

SIS596-009 Peace-Building in Africa: National & International Responses
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.

SIS496-014 “Conflict in Africa” provides useful background for the course but is not a prerequisite.

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 or add readings, 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 4. Each student must submit by January 29 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 19. Papers are due April 22. The final examination May 6 will cover readings, lectures and in-class presentations/discussions.

Grading

The grading system is that outlined by the Office of the Registrar.

The grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Mid-term exam 15%

Paper 35%

Final exam 35%

Class participation 15%, including your in-class presentation

Course Schedule

January 15 Introduction; Review of African Conflict Paradigms

- January 22 Africa: The Historical Background
- January 29 Sources of Political Violence in Africa
- February 5 Mechanisms for Coping with Political Violence
- February 12 Sudan: Getting to Machakos
- February 19 Sudan: Getting to Inclusion
- February 26 The Liberian Civil War: the ECOWAS Project
- March 4 Mid-Term Exam; The Liberian Civil War: Internationalizing Peace-Building
- March 11 Spring Break: No Class
- March 18 Rwanda: Responses to Genocide
- March 25 The Congo: Regional Approaches to Peace-Building
- April 1 The Congo: Successes & Failures of an Expanded International Approach
- April 8 Ethiopia and Eritrea: An Extended Civil War?
- April 15 Mozambique: Ending Civil War
- April 22 Conclusions
- May 6 Final Examination

Individual Class Assignments

- January 15 Introduction: Review of African Conflict Paradigms

Readings: Jack S. Levy, "Theories of Interstate and Intrastate War: A Levels-of-Analysis Approach" 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 22 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 29 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 5 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 12 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; Kelly Campbell & Dorina Bekoe, *Sudan’s 2009 Elections: Critical Issues and Timelines* (USIPeace Briefing, 2007);

February 19 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; International Crisis Group, *A Strategy for Comprehensive Peace in Sudan*, Africa Report N°130, 26 July 2007

February 26 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), 103-122.

March 4 Mid-Term Examination; Liberia: Internationalizing Peace-Building

Readings: International Crisis Group, [Liberia: Staying Focused](#) (Africa Briefing N°36, 13 January 2006); 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; International Crisis Group, *Côte D'ivoire: Can The Ouagadougou Agreement Bring Peace?* Africa Report N°127 – 27 June 2007; USIP, "Women's Role in Liberia's Reconstruction" (USIPeace Briefing: May 2007)

March 18 Responses to Genocide in Rwanda – Guest Speaker: William Ferroggiaro, George Washington University

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; International Crisis Group, [Rwanda at the End of the Transition: A Necessary Political Liberalisation](#) (Africa Report N°53, 13 November 2002), 4-26; International Crisis Group, [Burundi: Finalising Peace with the FNL](#), Africa Report N°131, 28 August 2007; Timothy Longman, "Post-Genocide Rwanda," in Taisier M. Ali & Robert O. Matthews, eds., *Durable Peace: Challenges for Peace-building in Africa* (University of Toronto:2004), 61-85.

March 25 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

April 1 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; International Crisis Group, [Congo: Consolidating the Peace](#), Africa Report N°128, 5 July 2007.

April 8 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; International Crisis Group, [Ethiopia and Eritrea: Preventing War](#) (Africa Report N°101, 22 December 2005), 1-16;

April 15 Mozambique: Ending Civil War

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

April 22 Conclusions

May 6 Final Examination