

AFRICA CHINA RELATIONS COURSE

INTRO - Africa-China Relations

AFS 4935-01FA (25279); INR 4931 (25476)

Spring 2021

Professor: Dr. Agnes Ngoma Leslie

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CLASS MEETINGS:

M | Period 7 (1:55 PM - 2:45 PM) [FAB 0105](#) (only this class will be in class)

W | Period 7 - 8 (1:55 PM - 3:50 PM) [FAB 0105](#) (All classes via Zoom)

OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY 2-4 PM, (Virtually); Zoom link provided.

PLEASE NOTE: Despite the good news about the vaccine, the situation remains unprecedented and patience and flexibility will be required by all to maximize learning while preserving individual and public health. Students be advised and forewarned that there may be unexpected changes to class modalities during the semester.

Class Philosophy

This class will be taught as a colloquium. Each student will make at least one presentation via zoom. All students will be expected to do the readings and participate in the discussions. Students will also be availed the opportunity to listen to specialists studying China and Africa Relations. Students will have the opportunity to participate in ongoing research about China and Africa. Researchers on the topic will present to the students and student will have the opportunity to engage with them via zoom. The class will be linked to the on-going spring presentation of China and Africa's evolving relations during the pandemic. As a result this will be discussion based and mostly held online via zoom.

Grading

Students' grades will be based on attendance and participation in class discussions, class presentations, term paper, research presentations based on the readings and guest research presentations as follows:

- 1) Leading one class discussion and synthesizing the readings = 20 % (4 pages, typewritten);
- 2) Policy paper on an African country = 20%
- 3) One quiz based on readings presentations and videos = 20%;
- 4) Synthesis of 2 guest presentations (10% each = 20%)
- 5) Term paper on one of the assigned topics = 20 %.

Grade Point Scale: A = 93 or above, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 74-76, C- = 70-73, D+ = 67-69, D = 63-66, D- = 60-62, E = 59 or below

With the exception of the final paper, all writing assignments will be returned to students with comments before the final week of class. The professor reserves the right to make changes in order to meet the course objectives.

Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require classroom accommodation should first register with the Dean of Students Office who will provide them with the necessary documentation.

Course Description: This course explores the evolving relationship between China and Africa using the political, economic and cultural lens. China has grown to be one of the most prominent partners in Africa. This relationship is manifested in trade, infrastructure, politics and physical environment. However, this relationship is complex with varied actors. This course will explore the historical emergence of the relationship between China and the continent, the current areas of engagement and how these have impacted the latter. The course will be taught as a seminar and will use the case study approach to emphasize and analyze the main issues of engagement and sometimes confrontation. The course will also include presenters who study various aspects of the topic. Students will engage with these researchers and write brief papers on their presentations.

Required Readings:

1. Taylor, Ian. *China's New Role in Africa*. 2009: Boulder: Lynne Rienner.
2. Gadzala, Aleksandra. *Africa and China: How Africans and their Governments are Shaping Relations with China*. Boulder: Bowman and Littlefield.

Journal readings: African Studies Quarterly:

3. <https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/previous-issues/volume-16/issue-3-4/>
4. <https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/previous-issues/volume-17/issue-4/>
5. <http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/current-issue/>

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 – Jan. 11 - Introduction – Course Objective, brief introduction to Africa and China.

Reading 1. China in Africa: Implications of a Deepening Relationship, [Larry Hanauer](#), Lyle, J. Morris. RAND Corporation:
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB9760.html

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/09/focac-2018-rebranding-china-in-africa/>

Jan 13 - Status of the Africa China Relationship – Latest situation

1. What's in it for Africa and China? The Africa-China Relationship: Challenges

and Opportunities.

