Sociology of Africa
Winter 2013 - INTL 372
Monday and Wednesday 2:00 - 3:50

SOCIOLOGY OF AFRICA
INTL/BST 372
CIN 92
Course Website: http://sociologyofafrica.blogspot.com/

Instructor: Tugrul Keskin
Office: 333 East Hall International Studies
Google Phone: (202) 630-1025
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00 PM – 4:00 or by appointment
E-mail: tugrulkeskin@pdx.edu (PLEASE include “Sociology of Africa” in the subject line)

The oppressed will always believe the worst about themselves.
— Frantz Fanon

For a colonized people the most essential value, because the most concrete, is first and foremost the land: the land which will bring them bread and, above all, dignity.
— Frantz Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth

Course Description and Objective
This course will explore the ongoing social, political and economic dynamics in 20th century Africa. In this course, we will try to understand the transformations in African societies and communities. However, we will also briefly examine historical colonialism. Colonialism has led to a set of serious and long-lasting unintended consequences on the continent. Ethnic tensions in Kenya, Apartheid racism in South Africa, the Darfur conflict in Sudan, Christian and Muslim religious misunderstanding in Nigeria, increased political conflicts in Mali, democratic transformations in Northern Africa and the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda are each related with the earlier exploitation of African peoples and lands, and as such are a product of colonization. This history has set in motion a dynamic that has created artificial social, political and economic boundaries among African communities and societies. Whatever conflicts we see today on the continent are not because Africans are not capable of enhancing and developing their own civilization, but are a by-product of the colonial political social and economic structures left behind by the colonizers, internalized within Africa.

There have been many changes in Africa following the colonization period, 1885-1950s. Most of the African countries received independence in the 1960s; however, today we
In order to understand what the Sociology of Africa is, you should clearly follow the chronology of this course. There are five stages of this course. We will start revisiting the colonial past of the continent, from the 1885 Berlin conference to WWI. In the second part of this course, the effects of the Great Depression will be examined. In the third stage of the course, the implications of WWII and independence and anti-colonialist movements are explored. The fourth stage of the course will critically analyze the chaotic nature of the nation state in Africa. In the last stage, we will review the current social, political and economic conditions, which are embedded in globalization. However, we also attempt to explore the Chinese economic exploitation of the African continent.

In this course, we will incorporate perspectives derived from the positions of African leaders from an internal as opposed to an Orientalist perspective; leaders such as the anti-colonialist Julius Nyerere (Tanzania), Pan-Africanist Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana), conservative African Jomo Kenyatta (Kenya), Idi Amin Dada (Uganda), the pro-African Nationalist Nnamdi Azikiwe (Nigeria), Thomas Sankara (Burkina Faso) and South African leader, Nelson Mandela.

**Pan-African Leadership:**
Edward Wilmot Blyden (1832–1912) - Liberia
Omar Mukhtar (1862-1931) – Libya
Marcus Garvey (1887-1940) - Jamaica
Jomo Kenyatta (1889 - 1978) - Kenya
Haile Selassie I (1892–1975) - Ethiopia
Moses Kotane (1905-1978) – South Africa
Kwame Nkrumah (1909-1972) - Ghana
Leopold Sedar Senghor (1906–2001) Senegal
Mojola Agbebi (1860–1917) - Nigeria
Govan Mbeki (1910-2001) – South Africa
Ahmed Ben Bella (1918-2012) - Algeria
Baruch Hirson (1921-1999) – South African Jewish
Julius Nyerere (1922-1999) - Tanzania
Amilcar Cabral (1924-1973) - Guinea-Bissau
Idi Amin Dada (1925–2003) - Uganda
Robert Gabriel Mugabe (1924-) Zimbabwe
Frantz (Ibrahim) Fanon (1925-1961) – Martinique and Algeria
Patrice Lumumba (1925-1961) - Congo
Joe Slovo (1926-1995) - South Africa
Walter Rodney (1942-1980) – Guyana
Alhaji Alieu Ebrima Cham Joof (1924-2011) - Gambia
Agostinho Neto (1922-1979) - Angola
Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe (1924-1978) – South Africa
George Padmore (1902-1959) – Trinidad and Ghana
C L R James (1901-1988) – Trinidad
Benjamin Nnamdi Azikiwe (1904–1996) - Nigeria
Ahmed Sekou Toure (1922-1984) – Guinea
Kwame Ture (1941-1998) Trinidad
Maulana Karenga (1941-) US
Molefi Kete Asante (1942-) US
Thomas Sankara (1949-1987) – Burkina Faso

**Learning outcomes:**

1. Students should become familiar with significant aspects of the history, culture and politics of Africa, and be able to appreciate the range of historical and contemporary experiences on the continent.
2. Acquaint students with traditional literature of post-colonial studies and contemporary research on African Society
3. Identify crucial events, actors, and trends in 20th century African politics and society and their ramifications beyond the African continent.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of the geographical, political, socio-economic, and cultural forces that have changed the map of Africa and the lives of the people living there.
5. Understand how Europe dominated and exploited Africa and African society in the 20th century following the Berlin conference.
6. Introduce students to the historical transformation of African society following the 1885 Berlin Conference
7. Recognize and respectfully defend or challenge the underlying assumptions in class readings and discussions; critically analyze various sources and maps.

