

## **Department of Sociology**

### **Honours Module: China/Chinese in Africa's Development 2011**

**Time:** Wednesdays 11-1pm

**Venue:** St Peters Cathedral

#### **Lecturers:**

Dr Tu Huynh, Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology, Rhodes University (course coordinator contact: t.huynh@ru.ac.za)

Dr Maitseo Bolaane, Faculty of Humanities, University of Botswana

Professor Antoine Kernén, Faculty of Social and Political Science, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

#### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to examine the links between China and Africa from the beginning of their historical and political relationship through to present times. While larger issues of China's foreign policy, development aid, and trade in Africa frame this course, it explores in detail themes like historical linkages between China and Africa, shifts in the nature of the ties between the two, the role of migration and migrants in Africa's development, and the relationship between Chinese merchants and Africans in particular African countries. Countries covered in the readings will include Botswana, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Namibia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Lectures, however, will mainly highlight the experiences of Botswana, Cameroon, Mali, and South Africa in the China-Africa relationship.

The course aims to provide students the opportunity to critically discuss and analyze China-Africa (or Africa-China) socio-economic relations and their implications for future political relations between the country and the continent. It also aims to allow students the opportunity to examine a number of inter-related topics that shed light on China's (possible) influences and impacts on the economies, politics, and societies of individual African countries.

Some questions to consider during the six-week course, include, but are not limited to:

- What are the dominant perceptions of China's politico-economic agendas towards the African continent, and what do those, in turn, suggest about the perceptions of Africa?

- Is there only one Chinese actor in Africa or are there multiple actors? And if there are multiple actors in Africa, who are they?
- How do foreign aid, investment, and trade interconnect in the relationship between China and Africa?
- What does China's new wave of aid and economic cooperation mean for African development?
- Will China catalyze or crush African manufacturing and agriculture? Similarly, does the importation of Chinese products help or hinder Africans? Along the same line, are Chinese traders underselling or out-competing African traders, thus, worsening their livelihood?
- What kinds of employment opportunities do China's state-owned-enterprises create in Africa, if any?
- Is China an appropriate economic development model for Africa?

### **Course Requirements:**

Attendance at seminars is compulsory. Student participants are expected to have read all the assigned readings prior to coming to class. The required readings are indicated with an asterisk (\*). The non-asterisk readings are only suggestions for further reading. Furthermore, you are expected to give an oral presentation once during the six-week course. Students will be randomly selected during class to give a short analysis and synthesis of the readings as well as to pose one question to the class to stimulate discussion. Overall, the presentation should be under five minutes.

Students will be required to write an eight- to ten-page essay for this course. The eight to ten pages exclude the bibliography. You may write on one of the themes designated for a particular week of the course. Alternatively, you may formulate the essay topic in consultation with one of the three lecturers. Your topic must address a specific issue within the broader context of China-Africa relations. You are not limited to using the readings from the course outline.

### **Week 1: Introduction**

\* Barry Sautman and Yan Hairong, "Friends and Interests: China's Distinctive Links with Africa," *African Studies Review* (Dec., 2007) 50: 3, 75-114.

\* Chris Alden, Dan Large, and Ricardo Soares de Oliveira, "China Returns to Africa: Anatomy of an Expansive Engagement," Real Instituto Elcano, Working Paper 51/2008.

\* Baohui Zhang, "Chinese Foreign Policy in Transition: Trends and Implications," *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* (2010) 39: 2, 39-68.

Dominik Kopyński, Andrzej Polus & Ian Taylor, "Contextualising Chinese Engagement in Africa," *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* (2011) 29: 2, 129-136.

Deborah Bräutigam, "China, Africa and the International Aid Architecture," *African*

Development Bank, Working Paper Series, N° 107 - April 2010.

May Tan-Mullins, Giles Mohan, and Marcus Power, "Redefining 'Aid' in the China-Africa Context, *Development and Change*, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague.

## **Week 2: China in Transformation and Going Global**

\* Garth Shelton, Afro-Chinese Relations in an Era of Globalization, In *Afro-Chinese Relations: Past, Present and Future*, Edited by Kwesi Kwaa Prah (Cape Town: Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society, 2007).

\* Kwesi Kwaa Prah, "Nationalism, Revolution and Economic Transformation in China: Any lessons for Africa?" In *Afro-Chinese Relations: Past, Present and Future*, Edited by Kwesi Kwaa Prah (Cape Town: Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society, 2007)

\* Emmanuel Ma Mung Kuang, "The New Chinese Migration Flows to Africa," *Social Science Information* (2008) 47, 643-659.

Jean-Claude Maswana, "A Center-Periphery Perspective on Africa-China's Emerging Economic Links," *African and Asian Studies* (2009) 8, 67-88.

Tukumbi Lumumba-Kasongo, "Foreword on 'China in Africa,'" *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 201-206.

Yoon Jung Park and Tu T. Huynh, "Introduction: Chinese in Africa," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 207-212.

Tu T. Huynh, Yoon Jung Park, and Anna Ying Chen, "Faces of China: New Chinese Migrants in South Africa, 1980s to Present," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 286-306.

