Course Details

Term: Fall B 2020
Credit: 3 semester credit hours

Overview

There remains a large knowledge gap regarding Africa in U.S. society. Extensive misinformation, confirmation bias, and poverty tourism, have led the average American to think that Africa is resource poor continent. This is not the case, however. The continent of Africa is as diverse as any other continent and remains posed to be the next emerging market due to its vast natural resources. With a very young population across the continent, an underdeveloped economy, and the power of globalization, Africa is poised to play a significant role in the twenty-first century. A multitude of health security issues continue to plague the continent, however, to include several uncontrolled epidemics.

Such diseases as polio, cholera, and the measles continue to ravage significant parts of the continent of Africa even though they have been wiped out from most of the world. As such, the economic growth of the continent has been stunted. In this gap that has been created due to uncontrolled epidemics, such nations as China have been able to step in and exert influence. This situation runs counter to U.S. national interests as China’s investments secure resources, favorable economic access, and increased global influence.

Course Objectives

As a result of this course, the student will be able to develop and to articulate a better understanding between the impact of ongoing uncontrolled epidemics in Africa and how such a health security concern limits the economic growth of certain sectors of the continent, thereby allowing such international powers as China to assert greater influence on the continent in direct conflict with the interests of the United States.

Books


Assessment

The student will complete a Final Essay Exam of approximately 20–25 pages due on the Wednesday of Week Eight by midnight CST to satisfy the course objectives.