD - Lumumba

### **Week 12: Projects of Democratization in Africa 1**

April 6: Lecture notes – No readings assigned

April 8

Osaghae, E. “State, Constitutionalism and the Management of Ethnicity in Africa”. African and Asian Studies, 4(1-2): 83-105 &

Secalo, S. “The Process, Prospects and Constraints of Democratization in Africa”. African Affairs, 91: 7-35.

April 10 **Good Friday – No Class**

### **Week 13: Projects of Democratization in Africa 2**

April 13 & April 15

Berman, B., Eyoh, D. and Kymlicka, W. 2004. “African Ethnic Politics & the Paradoxes of Democratic Development”. Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa, pp. 317-323. Oxford: James Currey, Athens: Ohio University Press.

April 17: Lecture notes – no readings assigned

### **Final paper Due April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Ake, C. “What is the problem of ethnicity in Africa?” Accessed on October 20, 2007. <http://www.transformation.ukzn.ac.za/archive/tran022/tran022002.pdf>

Assefa, H. “Ethnic conflict in the Horn of Africa: Myth and reality”. Accessed on October 20, 2007. <http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/uu12ee/uu12ee06.htm>

Volman, D. 2006. “The Scramble for African Oil”. Accessed on October 20, 2007. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200605251026.html>

Umbadda, S. 2007. “Towards Reducing Tensions and Achieving Long-Term Peace in Darfur”. In Policy Papers on Sudan, commissioned by the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum. Khartoum, Sudan.