Required Readings:


Other readings will be posted on D2L and you will find them under the ‘news’ section.

Recommended Readings:

   http://www.amazon.com/Dying-Colonialism-Frantz-Fanon/dp/B005SNDZJC
   http://www.iupress.indiana.edu/product_info.php?products_id=20665
12. W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, World and Africa: The World and Africa: An inquiry into the part which Africa has played in world history
13. Yuri Smertin, Kwame Nkrumah: An original study of the life and work of
renowned African Marxist Kwame Nkrumah that draws on key passages in Nkrumah's own writings and those of his contemporaries.


15. Manning Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion* (University of Mississippi Press, Jackson)


18. *The Fate of Africa: A History of Fifty Years of Independence* (Paperback) by Martin Meredith


22. *Black Skin, White Masks* by Frantz Fanon and Constance Farrington (Paperback - Jan 7, 1994)

23. How Europe Underdeveloped Africa by Walter Rodney 1973

24. Patterns of Islamization and Varieties of Religious Experience among Muslims of Africa by Nehemia Levtzion and Randall L. Powels


29. Global Studies: Africa Thomas Krabacher, Ezekiel Kalipeni, Azzedine Layachi


**Documentaries and Movies:**

- Documentary: *General Idi Amin Dada* (A self Portrait) by Barbet Schroeder


  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sj5lhyAwzaA

  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9gaxNPMmF

- Catch a Fire (2007)
  http://www.bbc.co.uk/films/2007/03/19/catch_a_fire_2007_review.shtml

- Bamako (2005) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onRjI8yLsy0
Youtube Videos:

- Colonialism in Africa
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47wyvMv5ba8&feature=related
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJe1W_HIWmA&feature=related

- Decolonization in Africa
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6w8m0DK3hc

- Part 1 of 4: Journey to Nationhood | The Colonial Legacy
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1hJuuo7NCU&feature=related

- Dr. Kwame Nkrumah visits Nigeria
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOoWT-uFwCM&feature=related

- Thomas Sankara
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENr_Bu0uL6Y&feature=related
  http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Sankara
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvBC7tmgFFM

- The Imam and Pastor in Nigeria
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFh85K4NFv0

- Knaan talks w/ Davey D about the truth behind the Somali Pirates
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrwgiprDBtA

- Hakim Adi on Slavery in Africa
  http://vimeo.com/7997520

- Germany's Black Holocaust 1890-1945

- Niall Ferguson - Empire: How Britain Made the Modern World
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUxYIUuxU8U

- The House Negro and The Field Negro
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-a6EzIpwJl

- How can Africa prevent the plunder of its lands by Western powers?-Africa Today
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHW9DSeWZVo&feature=youtu.be

- Israel: No Place to Go
  http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/activate/2012/10/20121014131845553631.html

- The Death of Samora Machel - South Africa
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RWHhw5ai4&feature=related

- The Assassination of Patrice Lumumba
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtzfCMHX1Yg&feature=related

- Idi Amin Dada Autobiography - Uganda Discovery
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymHRjimpq4&feature=related

- Conflict Minerals, Rebels and Child Soldiers in Congo
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYqrflGpTRF&feature=youtu.be

Recommended News on Africa

- http://panafricannews.blogspot.com
- http://allafrica.com/
Course Requirements
To prevent confusion later, please read the following information carefully:

Final Paper: You will choose an African country and review the country’s social, political economic transformation after its independence. I must approve your topic and plan ahead of time. The final paper proposals are due by Friday, February 15 and must be approved by this date. The final paper is a short empirical or theoretical paper of at least 4000 words (Font should be Times New Roman, 12 point), double-spaced. The final paper is due on Sunday March 17th. Send it to me by email attachment.

Criteria: If your final paper proposal is late you will lose 2 points, if your final paper is late you will lose 5 points. Therefore, you should be careful about timing. You will also present your final paper in the last week of class, Wednesday March 14th. The presentation is worth 4 out of 20 points.

