CENTRE FOR GENDER AND AFRICA STUDIES
Postgraduate Programmes for Africa Studies

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our BAHons/MPhil/PhD qualification in Africa Studies.

The academic programmes of the Centre for Gender and Africa Studies offer you the opportunity of advanced interdisciplinary study on relevant problems and burning issues facing Africa in particular with a view to enhance understanding and problem-solving.

We trust that you will find all the necessary information in this application pack. Please contact us if you need any further information or assistance.

Best wishes

Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga, Programme Director, Africa Studies

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CENTRE FOR GENDER AND AFRICA STUDIES

ABOUT AFRICA STUDIES

Africa Studies accepts that the future of Africa lies within its borders and in its people, hence the deliberate foregrounding of epistemologies of the global South. The programmes have been designed to incorporate the dimensions of knowledge appropriate to an advanced study of Africa, its people and institutions. Our programmes also focus on the development of the student as an expert and subject specialist in one particular field pertaining to Africa Studies. They also focus on constructing an African 'library' and spearheading the struggle for intellectual decolonisation and deconstruction. The renaissance (rebirth) of Africa will only be possible through a deep intellectual understanding of the complex and multi-faceted dynamics in the continent.

The conceptual motto of Africa Studies exudes this philosophy:

"Linking the Past and Present of Africa with its Future"

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

All individuals who find themselves in a position which requires extensive knowledge of the essential issues surrounding Africa, its people and institutions, as well as those that have a genuine interest in the rebirth of Africa and a passion for its advancement through rigorous and innovative scholarship can apply.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION FOR STRUCTURED/TAUGHT COURSES

The programme utilises semi-distance education. Students are required to attend contact sessions in Bloemfontein on the main campus four times a year. **These sessions are compulsory and students who do not attend all sessions may forfeit their place in the programme.** Examinations can be written at external centres in accordance with the university system.

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR AFRICA STUDIES

The postgraduate programmes in Africa Studies are interdisciplinary programmes consisting of the qualifications: BA Honours with specialisation in Africa Studies, MPhil (Africa Studies) by dissertation, structured MPhil (Africa Studies) and PhD with specialisation in Africa Studies.

BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS WITH SPECIALISATION IN AFRICA STUDIES

Qualification	BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS WITH SPECIALISATION IN AFRICA STUDIES				
Abbreviation	BAHons with specialisation in Africa Studies				
Min. study period	Programme Code	Degree Code	Academic Plan Code	NQF Level	Total credits
1 year	B1600	16001	BC160010	8	128

1. **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the requirements as presented in 1.4 under General Information in this Rule Book, the following requirements apply:
(i) Students must have an Exit Level 7 Bachelor's Degree or equivalent qualification in a field related to Africa Studies with an average of 65% in the preceding qualification.
(ii) The programme directorate may admit students with an average from 60-64% in the preceding qualification in a cognate field of Africa Studies pending the successful completion of an additional predetermined assignment as part of the selection criteria. The assignment (a research-based essay) will form a central part of the candidate's application process.
(iii) The programme directorate in collaboration with the office for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), may allow students into the programme.
(iv) Successful completion of selection tests in language and comprehension may also be applicable.

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2.   CURRICULUM

The programme consists of:
- (a)   Two compulsory modules and
- (b)   Three electives.

2.1   Compulsory core module (24 credits)

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASHR6806	**Research Methodology Africa Studies** The course comprises an introduction to the different research paradigms and approaches, including participatory research methodology. The definitions and procedures of the research process are explained, and a working model of applied research incorporated. The course also concentrates on all aspects relevant to the design of research projects.	24

2.2   Compulsory research project (32 credits) of approximately 9 000–12 000 words

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASHD6808	**Research Report Africa Studies (Honours)** On completion of the methodology course, students will be able to write a research proposal that will serve as a basis for the research project (mini-dissertation), conducted within a specific specialist area of choice.	32