Paul Tiyambe Zeleza (2014) The Africa-China relationship: challenges and opportunities, Canadian Journal of African Studies/Revue canadienne des études africaines, 48:1, 145-169, DOI: [10.1080/00083968.2014.946298](https://doi.org/10.1080/00083968.2014.946298) [Pages 145-169 | Published online: 01 Dec 2014](#)

Week 2 – History of China-Africa Relations

Jan.18 - Martin Luther King Day – No class

Jan. 20. A Historical Overview of China-Africa Relations (Chapter 2 – Shinn and Eisenman)

2. Africa Collective Role – African Union
3. Sino-Zambian relations: 'An all-weather friendship' weathering the storm

Dominik Kopin'ski and Andrzej Polus:
<https://eds-b-ebshost-com.lp.hscl.ufl.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=9&sid=210aae8a-0ee0-48f1-93b2-1b5c01ab0559%40sessionmgr4007>

Week 3 – China's Africa Policy in Context

Jan. 25 – 1. China's Africa Policy in Context, (Chapter 1, Taylor)

Jan. 27 2. Government of China white paper, “China’s African Policy,” January 2006. Direct link: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/000944550704300309>

3. Current Status: FOCAC

Week 4 – Africa China Economic Partnership

1. Feb 1. Oil Diplomacy (Taylor, Chapter 2)

2. Feb 3. Economic Statecraft. Deborah Bräutigam and Tang Xiaoyang, “Economic Statecraft in China’s New Overseas Special Economic Zones,” IFPRI Discussion Paper no. 01168 (March 2012). Direct Link: ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01168.pdf.

Week 4 –1. Investments and Trade – Complements and Conflict

POLICY PAPER DUE – February 8th

Feb. 8. 1. The Impact of Cheap Chinese Goods (Taylor, Chapter 3)

Feb. 10. 1. Chinese Merchants Thrive in Senegal, Where People ‘Needed Stuff’ New York Times:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/23/world/africa/chinese-merchants-thrive-in-senegal-where-people-needed-stuff.html>

2. **The Political Economy of Galamsey and Anti-Chinese Sentiment in Ghana, Richard Aidoo**

http://sites.clas.ufl.edu/africa-asq/files/v16a5.Aidoo_HD.pdf

African Studies Quarterly | Volume 16, Issue 3-4 | December 2016

3. Does Chinese Employment Benefit Africans? Investigating Chinese Enterprises and their Operations in Africa, TANG XIAOYANG, African Studies Quarterly | Volume 16, Issue 3-4 | December 2016 http://sites.clas.ufl.edu/africa-asq/files/v16a8.Tang_HD.pdf

Week 5 – China’s Belt and Road Initiative and Africa

Feb. 15. 1. **Introduction: China-Africa Relations: The Belt and Road Initiative and Its Impact on Africa.** Agnes Ngoma Leslie: *African Studies Quarterly* | Volume 19, Issue 3-4 | October 2020: <https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/V19i3-4a1.Introduction-China-Africa.pdf>

2. Understanding China’s Belt and Road Infrastructure Projects in Africa, Dollar, David. September 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/understanding-chinas-belt-and-road-infrastructure-projects-in-africa/>

Feb. 17

1. **China's Belt and Road Initiative in Africa, Debt Risk and New Dependency: The Case of Ethiopia**

ISTVÁN TARRÓSY

<https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/V19i3-4a2.pdf>

2. **Belt and Road Initiative in Africa: The Impact of Standard Gauge Railway in Kenya.** Githaiga, N. M.; Bing, w. China Report, [s. l.], v. 55, n. 3, p. 219–240, 2019.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0009445519853697>

Week 6 – China and Human Rights

Feb. 22: QUIZ

Feb. 24

1. **The Issue of Human Rights – (Taylor, Chapter 4)**

2. Workers' Rights – Zambia: November 3, 2011 2:45AM EDT, Zambia: Workers Detail Abuse in Chinese-Owned Mines:, Enforce Health, Safety, and Labor Laws in Copper Mining Industry: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2011/11/03/zambia-workers-detail-abuse-chinese-owned-mines>

3. Zambia's new President Sata sets new mining rules for China

<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/2011/0928/Zambia-s-new-President-Sata-sets-new-mining-rules-for-China>

WEEK 7 – ARMS TRADE/MILITARY AND PEACEKEEPING ENGAGEMENTS

March 1.

1. **The Arms Trade (Taylor, Chapter 5)**

March 3.

