

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa
2	Module Code:	INTR32657
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Full Year
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	1 September 2013

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

Pre, Co, Post Module Code Module Title

To study this module, you should have studied at least 40 credits of International Relations or Politics modules at level 2

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
		FT	HUMA005	BA (H) Communications & Society and International Relations
		FT	HUMA013	BA (H) English and International Relations
		FT	HUMA021	BA (H) European Studies and International Relations
		FT	HUMA026	BA (H) Film & TV and International Relations
		FT	HUMA030	BA (H) Global Studies and International Relations
		FT	HUMA035	BA (H) History and International Relations
		FT	HUMA040	BA (H) Linguistics and International Relations
		FT	HUMA043	BA (H) Media and International Relations
		FT	HUMA045	BA (H) Philosophy and International

		Relations
FT	HUMA046	BA (H) TESOL and International Relations
SW	MODL009	BA (H) French and International Relations
SW	MODL022	BA (H) German and International Relations
SW	MODL035	BA (H) Italian and International Relations
SW	MODL045	BA (H) Mandarin Chinese and International Relations
SW	MODL053	BA (H) Spanish and International Relations
FT	EURX001	European Exchange (First Half Year)
FT	EURX002	European Exchange (Second Half Year)
FT	EURX003	European Exchange (Full Year)
FT	INTX001	International Exchange (First Half Year)
FT	INTX002	International Exchange (Second Half Year)
FT	INTX003	International Exchange (Full Year)

10 Overview and aims

In international relations theory and history, Africa is often given the role of a negligible periphery, under the influence of political events and decisions taken elsewhere, which it is rarely able to influence. A closer look at African conflicts and political events, however, shows that they have often tended to reflect the tensions of the West and to play the role of a proxy field for superpower rivalries. Some observers have also described Africa as a centre of experimentation for new international relations paradigms. Contrary to the general belief, Africa may therefore also be seen as an excellent case study in international relations, one that helps us cast a new light on a widely studied international political history. The aim of this optional course is to analyse African conflicts through the above-mentioned two-way process: On the one hand, how did international events and trends influence politics in Africa? On the other, how did African politics and crises influence the international agenda? The module will further invite students to reflect on Africa's regional, continental and international relations and break away with mainstream portrayals of Africa as a 'hopeless continent' devoid of meaningful politics.

The module is also designed to be a student-led module in the sense that the formal teaching provides students with a broad framework which introduces ideas and debates, but leaves them to pursue the specific questions they want to follow both in their reading and coursework, with the important proviso that they attend classes and take part actively in the debates on and class analysis

11 Module content

This module explores aspects of the international relations and domestic political, economic and socio-cultural processes for all African states south of the Sahara (i.e. all African states with the exception of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt).

The topics included in this module will include: Africa's Decolonisation(s) and Independence(s);

Pan Africanism and Regional Integration; Africa in the Cold War; Africa's Post-Cold War Conflicts; Peacekeeping Operations and Post-Conflict Reforms in Africa; Africa and the International Development Agenda; Africa and the North (France, Britain and the European Union); Africa and the Emerging South (China, India, Brazil).

12 Indicative reading

- C. S. Clapham (1996), *Africa and the International System: The Politics of State Survival*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- K. C. Dunn and T. M. Shaw (2001), *Africa's Challenge to International Relations Theory*, Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.
- I. J. Herbst (2000), *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- P. Nugent (2004), *Africa Since Independence: A Comparative History*, Basingstoke Palgrave Macmillan.
- I. Taylor (2010), *The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa*, New York: Continuum.
- P. D. Williams (2011), *War and Conflict in Africa*, Cambridge: Polity.
- C. Young (1994), *The African Colonial State in Comparative Perspective*, New Haven: ale University Press.

13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Critically analyse the nature and significance of Sub-Saharan Africa's current position in world affairs;
 - Critically evaluate Sub-Saharan Africa's post-colonial political history and its relevance for the study of the continent's international relations;
 - Critically evaluate the main themes, theories and concepts used in academic works on the international relations of Sub-Saharan Africa;
 - Critically examine the interactions between the rest of the world and the African continent, and between African states and multilateral actors, as well as of the multiple actors and the main trends involved in making and influencing Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations;
- Synthesise the main debates in the academic literature analysing Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Critically examine evidence, data and text relevant to the study of the international relations of Sub-Saharan Africa;
 - Generate critical reviews of documents (academic books and journals, policy reports, films and novels) relevant to the study of Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations;
 - Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in academic and specialist literature on Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations;
- Design a comprehensive and coherent analysis taking into account the international context and key concepts and arguments and supported by relevant cases studies and examples under limited-time constraints.

14 Teaching and learning

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module,

e.g. lectures, seminars	
<p>The module will include several elements. Formal lectures and seminars (12 of each) will be compulsory and form the staple of formal contact time. The 12 lectures (each 2 hours) will be used to present key information to the student body in order to introduce and develop understanding of the topics covered. The 12 seminar sessions (each 2 hours) will be used to reinforce student understanding of the topics covered, explore other relevant issues, material and ideas surrounding the topics under discussion. Seminars will also be used to develop transferable skills including: communication and group discussion skills, team work, oral presentation, debates. Individual meetings with the module leader and seminar tutor(s) will be encouraged throughout the module.</p> <p>The university's grade based assessment scheme will be used for the summative and formative assignments for this module.</p> <p>Total contact hours: 48</p>	
<p><i>Range of other learning methods</i></p> <p>This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research</p>	
<p><i>Range of other learning methods</i></p> <p>Indicative reading lists will be provided highlighting core texts which should be read and key sources which should be used in individual research. These sources include academic journals, newspapers, audio-visual material and online (media and policy) material. In-line with the university's minimum standards on e-learning the Resource List Management Software (RLMS) will be used to ensure the reading list requirements of this module are up-to-date and that students, teaching staff and library staff are aware of these resources.</p> <p>A virtual learning environment (NOW) will also be used to provide students with module material such as lecture presentations, electronic copies of book and journal material, information regarding relevant events such as conferences and links to other relevant internet-based material. NOW will also be used to further develop discussions and debates launched during the seminars and link these to further online resources. Support will also be provided throughout the module for students to do their own research and readings, prepare their presentations and write their essays.</p> <p>152</p>	

15	Assessment methods		
	This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module		
<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	100%	Examination	2 hour examination at the end of the year

Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Formative coursework and presentations. Students will be asked to prepare written and oral critical reviews of documents (academic books and journals, policy reports, films and novels) relevant to the study of Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations. Feedback will be provided by peers on the oral work and by the module teaching staff on the oral and written work. This formative work will be used as a preparation tool for the final, summative examination, which will invite students to apply the reviewing skills thus developed throughout the year on a specific set of documents relevant to the study of the international relations of Sub-Saharan Africa.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

Document management

16	Module Title:	The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa	
17	Module Code:	INTR32657	
18	Subject (JACS) Code	L250	
19	Cost Centre	128	
20	School:	AAH	
21	Academic Team	HLI	
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)	
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>	
		Institution	%
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU		
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU		
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU		
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU		
24	Date this version was formally		

approved by SASQC/DAG: