Course: China in Africa: An Introduction? Course Co-ordinator: Ms Sanusha Naidu

5-8, 12 July 2022



Course Co-ordinator: Ms Sanusha Naidu (E-mail: sanusha.naidu@gmail.com)

Ms Sanusha Naidu is a foreign policy and political analyst based with Cape Town. Her work includes democracy, development and the political economy of Africa's international relations and South Africa's Foreign Policy. She has also focused her interests on South-South Cooperation, the footprint of emerging powers (China and India) in Africa, and drivers of globalisation (including technological factors and disruptors influencing the global economy). Ms Naidu has a Masters in International Relations from the University of Staffordshire, United Kingdom. Currently she is a Senior Research Associate with the Institute for Global Dialogue. She has previously worked at the Centre for Conflict Resolution based in Cape Town, managed the South African Foreign Policy Initiative (SAFPI) at the Open Society Foundation for South Africa and oversaw Fahamu's (a network for social justice movements based in Kenya) China and Emerging Powers in Africa programme. Ms Naidu has published extensively including two edited books on Africa-China relations. She is regular media commentator for South African and international media agencies including Aljazeera News, China Global Television Network (CGTN), CCTV, BBC Radio, SABC, CBS Africa, Channel Africa, Xinhua News Agency, Africa Report, eNCA, Central News (Nigeria).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

China is now Africa's largest trading partner and is building strong economic and political ties with the African continent. While China engaged with African liberation movements during the Cold War, it was only from the 1990s onwards, following its shift to a market economy, that the Chinese presence in Africa became a topic of widespread public debate relating to the Asian giant's political, economic, development cooperation and security relationship with Africa as well as the technological innovations and disruptions. Understanding the drivers of how China engages with Africa is crucial to grasping the geopolitical realignment of global power and strategic interests, which is currently taking place in world politics. By the end of this course students will gain pivotal insights into the push and pull factors of what underpins China's deepening footprint in the African landscape. More importantly students will be introduced to the dimensions that informs Africa's agency and evolving interaction with Beijing. Through the course students will also familiarize themselves with the debates and narratives surrounding the relationship, including whether it is both an opportunity and a threat to Africa's political, economic, social and security development and environmental affairs. The course will be conducted through interactive lectures, seminar informed discussions, and video material. The material is highly inter-disciplinary in nature and requires no pre-existing knowledge in any field.

COURSE STRUCTURE

DAY	SEMINAR / ACTIVITY
Tuesday, I I July (Ms Sanusha Naidu)	09:00 – 11:00 Introduction: Why study China's engagement with Africa and vice versa? 11:00 – 11:30 Tea / Coffee 11:30 – 13:00 Chinese Historical Relations with Africa 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch 14:00 – 16:30 China's Political Relations with Africa
Wednesday, 12 July	09:00 – 11:00 Chinese Investment and Trade: Overview

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(Ms Sanusha Naidu)	11:00 – 11:30 Tea / Coffee 11:30 – 13:00 Trade versus Aid: China's Development Cooperation to Africa 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch 14:00 – 16:30 Global Groupings/Multilateral Cooperation (BRICS and FOCAC)
Thursday 13 July (Ms Sanusha Naidu)	Field trip: Hisense Factory Visit
Friday 14 July (Ms Sanusha Naidu)	09:00 – 11:00 African Agency 11:00 – 11:30 Tea / Coffee 11:30 – 13:00 China's Environmental Challenges and Conservation Strategies 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch 14:00 – 15:30 Africans in China; Chinese in Africa (issues of migration, and people to people exchanges) 14:00 – 15:30 Group Presentation discussion and preparation
Tuesday 18 July (Ms Sanusha Naidu)	Group Presentations 09:30 – 11:00 – Group Presentation 11:00 – 11:30 – Tea / Coffee 11:30 – 13:00 – Group Presentation 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch 14:00 – 15:30 – Group Presentation 15:30 – 16:30 – Test discussion and preparation Course Evaluation will be done at the end of the second session.

COURSE CONTENT and READINGS

Readings will be made available on Moodle: http://learn.sun.ac.za/

EVALUATION

Your final grade for the course will be based on the following components:

Class Participation (10%)

Group Presentation (40%)

Test (50%) – the written assignment must be submitted on Friday, 21 July 2023.

Group Presentation

Information regarding the Group Presentation will be made available in class on the first day of lectures.

Written Assignment

You are required to submit a 2000 word research paper on any of the following topics:

Topic I: Discuss China's evolving engagement with Africa through the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)? In your analysis reflect on how FOCAC has responded to Africa's development priorities. and the implications for strengthening the engagement.

Topic 2: Assess to what extent African agency plays a significant role in the engagement between China and Africa? In your essay you should discuss the perceptions of African political and economic elites and ordinary African citizens in the way that they respond to China's engagement with the continent.

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Topic 3: Using a country or sector case study, identify and discuss one opportunity and threat that is evident in the China-Africa relationship.

What should the format look like? Your essays must be typed using 1.5 line spacing. Remember to spell check and proofread your paper before handing it in.

Do I need to reference my sources? Yes, you must use in-line referencing (use whatever system you are used to, as long as you are consistent).

Submission process: <u>Please submit your paper by 17:00 on Friday, 21 July</u> I) via SunLearn . Please note that the file name should be your first and last names,

How will the papers be graded?

The following criteria will be used in grading your papers:

- Relevance to topic
- Strong introduction and conclusion
- Clarity, logic, coherence
- Arguments supported by evidence
- Free of errors in grammar, punctuation, word choice, spelling, and format
- Evidence of critical thinking and engagement with the topic
- The use of relevant examples to substantiate your argument.

Plagiarism:

Please note that plagiarism in any form is regarded as a serious offence and will result in penalties. All written assignments must be uploaded onto Turnitin via Moodle. Students are also required to sign a plagiarism declaration