

AXL2200S

Culture, Identity and Globalisation in Africa

What would it mean to think Africa differently? Where would we find the forms of language and the conceptual and methodological strategies which would allow us to do this? How do we think about Africa differently in a world that is increasingly perceived to be converging towards a 'global village'? Is Africa losing its cultures and identities in this 'global village'? In the context of the current level of globalisation, this course explores Africa's position in and relations with other parts of the globalising world. With concrete examples, we explore some of the key political, economic, social, cultural and other effects of globalization in Africa. In looking at these issues, the course highlights Africa's experience of globalization, focusing on the challenges and opportunities which arise from the apparent growing inter-connections.

We have all grown used to a particular way of thinking and writing about Africa: a set of images, tropes and ideas; a particular language; a particular version of Africa's place (or lack of place) in history; a particular version of Africa's participation (or lack of participation) in the major movements and phenomena of our time, modernity, development, globalization, etc. It is probably fair to describe these views as the "dominant discourses" in the sense that they shape many of the ideas and images of Africa that circulate in everyday life. These views have also been instrumental in shaping the construction and production of a range of knowledges about Africa, its people, landscapes, and fauna and flora.

We ask the question – which is also a challenge – how do we come up with new ways of thinking about Africa in the global arena? This is a question with both theoretical and methodological implications. On the one hand, we need a set of strategies and approaches to evade and outwit the dominant discourses; to get around them, to expose their terms and then (more difficult) to devise new frames of looking at, analyzing, writing, conceptualizing and imaging Africa. On the other hand, we need a set of guiding ideas, concepts, paradigms and the resources of a critical intellectual tradition – in other words, we need theory. .

Course convenor:

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

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Course lecturers:

A/Prof H. Garuba Associate

Ms Z. Msomi

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Course administrator:

Mrs. Vuyelwa Mngqanqeni
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Lecture times:

Monday, Tuesdays, Wednesdays
Time: 14:00-15:00

Additional times may be arranged for screening of films or guest lectures.
For any assistance on the course, please contact the course administrator or the course convenor

Lecture venues:

HOERI LT2

Required Readings:

- *The Global Transformation Reader* (any edition) by David Held & Anthony McGrew (editors)
- Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm (2012). *Globalisation and the African Experience*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press.

Tutorials:

There are 10 tutorials for the course as a whole. Attendance at all lectures and tutorials is compulsory. Apologies for missed sessions will be accepted only when accompanied by a doctor's note. All tutorial assignments are available on Vula.

Course Readings:

All the required readings for the course are available on Vula (see lecture programme below). Weekly readings must be done in advance of lectures and tutorials. Additional readings are not provided, but you are encouraged to read them.

Assessment Requirements:

Three short assignments – 10% each
A research project – 20%
A final exam – 50%

You must submit each of the three assignments to your tutor by the end of day on which the assignment is due (see below). Details about the research project will be provided on Vula.

Assignment due dates:

Assignment1: 10 August

Assignment2: 31 August

Assignment 3: 21 September

Research Project Paper: 19 October

A cover page and plagiarism form needs to be filled out and attached to the front of your assignment (downloadable from the VULA site under 'Resources').

Please Note: It is the policy of Centre for African Studies not to grant extensions on due dates other than in the case of medical emergencies or on compassionate grounds. A doctor's note is required in the case of medical emergencies. Late work will be penalized by deducting 10% for each day overdue.

Be sure to consult the examination timetable for the date and venue of the final examination

Lecture Programme:

Week 1 (July 23- 25): Introduction to Globalisation, Culture and Identity

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- Held, D. & McGrew, A(2002). "Introduction: The Globalisation Debate", D. Held & A. McGrew (eds.) in *The Global Transformations Reader*. Cambridge: Polity Press. pg, 3-38.
- Lieber, J. Robert & Weisberg, E. Ruth (2002). "Globalisation, Culture and Identity Crisis." *International Journal of Politics*, Vol.16, No.2. pg273-296

Further Reading:

- Bhagwati, Jadish(2005). "In Defense of Globalisation: It Has a Human Face." A Lecture Delivered at Laterza, Rome, Italy.
- Bhagwati, Jadish (2002). "Copping with Anti-Globalisation." *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2002. 1-22.
- Huntington, S (1993). "The Clash of Civilisations." *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 72, No. 3. pg, 21-49

Week 2 (July 30- 1 August). Africa in the Globalising World

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- Adenkule, J. (2012). "Globalisation in the Pre-Contemporary Period." In Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm (eds.) *Globalisation and the African Experience*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press. Chapter 1 (pages22-38).
- Hendrickson, Roshen(2012). "Global Economies: Africa and the West" in Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm(2012). *Globalisation and the African Experience*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press. Chapter 2. (pages, 40-57).