2.3   Elective modules* (72 credits)

Students must choose three modules (72 credits) from the following table:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASHD6806	**Rural and agrarian development in Africa** This module focuses on a historical overview of development and underdevelopment, development indicators, theories, and approaches to development as well as conceptions and dimensions of poverty and food security. The course will also seek to equip the student with a thorough understanding of regional development initiatives in Southern and South Africa and to develop an ability to apply this knowledge in a variety of settings	24
ASHE6806	**Environment and resources of Africa** This module focuses on global environmental perspectives with specific reference to Africa: policy responses, outlooks and recommendations, and management procedures. The student will have a sound understanding of the state of the environment with specific reference to Africa. The student will obtain practical and theoretical skills to do environmental auditing and develop an understanding of concepts such as sustainability and integrated environmental management.	24
ASHH6806	**Post-colonial history of Africa** After more than 50 years of independence, the vast majority of African countries today find themselves amongst the poorest in the world; injustice, corruption, and human rights abuses are rampant; political and economic stability are unrealized dreams; conflict and war continue to wreak havoc, and many governments continue to be unrepresentative, oppressive and unaccountable to their citizens. The key question is, why did the post-colonial African state, in general, fail so dismally in political, economic, and social terms? Why can't Africans unlock the vast potential of the continent to ensure a viable and safe future for the next generations? These questions are the main focus of this unit, which analyses the political, economic, and social history and processes in Africa since independence. Answers to the questions differ from country to country, and a thorough	24

ASHM6806	**Multidisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to peace and conflict resolution**	24
	This module covers the conceptual and practical aspects of peace and conflict resolution with specific reference to the African context. The course emphasises peace values, issues of identity, culture, conflict mapping and analysis, conflict resolution skills and multi-disciplinary approaches to peace (e.g. political, socio-economic, military, environmental, psychological, and religious).	
ASHP6806	**Political environment of Africa**	24
	The module focuses on questions relating to the structural composition and institutional elements of the political environment constitutive of all modern states, with a specific focus on select African states. The course will seek to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge pertaining to issues such as the origin and development of the modern concept of the state, the distinctiveness of the concept 'state' from that of 'government' differing forms of government, separation of powers (legislative, executive and judicial relations), the interaction between and interdependence of differing environments, the political systems and regime types of the world, political actors (political parties and pressure groups), as well as the application of these issues and dynamics within an Africa-centred context. Whilst the South African context will be highlighted, the module seeks to provide a sense of balance between an *African* as opposed to an exclusively *South African* focus.	

Note: Not all electives listed above are offered in any one year. Students must consult with the Programme Director for information on availability of electives for the year in which they want to register.

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ASSESSMENT

Students write four examination papers and are also assessed on a compulsory research report of approximately 9 000 to 12 000 words.

This programme will not be offered if, in the sole discretion of the University of the Free State, a sufficient number of enrolments cannot be secured to render the programme sustainable.

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN AFRICA STUDIES

Qualification	MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN AFRICA STUDIES					
Abbreviation	MPhil (Africa Studies)					
Min. study period	Mode of presentation	Programme Code	Degree Code	Academic Plan Code	NQF Level	Total credits
1 Year	**Dissertation/Articles:**	**B1810**	**18100**	**BC181000**	9	224
	Structured:	**B1710**	**17100**	**various**		

1. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements as presented in 1.4 under General Information in this Rule Book, the following requirements apply:

(i)   The programme directorate may admit students in possession of an Exit Level 8 Honours or equivalent qualification in a discipline related to Africa Studies into the programme with at least an average of 65% in the preceding qualification;

(ii)   The programme directorate may admit students with an average from 62-64% in the preceding qualification in a cognate field of Africa Studies pending the successful completion of an additional predetermined assignment as part of the selection criteria. The assignment (a research-based essay) will form a central part of the candidate's application process.

(iii)   The programme directorate, in collaboration with the office for RPL, may allow students into the programme by means of RPL in which case additional modules may be prescribed;

(iv)   A proven academic standard in research with a minimum of 65% for an Honours research report and above-average academic record with at least an average of 65% in the preceding qualification are required for admission into Options 1 and 2 below.

(v)   Successful completion of selection tests in language and comprehension may also be applicable.

