Global South, Emerging Economies and Global Growth Regions: Globalization and African Development

Course Lecturer: Dr. Pádraig Carmody, Trinity College Dublin
Course Coordinator: Prof. Martina Fuchs, University of Cologne

Dates and Location
Tuesday, 10 April 2018, 4 - 5.30 pm, Room 524 WiSo-building
Monday 16 July - Friday 20 July 2018, 4 pm - 7 pm, Room 524 WiSo-building
Saturday 21 July 2018, 10 am - 5 pm, Room 524 WiSo-building

Please note that participation in the preparatory meeting on 10 April 2018, 4 - 5.30 pm is mandatory to take this course!

Overview
From the late-1970s much of Africa experienced a profound economic crisis, manifest at different levels from the macro-economic to the household. However, from the mid-1990s and particularly from the early 2000s much of the continent saw a dramatic growth revival associated with the idea of “Africa Rising”. Has this led to development on the continent however? Some authors claim that Africa has been by-passed by globalisation and the solution to Africa’s problems are further and deeper integration into the global economy. Others argue that it is the very nature of Africa’s dependent integration into the international system which accounts for many of the systemic problems which confront the continent. This module will explore these and other issues with a view to understanding both similarities and differences between different regions and countries of the Sub-Saharan African sub-continent. Different approaches to understanding the current African condition will be explored from the both orthodox and heterodox perspectives. Particular attention will be paid to how globalisation and external social forces interact with local histories and actors to shape social identities such as ethnicity, gender, and nation and the construction of regions. Whether Africa is really “rising” will be explored and attention will also be paid to issues such as the nature of “the” African state, technology, HIV/AIDs, China and India’s involvement, the role of resources in African political economy, and popular resistance to globalisation and possible alternatives.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course students should have:

- A good understanding of African political economy.
- Be conversant with the impacts of globalization, technological development and external social forces on the sub-continent.
- Have a good understanding of the importance and nature of the new interregionalism being constructed with Asia.
- Understand the importance of local context, resources and social struggles in the construction of regions on the sub-continent with distinctive characteristics.
- Understand the concept of human security and its application to issues such as HIV/AIDS.
• Understand the nature of the global aid regime and its potentialities and limitations to transform socio-economic development on the sub-continent.
• Be able to critically assess the future possibilities and directions for economic development on the sub-continent.

Textbooks

Indicative Reading: Books
Oil and Politics in the Gulf of Guinea by Ricardo Soares de Oliveira (London: Hurst, 2007).
The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa by Ian Taylor (London, Continuum, 2010).
The Political Economy of Africa by V. Padayachee (London; Routledge, 2010).
Africa’s Development Impasse: Rethinking the Political Economy of Transformation by S. Andreasson (London, Zed, 2010).


Articles


