

The Politics of Peace-Building in Africa: National & International Responses
SIS-619-012/419-012
 Spring 2010
 Tuesdays, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
 Dr. Dane F. Smith

Africa has suffered from a multitude of civil conflicts since 1990. The course will examine national, African and international approaches to peace-building, stabilization and reconstruction. It will analyze cases from different sub-regions of the continent, including Liberia, Sudan, Rwanda, the Congo and Mozambique. It will also look at the interstate conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea. It will assess the efforts of African regional institutions, the United Nations, outside powers and civil society groups to fashion constructive solutions.

Reading List

See assignments for individual class periods. Books recommended for purchase are Chester A. Crocker *et al.*, *Leashing the Dogs of War* (US Institute for Peace, 2007); [John W. Harbeson](#) & [Donald S. Rothchild](#), ed., *Africa in World Politics: The African State System in Flux* (Westview Press, 2000); Roland Oliver & Anthony Atmore, *Africa since 1800* (2005 ed.); William Reno, *Warlord Politics and African States* (1999).

US Institute of Peace *reports* are available at www.usip.org, but USIP *books* can be purchased online at the same address. International Crisis Group reports are available at www.crisisgroup.org.

I reserve the right to change reading assignments or the order of lectures, as the semester progresses.

Course Requirements

Requirements for the course include a mid-term, a paper and a final examination.

- The mid-term will take place on March 2.
- Each student must submit by January 26 a proposed paper topic on an African conflict since 1990 with brief outline of the peace-building issues to be addressed. Two students may work together, if they wish. Each student will make a 10-minute presentation of the major points during a class session beginning February 16. Papers are due April 20. (Additional instructions on the paper will be provided separately.)
- The final examination May 4 will cover readings, lectures and in-class presentations/discussions.

Academic Integrity Code

All students must adhere to the Academic Integrity Code (<http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/regulations/reg80.cfm>). As the code states, "By enrolling at American University and then each semester when registering for classes, students acknowledge their commitment to the Code. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and their responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and

restrictions regarding research and writing, examinations of whatever kind, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Students are responsible for learning the conventions of documentation and acknowledgment of sources. American University expects students to complete all examinations, tests, papers, creative projects, and assignments of any kind according to the highest ethical standards, as set forth either explicitly or implicitly in this Code or by the direction of instructors."

Grading

The grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- Mid-term exam 15%
- Paper presentation 10%
- Final paper 30%
- Final exam 35%
- Class participation 10%, including your in-class presentation

Grading is as follows:

A	94-100	Superior work in fulfillment of course requirements
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	Good work in fulfillment of course requirements
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	Satisfactory work in fulfillment of course requirements
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	
D	63-66	Assigned work is unsatisfactory or not completed
F	62 or below	Inadequate work or substantial amounts of uncompleted work

Course Schedule

January 12	Introduction; Review of African Conflict Paradigms
January 19	Africa: The Historical Background
January 26	Sources of Political Violence in Africa
February 2	Mechanisms for Coping with Political Violence
February 9	Sudan: Getting to Machakos
February 16	Sudan: Getting to Inclusion
February 23	Liberian Civil War: the ECOWAS Project
March 2	Mid-Term Exam; Liberian Civil War: Internationalizing Peace-Building

March 9	Spring Break: No Class
March 16	Rwanda: Responses to Genocide
March 23	The Congo: Regional Approaches to Peace-Building
March 30	The Congo: Successes & Failures of an Expanded International Approach
April 6	Ethiopia and Eritrea: An Extended Civil War
April 13	Mozambique: Ending Civil War
April 20	Conclusions
May 4	Final Examination

Individual Class Assignments

January 12 Introduction: Review of African Conflict Paradigms

Readings: Jack S. Levy, "International Sources of Interstate and Intrastate War" in Chester A. Crocker *et al.*, *Leashing the Dogs of War: Conflict Management in a Divided World* (US Institute for Peace, 2007), 17-38; Michael Howard, "The Causes of War," in Crocker *et al.*, *Turbulent Peace: The Challenges of Managing International Conflict*, 29-38; Robert I. Rotberg, "The Challenge of Weak, Failing and Collapsed States," *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 83-94; Mohammed Ayoob, "State Making, State Breaking, and State Failure," in *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 95-114, Paul Collier, "Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and Their Implications for Policy," *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 197-218; Ted Robert Gurr, "Minorities, Nationalists and Islamists: Managing Communal Conflict in the 21st Century," *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 131-161; Frances Stewart & Graham Brown, "Motivations for Conflict: Groups & Individuals," *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 219-241; Nils Petter Gleditsch, "Environmental Change, Security, and Conflict," *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 177-196. **Note:** The Crocker-edited *Turbulent Peace* is on reserve. The other articles are in *Leashing the Dogs of War*, the book you are requested to buy.