Further Reading:

- Ajayi, Ibi (2003). Globalisation and Africa" *Journal of African Economies*, Vol. 12, No. 1. pg120-150
- Mkandawire, Thandika(2005). "Mal-adjusting African Economies and Globalisation." *African Development*, Vol. XXX, Nos. 1 & 2. 9-29

Week 3 (August 6-8): Africa in the Global Community

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- Zeleza, Paul(2003). Re-thinking Africa's Globalisation (Vol.1). Trenton: Africa World Press. Chapter 1. Pages, 1-25.
- Mkandawire, Thandika(1999). "Globalisation and Africa's Unfinished Agenda." *Macalester International*, Vol. 7. Pages, 71-88.

Further Reading:

- Ouattara, Alassane(1997). "The challenges of Globalisation for Africa." A paper presented at the Southern Africa Economic Summit, Harare, Zimbabwe May 12.
- Callaghy, Thomas M (2009). "Africa and the World Political Economy: Still Caught between a Rock and a Hard Place" in J. W. Harbeson & D. Rothchild (editors) *Africa in the World Politics: Reforming the Political Order*. Boulder: Westview Press. Chapter 3.

Week 4 (August 13-15): Globalisation and its Discontentment: The African Experience

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- Ibrahim A. Alhaji(2013). "The Impact of Globalisation on Africa." *International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, Vol. 3, No.15. 85-93.
- Bush, Ray (2008). "Africa and Globalisation" *Soundings*, Issue 39. pg 20-31.
- De Beer, CS (2005). "Africa in the Globalising World: Digital Divide or Human Divide?"

Further Reading:

- Sundaram, J.K, Schwank, O. & Arnim, R. (2011). Globalisation and Development in Africa. DESA Working Paper No, 102.
- Stiglitz, Joseph(2002). Globalisation and its Discontents. London: Penguin Press. Chapter 2.

Week 5 (August 20-22): African Political Systems in the Context of Globalisation

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA, 2007). *The Relevancy of African Traditional Institutions of Governance*. ECA: Addis Ababa. Pages 1-15.
- Mubangizi, John(2010). "Democracy and Development in the Age of Globalisation: Tensions and Contradictions in the Context of Specific African Challenges." *Law, Democracy and Development*, Vol. 14.

Further Reading:

- United Nations Public Administration Network (2002). "The Challenges of Globalisation in Africa" What Role for Civil Society and other Stakeholders?" Addis Ababa. (at <http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/CAFRAD/UNPAN008264.PDF>)
- Thiel, M. & Coate, Roger(2010). "Identity Politics and Political Identities: Local Expressions in a Globalising World" in M. Thiel & R. Coate (eds.) *Identity Politics in the Age of Globalisation*. London: First Forum Press. 1-28.
- Bohler-Muller, Narnia and Olorunju, Phindile(2011). "Swaziland: The Last Gasp of an Absolute Monarchy?" African Institute of South Africa, Briefing No.54. 1-10

Week 6 (August 27-29). Youth and Globalization in Africa

Dr. Divine Fuh

Required Readings:

- Durham, D. (2000). Youth and the social imagination in Africa: Introduction to parts 1 and 2. *Anthropological quarterly*, 73(3), 113-120.
- Fuh, D. (2012). The Prestige Economy: Veteran Clubs and Youngmen's Competition in Bamenda, Cameroon. *Urban Forum*, Springer vol.23, pg.501–526. DOI 10.1007/s12132-012-9157-x.

Further Readings:

- Honwana, A. M. (2012). *The time of youth: Work, social change, and politics in Africa*. Kumarian Press Pub. Ch.1
- Amin, J. A. (2012). Understanding the protest of February 2008 in Cameroon. *Africa Today*, 58(4), 20-43.
- Van Dijk, R., de Bruijn, M., Cardoso, C., & Butter, I. (2011). Introduction: ideologies of youth. *Africa Development*, 36(3-4), 1-18.
- Soudien, C. (2001). Certainty and ambiguity in youth identities in South Africa: discourses in transition. *Discourse*, 22(3), 311-326.

