Focus on Africa: 2016
Merrill College, UCSC
Spring Quarter 2016

Meetings:
Weekly – Tuesdays (6:15 – 7:45 p.m.)
Location: Merrill College 002

Objectives:

This course equips students with the skills and background necessary to be informed observers of current affairs on the African continent during the run-up to the 2016 Zambian General Elections (scheduled for August 11, 2016).

One of the world's fastest economically reformed countries and home to the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Zambia is pursuing an economic diversification program to reduce the economy's reliance on the copper industry. The government seeks to exploit other components of Zambia's rich resource base by promoting agriculture, tourism, gemstone mining, and hydro-power.

The Focus on Africa series at Merrill College has a dual focus: on current affairs on the African continent, and on specific methodologies students can use to build viable constituencies for Africa on campus and in their home communities.

Students will conduct preliminary research on topics relating to four key areas of interest: Public Health, Media and Technology, Energy and Transportation.

Overview:

The Focus on Africa series at Merrill College was launched during the 2014 – 2015 academic year.

Readings and projects completed via independent study in Fall 2014 and Winter 2015 provided the foundation for a successful journey to the continent during the Spring of 2015. Eleven students, from various backgrounds, visited London, Cape Town and Dar es Salaam during a sixteen day sojourn.

Coursework offered during the Spring and Fall Quarters of 2016 will continue to build upon the solid foundation established during 2014 and 2015.

Projects:

Student projects may take the form of a web journal/blog, short documentary feature (mini-doc), interview-format oral history, or other suitable documentary form. Each student will be responsible for maintaining a detailed log reflecting questions and/or issues raised both in the assigned reading and in discussion groups.

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Grading:

Grading will be weighted as follows:

35%  Student Projects
30%  In-Class Participation in discussions, team building exercises, etc.
20%  Written Assignments
15%  Detailed log

Pass / No Pass  (Grades Optional)

Units:

2

Textbooks:

**Africa in the Wider World** (CSIS Reports)
by Richard Downie
Publisher: Center for Strategic and International Studies
ISBN: 978-1442240261

**Zambia: The First 50 Years** (International Library of African Studies)
by Andrew Sardanis
Publisher: I.B. Tauris
ISBN: 978-1780768229

**Zambia in Depth: A Peace Corps Publication**
by The Peace Corps and Kurtis Toppert (Editor)
Publisher: Pennyhill Press
ASIN: B00GBG7WIK

**Republic of Zambia: Government and Politics, Economy**
by Sampson Jerry et al.
Publisher: Amazon Digital Services, Inc.
ASIN: B0133MO9JY

Additional Reading:

*African Economic Outlook 2015: Regional Development and Spatial Inclusion*
Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development
Publisher: Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development
ISBN-10: 9264232826
**U.S. Trade and Investment Relations with sub-Saharan Africa and the African Growth and Opportunity Act**
Brock R. Williams
Publisher: Congressional Research Service
ASIN: B00BZBJDC4

**Cooperative Strategies on Parallel Tracks: The NEPAD and the AGOA Initiatives**
Guelmbaye Ngarsandjé
Publisher: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing
ISBN-10: 3659346268

**Additional Resources:**

- [CCTC Africa](#)

  Available via cable and the Internet
  - [Africa Live](#) – Daily Newscasts
  - [Global Business Africa](#)
  - [Talk Africa](#)
  - [Faces of Africa](#) – Documentary Series

- [AllAfrica.com](#)

- [The Daily Nation](#) (Kenya)

- [The Sowetan](#) (South Africa)

- [The Guardian](#) (Nigeria)

- [Ahram Online](#) (Egypt)
Instructional Plan

Focus on Africa – Spring Quarter 2016

Emphasis:

*In-Class: General Knowledge on Africa, The 2016 Zambian Elections, Team Building*

*Outside of the Classroom: Project Development*

Week One:

Introduction

Review Class Objectives

Video Presentations:


*Address to the National Summit on Africa - General Colin L. Powell*, The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC - February 2000 (excerpt)

Discussion

Reading:

Richard Downie, *Africa in the Wider World* (CSIS Reports)

Chapter 01: Africa Diverging: The Struggle to Keep Pace with a Fast-Evolving Continent

Chapter 03: The Unfinished Health Agenda in Africa

Chapter 04: Linking Trade and Development in Africa
Week Two:

