

South Africa 2008 Course Reading and Viewing

Presentation: AIDS in contemporary South Africa

Pieter Fourie

Department of Politics

University of Johannesburg

<http://www.gmupolicy.net/southafrica/Fouriepresentation.pdf>

Media

Students should bring themselves up-to-date with developments in South Africa by reading news stories about the country in leading sources such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, and the *Economist*. Students should also regularly visit the Web sites of leading English-language South African papers and magazines, notably *Business Day* (www.businessday.co.za); the *Cape Times* (www.capetimes.co.za); the *Mail and Guardian* (www.mg.co.za); the *Sowetan* (<http://www.sowetan.co.za>); the *Sunday Times* (www.thetimes.co.za); as well as other news outlets such as *Independent Online* (www.iol.co.za) and the South African Broadcasting Corporation (<http://www.sabc.co.za>).

Web Sites

Students should visit the following Web sites in order to familiarize themselves with contemporary developments in South Africa.

Polity org.za: Policy, Law, Economics and Politics—Deepening Democracy through Access to Information

South Africa's leading online provider of political and economic news and information; offers unlimited access to bills, acts, policy documents and regulations that are shaping the new South African landscape

<http://www.polity.org.za/>

Helen Suzman Foundation

An independent think-tank that aims to strengthen South Africa's new democracy by prompting the principles of liberty, equality of opportunity, individual human rights and respect for the needs of the poor, cultural minorities and the powerless. The Foundation believes that protecting liberty and choice is especially important in counteracting the effects of one-party dominance in emerging democracies like South Africa

<http://www.hsf.org.za/>

South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR)

The Institute provides the largest and most comprehensive database tracking trends in South Africa, including a wide variety of statistical and other data, ranging from education, health, social development and welfare to business, employment, the economy, and politics.

<http://www.sairr.org.za/>

South African Chamber of Business

The main business association in South Africa, with useful information on business and commerce, including contact information for different industries.

<http://www.sacob.co.za/>

Economic Society of South Africa

An association of academic and other economists working on South Africa.

<http://www.essa.org.za/>

World Economic Forum on Africa

The World Economic Forum on Africa will take place in Cape Town just before our visit (June 6-8). The forum's Web site is worth visiting for information on the program as well as on visiting Cape Town.

<http://www.weforum.org/en/events/WorldEconomicForumonAfrica2008/index.htm>

Country Profiles

Students should read the profiles of South Africa by the Economist Intelligence Unit, available through the GMU Library databases, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), available at

http://www.sadcreview.com/country_profiles/southafrica/southafrica.htm

Essay

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Steven Radelet, "The Good News Out of Africa: Democracy, Stability, and the Renewal of Growth and Development," Center for Global Development, essay, February 2008, available at

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/15416/>

Working Paper

Dani Rodrik, Understanding South Africa's Economic Puzzles, Center for International Development, Harvard University, September 2006, available at

<http://ksghome.harvard.edu/~drodrik/Understanding%20South%20Africa.pdf>

Academic Books

Butler, Anthony, *Contemporary South Africa* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004)

Buhlungu, S., J. Daniel, R. Southall, and J. Lutchman (eds.), *State of the Nation: South Africa 2007* (Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council, 2007), available at:

<http://www.hspress.ac.za/freedownload.asp?id=2183>

Calland, Richard, *Anatomy of South Africa: Who Holds the Power?* (Cape Town: Zebra

Press, 2006)

Clapham, Christopher, Greg Mills and Jeffrey Herbst, *Big African States: Angola, DRC, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan* (Johannesburg: University of Witwatersrand Press, 2006)

Thompson, Leonard, *A History of South Africa*, 3rd edition (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001)

Novels/reportage

Johnny Steinberg, *Midlands* (Jonathan Ball Publishers, 2002)

Zakes Mda, *The Madonna of Excelsior* (Picador, 2005)

J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (Penguin, 2005).

Movie

Tsotsi (2005); set in Soweto near Johannesburg; directed by Gavin Hood; based on the novel of the same name by Athol Fugard. Students should see the film before traveling to South Africa.

Required Pre-Departure Reading and Viewing

Tsotsi (2005); to be discussed during the study tour

One of the following novels/reportage: Steinberg, *Midlands*; Mda, *Madonna of Excelsior*; Coetzee, *Disgrace*; to be discussed during the study tour

Either Butler, *Contemporary South Africa* or Thompson, *A History of South Africa* (3rd edition) to be reviewed before departure; both to be discussed during the study tour

Either Buhlungu, Southall, and Lutchman, *State of the Nation*; Calland, *Anatomy of South Africa*; or Clapham, Mills and Herbst, *Big African States*; each to be discussed during the study tour

The essay by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Steven Radelet, and the working paper by Dani Rodrik; to be discussed during the study tour

Assessment

Book Review (20%)

Review of either Butler, *Contemporary South Africa* or Thompson, *A History of South Africa* (3rd edition); maximum 2,000 words; due no later than Friday, May 30 (may be e-mailed to ddinan@gmu.edu)

Class Participation and Discussion (20%)

Students are expected to participate in all sessions and to demonstrate throughout the trip (in formal sessions and informal discussions) their preparation for the visit through pre-departure reading and viewing of many of the materials listed above)

Policy paper (60%)

Students should discuss with Prof. Dinan, either before or during the trip, a policy issue or area about which they would like to write a paper. Students must submit an outline of the paper by Friday, July 27 (may be e-mailed to ddinan@gmu.edu) and the final version (maximum 3,000 words) no later than Friday, July 11 (hard copy only).