2. CURRICULUM

Students must select one of the following options in consultation with the programme directorate:

Option 1: Dissertation (Academic Plan Code: BC181000)

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASRD8900	Dissertation: Africa Studies	224

Option 2: Three interrelated publishable manuscripts or published articles in accredited journals (Academic Plan Code: BC181000)

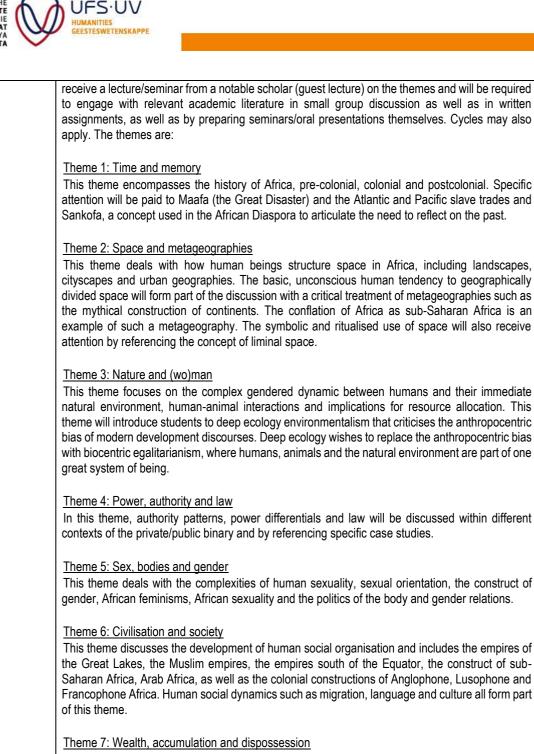| CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASRA8900	Dissertation Article Option: Africa Studies (Research Masters)	224

Option 3: Structured (Academic plan code: various)

The programme consists of
   a. Three compulsory core modules in the first year of study
   b. One specialist field with one additional compulsory module and two electives in the first year of study
   c. Compulsory mini-dissertation in the second year of study

2.1 Core modules (64 credits)

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASFR7914	**Advanced Research Methodology Africa Studies** This module provides students with the necessary research skills to conduct research at master's level.	16
ASFT7908	**Theoretical Foundations of Africa Studies** Africa Studies is a complex field in its disciplinary and interdisciplinary configurations. The module thus seeks to answer the question 'What is Africa Studies' and where did its conceptual roots originate from? This module provides in the first place a basis of core theoretical and conceptual understandings from where students then select specific specialist areas within or across more sharply demarcated areas of study (disciplines). Secondly, the module serves to integrate, systematise and clarify the diverse disciplinary influences which make up Africa Studies and tracks the evolution of the intellectual history of Africa by looking at individual disciplinary encounters and how Africa Studies is practiced not only on the continent but also in other regions such as the US, Scandinavian countries, India, and Australia. Thirdly, the module also includes perspectives on African thought systems, postcolonial and decolonial theory as a conceptual base for understanding the evolution of Africa Studies. The module concludes by posing critical questions about the theoretical and empirical make-up of Africa Studies and what this implies for the sustainability of this area of study and for the broader push towards a decolonisation of knowledge and epistemic justice. In this module, the approach is not towards so-called core readings, but rather seminal voices of African intellectuals whose works have to be read and consulted in totality and in critical engagement with other voices. Students will be required to master and integrate the meta-arguments of the seminal voices in the field.	32
ASFE7914	**Africa across Epochs** This module represents interdisciplinary substantive information on the histories, cultures, societies, politics and economies of Africa. The module is thematically structured according to key themes that will provide students with a comprehensive foundational knowledge. Students will	16

receive a lecture/seminar from a notable scholar (guest lecture) on the themes and will be required to engage with relevant academic literature in small group discussion as well as in written assignments, as well as by preparing seminars/oral presentations themselves. Cycles may also apply. The themes are:

Theme 1: Time and memory
This theme encompasses the history of Africa, pre-colonial, colonial and postcolonial. Specific attention will be paid to Maafa (the Great Disaster) and the Atlantic and Pacific slave trades and Sankofa, a concept used in the African Diaspora to articulate the need to reflect on the past.

Theme 2: Space and metageographies
This theme deals with how human beings structure space in Africa, including landscapes, cityscapes and urban geographies. The basic, unconscious human tendency to geographically divided space will form part of the discussion with a critical treatment of metageographies such as the mythical construction of continents. The conflation of Africa as sub-Saharan Africa is an example of such a metageography. The symbolic and ritualised use of space will also receive attention by referencing the concept of liminal space.

