Professor Information
Professor: Mrs. Rebecca J. McElyea
Office: Liberal Arts North #112
Office Hours: by appointment – please email me to schedule a ZOOM meeting
Email: Rebecca.McElyea@sfasu.edu

The best way to reach me is by email. During the week, I will return emails within 24 hours and on the weekend within 72 hours. Weekends begin at 5:00 pm on Fridays and conclude at 8:00 am on Mondays.

I will not be physically in my office over the summer as I am recovering from major surgery. Please understand and contact me via email for anything you may need. I have no issue meeting with you over ZOOM if you should need to talk to me.

Course Description:

In this course, we will engage in online learning to engage in an examination of contemporary conflicts and policies among states within Africa. Emphasis is placed on religion, nationalism, political sovereignty, and economic modernization affecting the regional realities of Africa today.

This course will be taught in a 100% online format, so students will learn through lectures in the online classroom using D2L. Students are expected to read all content assigned as well as remain current regarding political events happening in Africa throughout the duration of the class and should be able to comprehend and analyze both assigned text and current events.

Course Objectives:
The course seeks to help students achieve the following goals:

1. Examine the cultural and political history of the Africa;
2. Report persuasively and intelligently about the different ways in which both state and non-state actors interact with one another in Africa;
3. Compare African as a region, its politics, economics, cultures and societies;
4. Generate developed research and writing skills, including formulating policy research, literature reviews and the development of critical analysis;
5. Build a globalized perspective to learning.

**Required Reading:**


- The Professor, through D2L, reserves the right to post additional readings.
- Note about page numbers: All reading assignments correspond to the page numbers as listed in the texts themselves. For example, Page 5 of an article may not necessarily correspond with Page 5 of a PDF, so take caution to ensure that you are reading the correct material.

**Assessment:**

Grades for Government 4339 will be based on the completion of the following assignments: Weekly D2L assignments, a cumulative final exam, and a Policy Paper.

**Assessment Weighting Information**

The following are the weights given to your weekly D2L assignments, the Policy Paper, and the final exam as well as the date in which each is due:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grade Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly D2L assignments</td>
<td>Semester Long</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Paper</td>
<td>June 25, 2021</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Final Exam over videos &amp;</td>
<td>July 5-7, 2021</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>readings</td>
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Final grades will be granted on the following scale:

A=100%-90%
B=89%-80%
C=79%-70%
D=69%-60%
F=59% and below

**Additional Assignment Information**
Weekly D2L Assignments
Each week you will be asked to complete a single or multiple assignments associated with the week’s assigned readings. These may be short quizzes, writing activities, or reflective video assignments.

Policy Paper
This assignment requires students to critically analyze an existing foreign policy of a chosen state in Africa. The policy paper must provide the historical context that explains why this policy was implemented and why it continues to date, must fairly and critically analyze the strengths and weaknesses of said policy, and must ultimately conclude whether the chosen state should continue the policy as it is currently constituted, should alter it in some way, or should abandon it altogether in favor of another alternative. The policy paper must also provide a justification for focusing on this policy by citing literature indicating that its efficacy is in some way disputed by reliable sources.

Policy Paper Topics, Length and Citation Information
Topics must be approved by the instructor by May 28, 2021. The Policy Paper should be no shorter than 12 pages and no longer than 20 (Times New Roman, Double Spaced, one-inch margins). All sources should be cited using either MLA, APA, or Chicago Author/Date Style. Further specifications regarding the length and assessment guidelines for the policy paper are available in D2L. The Final Policy Paper is due June 25, 2021.

Online Final Exam
The final exam will be cumulative in nature. The final will be available online and available for you to take from 6AM July 5-7, 2021 11:59PM. All materials covered throughout the course, including videos may be tested during the final exam.

Late Assignment Information
A detailed description of student expectations has been provided to you above. It is the student’s responsibility to turn in and complete fully all assignments by the deadlines listed above. Because dates have been provided to you in advance no late assignments will be accepted. This includes Weekly D2L Assignments.

If you are going to be absent it is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible to avoid penalties. You must inform me of your absence before missing class. No additional assignments will be assigned nor will missed assignments be accepted if a student fails to inform the professor of their excused absence ahead of the scheduled absence.

University Policies and Additional Information

Mental Health On-campus Supports Available to Students
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support student’s mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services  
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices  
3rd Floor Rusk Building  
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic  
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp  
Human Services Room 202  
936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343  
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)  
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Important Dates**

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Begins</td>
<td>May 17, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day to drop courses or withdraw w/ WP or WF</td>
<td>May 24, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day to withdraw from university</td>
<td>May 25, 2021</td>
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<td>Memorial Day Holiday</td>
<td>May 31, 2021</td>
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<td>Finals Week</td>
<td>July 5-9, 2021</td>
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