

GEOG 30504 – African Environment and Development
Spring 2019
Monday and Thursday, 2:45pm to 4:00pm
Hunter North 1022

Instructor: Dr. Mohamed Babiker Ibrahim
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Office hours

Monday from 4:30 pm to 7:00pm
Thursday from 4:30pm to 6:30pm
Or by Appointment

Text: *Africa South of the Sahara* (3rd ed.) by Robert Stock, New York: The Guilford Press 2013. ISBN-9781606239926. This book will be available at the Shakespeare & Co. but is also available at either www.bn.com or www.amazon.com . Both websites have new and used copies of the text at lower prices.

Goals/objective and outcomes:

The goals of the course are: To learn about certain issues of the regional geography of Africa south of the Sahara, its physical environment, population and their activities, and the interrelationship between development and the physical environment, the use of other sources such as the internet to explore, navigate through and use of geographic information to increase students' knowledge of the continent, and to learn how to make comparisons between Africa and other continents based on mapped and statistical information.

By the end of this course, you should have a better understanding of the complex and dynamic interrelations between and within human and non-human systems of Africa south of the Sahara. These systems include climate, landforms, population, economics, mode of production, urbanization, and more.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- Know a general and broad knowledge of the major issues of the relationship between development and environment in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Have knowledge of the environment as a holistic approach that links the process of environmental, development and social change together and how this affects the livelihood of the African now and in the future.
- Learn and discuss the main reasons behind making Africa the least developed continent despite the fact that it is rich of natural and human resources.
- To learn and discuss the importance how the relationship between the environment and development may negatively affect the livelihood of the Africans.

- Know some of the key geographic, environmental, development and social justice issues facing our world today.
- Demonstrate the structure of scientific writing.

Lecture Schedule:

Week	Dates	Lecture	Readings
1	Jan. 28 - 31	Physical environment Geomorphology and soils, geological formations	Chapter 7
2	Feb. 4 - 7	Rivers and ground water	Chapter 26
3	Feb. 11 - 14	Climate and vegetation	Chapters 8, 9, and 27
4	Feb. 18 college closed Feb. 21	Human Environment Population	Chapters 13 and 14
5	Feb. 25 - 28	Population	Chapters 13 and 14
6	Mar. 4 - 7	Urbanization MIDTERM EXAM MARCH 10	Chaps 22, 23 and 24
7	Mar. 11 - 14	Modes of Development Development theory Agriculture, Plantation	Chapter 3 Chapter 20
8	Mar. 18 - 21	Irrigated agriculture Traditional agriculture	Chapter 20 Chapter 19
9	Mar. 25 - 28	Pastoralism	Chapter 19
10	Apr. 1 - 4	Development and environmental problems Structural adjustment Dual economy (introduction) Food security	Chapters 17 and 20 Chapter 20\ Chapter 21
11	Apr. 8 - 11	Debt crisis Water Crisis <i>First draft of term paper due April 14</i>	Chapter 16 Chapter 26
12	Apr. 15 - 18	Climate change	Chapter 8
	Apr. 19 and 28	NO CLASSES – SPRING RECESS	
13	April 29 - May 2	Desertification and deforestation Drought and famine	Chapter 9 Chapters 8 and 21
14	May 6 - 9	Poverty Rural-urban migration	Chapter 28 Chapter 15
15	May 13	Rapid urbanization Revision	Chapter 24
Monday, May 20 - FINAL EXAM – 1:45 pm to 3:45 PM			

Grading system:

Mid-term examination	40%
Final examination	40%
Term paper	20%

Mid-term Exam:

The midterm exam is a take-home examination consisting of four short essay questions. You need to support your writing with examples from books and peer-reviewed articles.

Final Exam:

All of the final examination is a take-home exam consisting of four short essays. These essays should be supported with examples from books and peer-reviewed articles.

Grading Policies:

1. I do not give incompletes (**IN**) except under the most extraordinary and documented circumstances.
2. The only students who will be eligible for CR/NC at the end of the semester are those who have completed all of the course requirements including all mid-term exam, term paper, and the final exam.
3. If miss an exam, you must (1) contact me within 48 hours of the missed exam, (2) present acceptable documentary evidence for your absence, and (3) arrange a make-up exam at a mutually convenient date and time. A make-up exam covers the same materials as the regular exam but will not be the same exam given as scheduled.
4. If you fail to take the final exam, you have the same 48 hours in which to contact me about a make-up exam and provide me with the appropriate documentation supporting your absence. If I do not hear from you within that time period, I will award you an exam grade of zero (0), and average that zero into your semester grade.

Please note the following guidelines for your term paper:

1. The professor must approve your topic. Choose one from the topics listed in the lecture schedule.
2. The paper must be double-spaced, one inch margins on all sides, 12 point font, and at least 14 pages long plus bibliography.
3. It should include a minimum of ten (10) cited references from books and peer-reviewed articles.
4. The paper should include tables, maps or graphs (notate the source).
5. In case of citation of references in the text, use **APA** format (**parentheses**) and **NOT** the **MLA** format (You will be given printout examples in the class).
6. There should be a cover page showing the title, your name, course number, instructor's name and the semester (i.e. Spring 2019).
7. Sub-headings should be used in the paper along an introduction and a conclusion.
8. The bibliography should be written properly at the end of the paper.
9. I must receive the first draft by **April 14, 2019**. I will have a look at it, make comments and give it back to you to improve it (By email).
10. The deadline for submission of the final draft paper is **May 1, 2019** (By email)

11. If you have any question(s) come and see me.
12. Not following of any of these points will reduce your grade.

HUNTER COLLEGE'S STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

And I might add that creative originality and integrity are essential if you want to develop the kind of knowledge that is going to do you any good in life. When you cheat at school, the one you are really cheating is ultimately your future self.

ADA Policy

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of ACCESSABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772- 4857 or (212) 650-3230.

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College affirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationship. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, on contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444)
- b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link: <http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/la/Policy-on-Sexual-Misconduct-12-1-14-with-links.pdf>

Please... do not hesitate to come and see me if you have any question.