Format: ASA citation and bibliography format will be followed. All work should adhere to the guidelines published by the American Sociological Association (ASA) at http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/topnav/sociology_depts/quick_style_guide

This is not a definitive source, but is a Quick Guide provided by ASA.

You will use the following format in your final paper:

1. Introduction (200 words) – What is your thesis? (This will be your final paper proposal.
2. A Brief History of the country: Before independence and a brief History of Colonialism in the country: Who colonized the country and how long did they stay…. (At least 800 words)
3. Political Structure and transformations: Independence, monarchy, dictatorship, parliamentary democracy, and military rule (At least 600 words)
4. Social and Cultural Structure and transformations: Ethnicity, race, gender, population, education level, urbanization (At least 800 words)
5. Economic Structure and transformations: Foreign debt, World Bank influence, privatization, the social welfare and health system …… (At least 1000 Words)

6. Ethnic or Religious Conflicts (At least 400 words)

7. Future Trajectories and Conclusion (At least 200 words)

Reflection papers: The reflection papers will include an open book essay that will determine what you have learned in class each week. I will ask you two or four questions regarding the same week’s class subject and discussion. The reflection papers should be at least 1200 words. Font size should be Times New Roman, 12 point. The due date for each exam is Monday by 12:00 midnight. Criteria: If your paper is less than 1200 words, or late, you will lose 2 points.

Weekly Presentations: Each week, two or three students will be assigned a weekly topic from the readings. These students will summarize the readings and prepare an outline and 4-6 questions for class, in order to come prepared to lead the class discussion. Each student must always read the course materials before they attend class, and I expect you to participate actively in the class discussion. I strongly recommend that you present in earlier weeks rather than later in the semester, because you may not find the right time available to present, and will lose presentation points. Presentation dates are available on a first-come first-served basis. The timeline for weekly presentations will be provided in the first week of the class. After we have filled in student names and finalized the weekly presentation schedule, it will be posted to D2L.

Newspaper Articles: During the semester, you can bring 5 newspaper articles related with our class subjects. You cannot bring more than one article in the same week. You will have to summarize these articles verbally in class and will find the recommended newspapers listed on blackboard, under the external links section. Newspaper articles sent by email will not be accepted. Please bring the first page of the printed/hard copy of the article to class. You can only bring an article from the selected newspapers, posted on blackboard, which you will find under the links section. Some of the recommended newspapers include The Guardian, Al-Jazeera, DemocracyNow.org, Financial Times, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and the Economist. You can only bring an article on Mondays.

Attendance: Regular class attendance is one of the important parameters to successful completion of the course requirements.

Participation: Each student must read course material before they attend class and I expect them to participate in class discussion.

Coming late to class: Late comers will not be accepted to class, so be on time. If you are late for a class, please do not disturb your classmates and me and do not come at all. Please also do not send an email or call me regarding your class attendance. If there is a medical need, bring a letter from a doctor. Whatever the reason is, if you cannot come to class, this is your responsibility. If you miss more than 4 classes, you will not receive an attendance grade.
Laptop and cell phone policy: If you need your laptop in class to take notes, please let me know. Otherwise I will assume that you are surfing the Internet during my lectures. Please turn your cell phone off before you come to class. If you use the Internet or your cell phone during class, you will be asked to leave.

Grades: Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on the following components, shown with their dates and respective weights.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Reflection Papers</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>60.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>March 17th</td>
<td>20.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance/ Class Participation</td>
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<td>Newspaper Articles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Presentation</td>
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The grading system in this class is as follows:

- A  95-100
- A- 90-94
- B+ 86-89
- B  85
- B- 80-84
- C+ 76-79
- C  75
- C- 70-74
- D+ 66-69
- D  65
- D- 60-64
- F (Failure)

General:
- You are expected to follow PSU’s student code of conduct, particularly 577-031-0135 and 577-031-0136, which can be found at http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct#code
- Violations of the code will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Student Life.
- You are encouraged to take advantage of instructor and TA office hours or email communication for help with coursework or anything else connected with the course and your progress.
- If you are a student with a documented disability and are registered with Disability Resource Center (503.725.4150 or TDD 725.6504), please contact the instructor immediately to arrange academic accommodations.
- Make sure you have an ODIN account; this email will be used for D2L and important emails from the instructor and TA. DO NOT USE THE INTERNAL D2L mail function to contact us. If you do not typically use your PSU ODIN account, figure out how to get your mail from this account forwarded to the account you usually use.
**FOR ALL ACADEMIC CORRESPONDENCE FOR OBSERVING AND CONTACT WITH TEACHERS YOU WISH TO OBSERVE USE YOUR ODIN ACCOUNT**

**Additional Remarks:** If you have difficulty with the course, please schedule a time to discuss your concerns with me, to help you get back on track.