2. **China Expands Its Peace and Security Footprint in Africa**

[Michael Kovrig](#)

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/asia/north-east-asia/china/china-expands-its-peace-and-security-footprint-africa>

3. China's weapons trade: from ships of shame to the ethics of global resistance Samuel J. Spiegel and Philippe le Billon

<http://content.ebscohost.com/ContentServer.asp?T=P&P=AN&K=36791448&S=R&D=h us&EbscoContent=dGJyMNHX8kSeprI4yNfsOLCmsEiepq5Srqq4SbOWxWXS&ContentCustomer=dGJyMPGut1C1qbNJuePfgeyx43zx>

Week 8 – China's Soft Power

March 8: 1. Grand Strategy and China's Soft Power Push in Africa

[Paul Nantulya](https://africacenter.org/spotlight/grand-strategy-and-chinas-soft-power-push-in-africa/), August 30, 2018: Africa Center for Strategic Studies:
<https://africacenter.org/spotlight/grand-strategy-and-chinas-soft-power-push-in-africa/>

March 10: China Training

1. **Power or Influence? Making Sense of China's Evolving Party-to-party Diplomacy in Africa**, Lina Benabdallah *African Studies Quarterly* | Volume 19, Issues
2. Chinese Training Courses for African Officials a "Win Win" Engagement? Henry Tugend: <https://saiscari.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/sais-cari-brief-3-2014-tugendhat.pdf>

Week 9 – Policy Paper Due – March 22th

1. March 15

China-Africa Media Initiatives– Reflections of Chinese in African Media and Africans in Chinese Media: Africa and Chinese Coverage:

1.China-Africa media relations: What we know so far: Herman Wasserman,<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/2059436418784787>

2. China-Africa in 2020: Three Trends to Watch: Cobus van Staden:
<https://chinaafricaproject.com/analysis/china-africa-in-2020-three-trends-to-watch/>

March 17

China-Africa Media Images

1. China and the Shaping of African Information Societies – Iginio Gagliardone
2. The Image of Africa in China: The Emerging Role of Chinese Social Media, Lianxing Li

http://sites.clas.ufl.edu/africa-asq/files/v16a10_Li.pdf

WEEK 10 – AFRICAN COUNTRIES' AGENCY

March 22

1. Negotiating China: Reinserting African agency into China–Africa relations. *African Affairs*, Volume 112, Issue 446, January 2013, Pages 92–110, <https://doi.org/10.1093/afraf/ads065>

March 24

1. China's Belt and Road Initiative and Intra-Regional Dynamics in Africa: *African Studies Quarterly* | Volume 19, Issues 3-4 | October 2020 **Oscar Meywa Otele:**
<https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/otele-oct-2020/>
2. "Making Space for African Agency in China-Africa Engagements: Ghanaian and Nigerian Patrons Shaping Chinese Enterprise." Ben Lampert and Giles Mohan, chapter Six in Gadzala.

WEEK 11 – AFRICAN RESPONSES –HOW AFRICANS ARE SHAPING RELATIONS WITH CHINA

March 29 – Abstracts for term paper due

Chapter three, p.43, Aleksandra W. Gadzala: *Africa and China: How Africans are shaping Relations with China*

March 31

Outlining African Agency Against the Background of the Belt and Road Initiative. Cobus van Staden, Chris Alden and Yu-Shan Wu: *African Studies Quarterly* | Volume 19, Issues 3-4 | October 2020: <https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/V19i3-4a7.pdf>

Week 12. – China and Africa Migrations

April 5: Summary of research papers due

April 7 Chinese Populations in Africa

1. Chinese growing population in Africa: Audrea Lim: <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lp.hscl.ufl.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=12&sid=547eea29-59fb-4885-8c3a-8dae07b7e80d%40sessionmgr103>

China's New Frontier:

African Populations in China

1. The Bridge is not Burning Down: Transformation and Resilience within China's African Diaspora Communities by **Adams Bodomo, ASQ**
https://asq.africa.ufl.edu/bodomo_feb2018/
2. African Students in China: Research, Reality, and Reflection. Li, Anshan. African Studies Quarterly. Volume 17, Issue 4. February 2018:

<http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lp.hscl.ufl.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=9&sid=3d3150ab-241e-4c4d-a209-bf323b0a45bb%40pdc-v-sessmgr04>

Week 13 – Africans in China – Trade and Communities

1. **April 12 – African Traders in China** From Pioneers to Professionals: African Brokers in a Maturing Chinese Marketplace, African Studies Quarterly, Volume 17, Issue 4, February 2018, Heidi Østbø Haugen

http://asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/3_Haugen.pdf

Conclusion: What is the Way Forward?

April 14 – Term Papers due

Term Paper Due: April 14 @ 3:50PM

Classes End – April 21