January 19 The Historical Background

Readings: Roland Oliver & Anthony Atmore, *Africa Since 1800* (2005 edition), 18-34, 45-51, 63-89, 118-139, 211-236, 244-265, 273-279, 303-338

January 26 Sources of Political Violence in Africa:

Readings: John W. Harbeson & Donald S. Rothchild, ed., *Africa in World Politics: The African State System in Flux* (2000), 3-109; William Reno, *Warlord Politics and African States* (1999), 1-77.

February 2 Institutions/Mechanisms for Coping with Political Violence

Readings: Daniel Serwer & Patricia Thomson, “A Framework for Success: International Intervention in Societies Emerging from Conflict,” *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 369-387; I. William Zartman & Saadia Touval, “International Mediation,” *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 437-454; Connie Peck, “The Role of Regional Organizations in Preventing and Resolving Conflict,” Crocker *et al.*, *Turbulent Peace*, 561-584; Karen A. Mingst & Margaret P. Karns, “The United Nations & Conflict Management: Relevant or Irrelevant?” *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 497-520; Pamela Aall, “The Power of Nonofficial Actors in Conflict Management,” *Leashing the Dogs of War*, 477-494. International Crisis Group, *Beyond Victimhood: Women’s Peacebuilding in Sudan, Congo and Uganda*

Note: The Crocker-edited *Turbulent Peace* is on reserve.

February 9 Sudan: Getting to Machakos

Readings: Francis M. Deng, *War of Visions: Conflicts of Identities in the Sudan* (1995), 9-68; 185-239; Morrison, J. Stephen and Alex de Waal. "Can Sudan Escape its Intractability?" Crocker *et al.*, *Grasping the Nettle: Analyzing Cases of Intractable Conflict* (USIP: 2005, 161-182.

February 16 Sudan: Getting to Inclusion

Readings: Francis M. Deng, *War of Visions*, 387-435; Alex de Waal (ed), *War in Darfur and the Search for Peace* (Harvard University Press, 2007), Chapters 1-3, 8-12

February 23 Liberia: The ECOWAS Project

Reading: Stephen Ellis, *The Mask of Anarchy: The Destruction of Liberia and the Religious Dimension of an African Civil War* (New York University: 1999), 31-107, 220-311; “Liberia 1989-1996,” Mohammed O. Maundi, I. William Zartman, *et al.*, *Getting In: Mediators' Entry into the Settlement of African Conflicts* (USIP: 2006)

March 2 Mid-Term Examination; Liberia: Internationalizing Peace-Building

Readings: Robert Mortimer, “From ECOMOG to ECOMOG II: Intervention in Sierra Leone,” in Harbeson & Rothchild (ed), *Africa in World Politics*, 188-207; Dane F. Smith, “US-Guinea Relations during the Rise & Fall of Charles Taylor” (2006), *Journal of Modern African Studies* (2006), 415-439; USIP, “Women’s Role in Liberia’s Reconstruction” (USIPeace Briefing: May 2007)

March 16 Responses to Genocide in Rwanda – Guest Speaker: William Ferroggiaro, The Fund for Peace

Readings: Rene Lemarchand, “The Crisis in the Great Lakes,” Harbeson & Rothchild, 324-352; Helen M. Hintjens, “Explaining the 1994 Rwanda Genocide,” *Journal of*

Modern African Studies, 37 (1999), 241-286; Timothy Longman, "Post-Genocide Rwanda," in Taisier M. Ali & Robert O. Matthews, eds., *Durable Peace: Challenges for Peace-building in Africa* .

March 23 The Congo: Regional Approaches to Peace-Building

Readings: Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, *The Congo From Leopold to Kabila: A People's History* (2002), 1-11, 141-213; Tatiana Carayannis & Herbert F. Weiss, "The Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1996-2002," in Jane Boulden, *Dealing with Conflict in Africa: The UN and Regional Organizations* (2003), 253-304

March 30 The Congo: Successes & Failures of an Expanded International Approach

Readings: Nzongola-Ntalaja, *Congo*, 214-248; Philip Roessler & John Prendergast, "Democratic Republic of the Congo," in William J. Durch, ed., *Twenty-First Century Peace Operations* (2006), 229-306; Herman J. Cohen, "Can Africa Trade its Way to Peace," *New York Times*, December 16, 2008 (handout)

April 6 Ethiopia and Eritrea: An Extended Civil War?

Readings: Michaela Wrong, "*I Didn't Do It for You:*" *How the World Betrayed a Small African Nation* (2005), 1-22, 282-383; Leenco Lata, "The Ethiopia-Eritrea War," in Jane Boulden, *Dealing with Conflict in Africa: The United Nations and Regional Organizations*, 153-184.

April 13 Mozambique: Ending Civil War

Readings: Alex Vines, *Renamo: Terrorism in Mozambique* (1991), 5-42, 120-132; Richard Synge, *Mozambique: UN Peacekeeping in Action 1992-1994* (USIP:1997), 8-53, 145-176

April 20 Conclusions

May 4 Final Examination