Video Presentation:

*To Make A Real Difference in the Real Lives of Real People* - Hon. Ron Brown, United States Secretary of Commerce. 3rd African-African American Summit, Dakar, Senegal - May, 1995

Discussion

Review First Writing Assignment (Due Week Six)

Scope

Expectations

Reading:

Richard Downie, *Africa in the Wider World* (CSIS Reports)

Chapter 07: The Three Faces of African Energy

Chapter 09: State Building Challenges in Africa

Chapter 10: African and the Americas: Historic Ties, Future Opportunities

Week Three: NO CLASS MEETING

Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, *Zambia: The First 50 Years*

Chapter 01: Zambia, Proud and Free
Chapter 02: Unprepared and Unready but Determined and Enthusiastic
Chapter 03: UDI: A New Landscape in Africa
Chapter 04: Hard Work and Fantasies

Week Four:

Video Presentation:

tba

Overview of Zambian Presidential Election (August 11, 2016)

Discussion
Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, Zambia: The First 50 Years

Chapter 05: Political Turbulence and Rhodesian Spies
Chapter 06: Fast Track for Zambian Business?
Chapter 07: Control of the Mines
Chapter 08: The Politicians Take Over

Week Five:

Video Presentation:

tba

Guest Speaker: Mr. Victor Mudenda - PhD. Candidate, Lincoln University – native of Zambia

Topic: Zambia in the run up to elections

Discussion

Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, Zambia: The First 50 Years

Chapter 09: Sir Arthur Benson's Ghost
Chapter 10: The $100 Million Con
Chapter 11: 'The Sole Custodians of the People's Interests'!
Chapter 12: Kaunda and Thatcher Tango: Rhodesia Vanishes
Chapter 13: A Maverick Troublemaker and a Gentlemen's Coup
Chapter 14: Disarray

Week Six:

First Writing Assignments Due

Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, Zambia: The First 50 Years

Chapter 15: The Love Affair: Tricky Fred and the West
Chapter 16: The Plunder
Chapter 17: The Zambian Business Blossoms: The Economy Dpiss
Chapter 18: Vengeance and Cruelty and Frustrated Ambition
Chapter 19: Zambian Trials and London Delusion
Week Seven: NO CLASS MEETING

Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, **Zambia: The First 50 Years**

- Chapter 20: Konkola: The Sale of the Century
- Chapter 21: Few Successes and Many Failures
- Chapter 22: 'Steady As She Goes'
- Chapter 23: A Protectorate (Within a Protectorate) Is Pampered
- Chapter 24: ...And Abandoned
- Chapter 25: 'The Hateful Western Province'
- Chapter 26: Ba Mwine Zambia: 2011

Week Eight:

Video Presentation:

- tba

Discussion

Review Second Writing Assignment (Due Week Eleven)

- Scope
- Expectations

Reading:

Andrew Sardanis, **Zambia: The First 50 Years**

- Chapter 27: The Civil Society Gets Uneasy
- Chapter 28: Arrests, Incarcerations and 'Nolle Prosequi'
- Chapter 29: President Sata and His Future Legacy
- Chapter 30: Cooper: Our Boom and Our Bane
- Chapter 31: Farmers and Charcoal Burners and Marketeers
- Chapter 32: 'To Learn And Learn More From The Learned'
- Chapter 33: Many Critics and Many Suitors
- Chapter 34: Epilogue

**Team Building Excursion/Retreat** (Mandatory)

- Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22

Details and Location(s): tba
Week Nine:

Private Reception (tba)

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Renée A. Cousins-King – Physician, Businesswoman, Philanthropist, Former Member of the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners

   Topic: *Health Care Challenges for Africa and the African Diaspora 2016*

Reading:

**Zambia in Depth: A Peace Corps Publication**  (40 pages)

Week Ten:

Video Presentation:

   tba

**Guest Speaker:** tba

   Topic: *Investment Opportunities in Africa – a Pan African perspective*

Reading:

   Sampson Jerry et al., *Republic of Zambia: Government and Politics, Economy*  (53 pages)

Week Eleven:

**Second Writing Assignments Due**

Video Presentation:

   tba

Discussion

Quarter End Social Activity

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Focus on Africa 2015 Participants at the Nelson Mandela Statue
Parliament Square, London
May 28, 2015

Prepared by: Melvin H. Cox
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