
Course plan

B2.523 - Africa in World Politics

Credits: 4.0

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Presentation

Description

This course will provide you a basic understanding of comparative African politics. We will start with the early pre-colonial period and will cover some of the most important episodes during the colonial period that have impacted upon contemporary notions such as: statehood, nationalism etc. In addition, we will study the region from a point of view of international relations and, more specifically, we will look at the foreign influences in the region. Finally, we will focus on the quest for development.

The course as part of the programme as a whole

This course is part of the different political sciences courses on regional politics and their role in world politics

Professional fields it is linked to

Political science, international relations, international development.

Prior knowledge

No prior knowledge is necessary, background/interest on African politics would be an asset to the course

Objectives and competencies

By the end of the course, students will have:

1. Acquired a comprehensive view of Africa from a historical, social, political and economic situation.
2. Deepened their understanding of the impact of colonialism on Africa's economic, social and political structures;
3. Appreciated the nuances of Africa's concept of "nation state" and its impact on political institutions & governance systems including conflict management/transformation
4. Critically examined the impact of Africa's current pathway to peace and development.

Content

The course covers 4 learning units that deal with African history, colonialism and current political trends in Africa

UNIT 1:

PRE-COLONIAL AFRICA: A HISTORICAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC & SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

UNIT 2:

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF COLONIALISM ON AFRICA'S ECONOMIC, SOCIAL & POLITICAL STRUCTURES

UNIT 3:

THE DEVELOPMENT PATH PARADIGM - ENDOGENOUS VERSUS EXOGENOUS FACTORS & GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS.

UNIT 4:

AFRICA TODAY: RENAISSANCE; A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER FOR PEACE & HUMAN SECURITY?

Resources

Support tools and learning resources

Compulsory Bibliography

Study Guides

Learning resources included in all learning CATS

Bibliography and information sources

-Handbook: African Politics By Alex Thomson

-Study Guides