**If you have any questions regarding class related subjects, please do not hesitate to ask me.**

**Course Timeline**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Week</th>
<th>January 7 - 11</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Introduction to Course and overview syllabus</td>
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<td>• Stop Trying To 'Save' Africa By Uzodinma Iweala</td>
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<td>• Rudyard Kipling, The White Man's Burden (1899)</td>
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<td>• Africa on My Mind by Mervat Hatem</td>
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<td>• The Black Man's Burden by Edward Morel (1903)</td>
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<td>• Chapter-1 The Early Years of the Twentieth Century <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Africa is a night flight away: Images and realities <em>(Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter 1: The New Scramble, Geography and Development. <em>(The New Scramble for Africa)</em></td>
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<th>Second Week</th>
<th>January 14 - 18</th>
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<td>• Chapter-2 Colonial Africa: to 1930 <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter-3 African Responses: to 1930 <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Africa is different: Uganda I <em>(Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</em></td>
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<td>• How it all went wring: Uganda II <em>(Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter 2: Old Economic Power Resource Interests and Strategies in Africa. <em>(The New Scramble for Africa)</em></td>
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<th>Third Week</th>
<th>January 21 - 25</th>
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<td>• Chapter-4 Key Ideas for Progress <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter-5 Colonial System and the Great Depression <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter-6 The Second World War, 1939-1945 <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• The end of colonialism: New states, old states <em>(Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter 3: Chinese Interests and Strategies in Africa <em>(The New Scramble for Africa)</em></td>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>January 27</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Reflection Paper-1</td>
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<th>Fourth Week</th>
<th>January 28 – February 1</th>
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<tr>
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<td>• Chapter-7 Towards African Politics <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter-8 Colonialism in Crises <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Chapter-9 The Conditions of Decolonization <em>(Modern Africa)</em></td>
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<td>• Amazing, but it is Africa? Somalia <em>(Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</em></td>
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<td>Sunday  February 3</td>
<td>Reflection Paper-2</td>
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| Fifth Week February 4 - 7 | Reflection Paper-3 | • Chapter-10 Raising National Flags: North-East Africa (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-11 Libya and Maghrib (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-12 South of the Sahara: French Colonies (Modern Africa)  
  • Forward to the past: Zimbabwe (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)  
  • Breaking apart: Sudan (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)  
  • Chapter 5: Driving the Global Economy: West African and Sahelian Oil. (The New Scramble for Africa) |
| Sunday  February 10 | Reflection Paper-4                           | • Chapter-13 British West Africa: (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-14 East and Central Africa: British Settler Colonies (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-15 In Other Empires: Belgian, Portuguese, Spanish (Modern Africa)  
  • A tick bigger than the dog: Angola (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)  
  • Missing the story and the sequel: Burundi and Rwanda (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles) |
| Friday  February 15 | Final paper Proposal Deadline                | Final Paper must be approved by this date: |
| Sunday  February 17 | Reflection Paper-5                           | • Chapter-16 The 1980s: Unfinished Business (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-17 History Begins A New (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-18 Questions About National Stability (Modern Africa)  
  • God, Trust and Trade: Senegal (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)  
  • Dancers and the Leopold men: Sierra Leone (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)  
  • Chapter 6: Minerals: Powering, Connecting and Wiring the Globe: From Uranium to Coltan. (The New Scramble for Africa) |
| Seventh Week February 18 - 22 | Reflection Paper-6 | • Chapter-19 Questions About Development (Modern Africa)  
  • Chapter-20 Questions About Unity  
  • Chapter-21 Towards Africa’s Reconstruction: Summary and Overview |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>(Modern Africa)</td>
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<td>• The positive positive women: AIDS in Africa (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Copying King Leopold: Congo (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Chapter 7: Furnishing and Feeding the World? Timber, Biofuels, Food and Fisheries. (The New Scramble for Africa)</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Reflection Paper-6</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
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<td>Ninth Week</td>
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<td>March 4 – 8</td>
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<td>• Not just another country: South Africa (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Meat and money: Eating in Kenya (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Look at word: Nigeria (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Chapter 8: Markets and The Embedding of Asian Investment: Evidence from Zambia. (The New Scramble for Africa)</td>
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<td>Tenth Week</td>
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<td>March 11 - 15</td>
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<td>• New colonists or old friends? Asia in Africa (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Phones, Asians and the professionals: The new Africa (Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles)</td>
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<td>• Chapter 9: Can African Unscramble the Continent? (The New Scramble for Africa)</td>
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<td>Final Paper Presentation is on Wednesday, March 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>The last day to submit your final paper is Sunday, March 17th</td>
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