## **Week 3: China's Historical and Economic Relationship with Africa and...Vice Versa?**

\* Chris Alden & Ana Cristina Alves, "History & Identity in the Construction of China's Africa Policy," *Review of African Political Economy* (2008) 35: 115, 43-58.

\* Giles Mohan and Marcus Power, "New African Choices? The Politics of Chinese Engagement," *Review of African Political Economy* (2008) 35: 115, 23-42.

\* M. M. M. Bolaane, "China's Relations with Botswana: An Historical Perspective," In *Afro-Chinese Relations: Past, Present and Future*, Edited by Kwesi Kwaa Prah (Cape Town: Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society, 2007).

Joel Wuthnow, "The Concept of Soft Power in China's Strategic Discourse," *Issues &*

*Studies* (Jun., 2008) 44: 2, 1-28.

Percyslage Chigora and Taderera Hebert Chisi, "The Eight Years of Interaction: Lessons from Zimbabwe's Look East Policy and the Future of African Countries and Asia-Pacific Region," *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa* (2009) 10: 4, 147-161.

Deborah A. Bräutigam and Tang Xiaoyang, "China's Engagement in African Agriculture: "Down to the Countryside"" *The China Quarterly* (Sep., 2009) 199, 686-706.

Yan Hairong and Barry Sautman, "Chinese Farms in Zambia: From Socialist to 'Agro-Imperialist' Engagement?" *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 307-333.

Mario Esteban, "A Silent Invasion? African Views on the Growing Chinese Presence in Africa: The Case of Equatorial Guinea," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 232-251.

Karen L. Harris, "Anti-Sinicism: Roots in Pre-industrial Colonial Southern Africa," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 213-231.

#### **Week 4: One China Strategy Toward Africa or Multiple China Strategies in Africa, Part I: Background to and the Role of China's State-Owned-Enterprises**

\* Erica S. Downs, "The Fact and Fiction of Sino-African Energy Relations," *China Security* (Summer 2007) 3: 3, 42-68.

\* Ching Kwan Lee, "Raw Encounters: Chinese Managers, African Workers and the Politics of Casualization in Africa's Chinese Enclaves," *The China Quarterly* (Sep., 2009) 199, 647-666.

\* Françoise Bourdarias, "Chinese Migrants and Society in Mali: Local Constructions of Globalization," *African & Asian Studies* (2010) 9: 3, 269-285.

Lucy Corkin, "Uneasy Allies: China's Evolving Relations with Angola," *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* (2011) 29: 2, 169-180.

An Chunying, "Mining Industry Cooperation between China and Africa: Challenges and Prospects," In *Afro-Chinese Relations: Past, Present and Future*, Edited by Kwesi Kwaa Prah (Cape Town: Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society, 2007)

Sunday Aninpah Khan and Francis Menjo Baye, "China-Africa Economic Relations: The Case of Cameroon," Report Submitted to the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), March 2008. (case study)

Barry Sautman and Yan Hairong, "African Perspectives on China-Africa Links," *The China Quarterly* (Sep., 2009) 199, 728-759.

## **Week 5: One China Strategy Toward Africa or Multiple China Strategies in Africa, Part II: Chinese Traders and Small Private Investors**

\* Johanna Jansson, Christopher Burke and Tracy Hon, "Patterns of Chinese Investment, Aid and Trade in Tanzania," A briefing paper by the Centre for Chinese Studies, Prepared for World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), October 2009. (trade & investment)

\* Raphael Kaplinsky, "What Does the Rise of China Do for Industrialisation in Sub-Saharan Africa?" *Review of African Political Economy* (2008) 35: 115, 7-22.

\* Antoine Kernen, "Small and Medium-sized Chinese Businesses in Mali and Senegal," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 252-268.

Gregor Dobler, "Chinese Shops and the Formation of a Chinese Expatriate Community in Namibia," *The China Quarterly* (Sep., 2009) 199, 707-727.

"New Silk Roads: African and Chinese traders in Southern China and South Africa," *The China Monitor*, Issue 61, April 2011.

Jing Jing Liu, "Contact and Identity: The Experience of 'China Goods' in a Ghanaian Marketplace," *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology* (2010).

## **Week 6: Some Conclusions**

\* Daniel Large, "Beyond 'Dragon in the Bush': The Study of China-Africa Relations," *African Affairs* (2008) 107: 426, 45-61.

\* Steve Hess and Richard Aidoo, "Beyond the Rhetoric: Noninterference in China's African Policy," *African and Asian Studies* (2010) 9, 356-383.

\* Seifudein Adem, "The Paradox of China's Policy in Africa," *African & Asian Studies* (2010) 9: 3, 334-355.

Chris Alden and Christopher R. Hughes, "Harmony and Discord in China's Africa Strategy: Some Implications for Foreign Policy," *The China Quarterly* (Sep., 2009) 199, 563-584.

Ndubisi Obiorah, "Rise and Rights in China-Africa Relations," School of Advanced International Studies, Working Papers in African Studies 03-08.