Week 7 (September 3-5): Identity Dynamics in Africa

Ms Z. Msomi

Required readings:

- Jenkins, Richard. 2008. 'Identity Matters,' pp. 1-15 in *Social Identity*. Routledge: London
- Comaroff, Jean and Comaroff, John. 2009. Chapter 2, 'Three or Fourthings about ethno-futures' pp 6-21 in *Ethnicity, Inc*. University of Kwazulu-Natal Press, Scottsville, South Africa.

Further Reading:

- Sharp John & Emile Boonzaier, 1994, 'Ethnic Identity as Performance: Lessons

MID-SEMESTER BREAK

8-16- September

Documentary: Africa Meet Africa (Venue TBC)

Week 8 (September 17-19): Popular Culture and Identity in Africa

Ms Z. Msomi

Required reading

- Barber, Karin (ed.), 1997, 'Introduction: Views of the Field', In *Readings in African Popular Culture*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana Univ. Press. pp.1-9.
- Fabian, Johannes 1978. Popular Culture in Africa: Findings and Conjectures. *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute*

Further Reading

- Simone, AbdouMaliq, 2008, 'Some Reflections on Making Popular Culture in Urban Africa', *African Studies Review, Volume 51, Number 3*, December 2008. pp. 75-89.
- Gilbert, Jane(2006). "Two Worlds: Integration, Synthesis or Conflict? Psychological Perspectives on Cultural Identity in Africa" in T. Lyons and G. Pye (eds.). *Africa on the Global Stage*. Trenton: Africa World Press. Chapter 4.

Week 9 (September 24-26): Globalisation and Knowledge Production in Africa

A/Prof. H. Garuba

Required Reading:

- Garuba, Harry(2012). "African Studies, Area Studies and the Logic of the Disciplines" in T. Nhlapo & H. Garuba (editors) *African Studies in the Post-Colonial University*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press. Chapter 3.

Further Reading:

- Praeg, Leonard (2012). "African, Epistemic Shifts and the Politics of Knowledge Production" in T. Nhlapo & H. Garuba (editors) *African Studies in the Post-Colonial University*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press. Chapter 4.

Week 10 (October 1-3): African Intellectual Project in the Context of Globalisation

A/Prof. H. Garuba

Required Reading:

- Zeleza, Paul(2003). Re-thinking Africa's Globalisation (Vol.1). Trenton: Africa World Press. Chapter 1. Pg 45-61
- Nyamnjoh, Francis (2012). "Potted Plants in Greenhouses: A Critical Reflection on the Resilience of Colonial Education in Africa." *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, Vol. 47, No.2. 129-154.

Further Reading:

- Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm (2012). "The Centralization of Africa and the Intellectualization of Blackness." Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm(2012). *Globalisation and the African Experience*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press. Chapter 10

Week 11 (October 8-10). Globalisation and the Language Question in Africa

Prof. Ana Deumert

Required Reading:

- Fanon, Franz(1967). *Black Skin, White Masks*. London: Pluto Press. Chapter 1.
- Bhabha, Homi(1984). "Of Mimicry and Man: The Ambivalence of Colonial Discourse." *October*, Vol. 28. 125-133.

Further Reading:

- Negash, Ghirmai(2005). "Globalisation and the Role of African Languages for Development." Conference Paper.

Week 12 (October 15-17): Globalisation in Contemporary Africa

A/Prof. H. Chitonge

Required Readings:

- Chitonge, H. (2015). *Economic Growth and Development in Africa: Understanding Trends and Prospects*. London/New York: Routledge. Chapter 7.
- Asumah, S. (2012). "African Cultures, Modernisation and Development: Reexamining the Effects of Globalisation" in Mbah, Emmanuel, & Steven. J. Salm(2012). *Globalisation and the African Experience*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press. Chapter 8, (pages 189-212).

Further Reading:

- Olokushi, Adebayo (2009). "Globalisation, Equity and Development: Some Reflections on the African Experience" in D. Seck & D. Busari (eds.) *Growth and Development in Africa*. Asmara: Africa World Press. Pg 1-25.

NB: Lectures End on October 26. Exams begin on November 6.