Theme 3: Nature and (wo)man
This theme focuses on the complex gendered dynamic between humans and their immediate natural environment, human-animal interactions and implications for resource allocation. This theme will introduce students to deep ecology environmentalism that criticises the anthropocentric bias of modern development discourses. Deep ecology wishes to replace the anthropocentric bias with biocentric egalitarianism, where humans, animals and the natural environment are part of one great system of being.

Theme 4: Power, authority and law
In this theme, authority patterns, power differentials and law will be discussed within different contexts of the private/public binary and by referencing specific case studies.

Theme 5: Sex, bodies and gender
This theme deals with the complexities of human sexuality, sexual orientation, the construct of gender, African feminisms, African sexuality and the politics of the body and gender relations.

Theme 6: Civilisation and society
This theme discusses the development of human social organisation and includes the empires of the Great Lakes, the Muslim empires, the empires south of the Equator, the construct of sub-Saharan Africa, Arab Africa, as well as the colonial constructions of Anglophone, Lusophone and Francophone Africa. Human social dynamics such as migration, language and culture all form part of this theme.

Theme 7: Wealth, accumulation and dispossession
This theme unpacks the nature of economies in Africa, including mineral extraction, wealth creation and the dispossession of wealth. Specific attention will be paid to the greed-grievance nexus.

Theme 8: Ethics and religion
This theme focuses on deep issues such as the meaning of Ubuntu or uMunthu, negritude, pacifism, as well as the cosmogonic myths dominant in Africa. The influence of religion on the African continent will also be discussed from diverse religious traditions and practices (Islam, Christianity, traditional, Judaism, etc.).

Theme 9: War, violence and military strategy
This theme deals with how the history and evolution of military strategy and the global arms trade shaped the politics of violence on the African continent.

	Theme 10: The episteme of the everyday
	This theme unpacks the contemporary, everyday lives lived in the diversity of African contexts and the interaction with institutional tension as derived from the private/public dichotomy. Sub-themes include fashion, food, popular culture, entertainment and recreation, etc.
	Theme 11: Representations
	This theme deals with the various forms of representation (including of othering and resistance) as it applies to African contexts, phenomena and, discourses/rhetoric. It includes the notion of performativity, art, the visual, literature and the African novel.
	Theme 12: Cyberspace and technology
	This theme provides a critical view of the spread of electronic technologies that allow mediated human interaction and information exchange across the African continent and beyond with specific reference to radio, microcomputers, cellular phones, and electronic networks. Key issues include cyber security in Africa, the North- South digital divide, the importation and dumping of e-waste from the global North that leads to ecotech disasters and the threat to public health in Africa.

2.2   Elective modules (48 credits)

Students must choose one of the specialist fields below. Within the chosen specialisation students must take one additional compulsory module and select two elective modules (a total of 48 credits) from one of the following tables.

Note: Not all specialist fields and electives listed below are offered in any one year. Students must consult with the Programme Director for information on availability of electives for the year in which they want to register

	SPECIALIST FIELD: Dynamics of Development in Africa (Academic Plan Code: BC170610)	
CODE	**NAME OF MODULE**	**CREDITS**
Compulsory Module		
ASOD7924	**Urban-Rural and Regional Development and Extension in Africa** This course provides the opportunity for critical analyses of urban-rural and regional development and extension in the complex and diverse environments characteristic to African countries. Theoretical and philosophical arguments that underpin urban and rural development are explored, including an overview of concepts of urban, rural and regional development, poverty reduction, rural livelihoods, food security, rural institutions, and methodologies for development. In addition, rural livelihoods are explored in the context of the rural household as core concept, household farming systems and operating structures within the ambit of agriculture as the key driver of development, but also in the context of the non-farm enterprises and livelihoods. This is followed by special attention to the role of rural institutions in rural development, where the challenges and opportunities faced by local institutions, and the inherent value of research, extension and training are explored and critically analyzed. A discourse on gender analyses and the role that women play in rural households are discussed as an underlying factor in broad-based rural development in Africa. Finally, methodologies of urban-rural and regional development, with special reference to a systems approach, assessment and participatory rural appraisal techniques, are addressed. The course concludes with current tools and techniques for facilitating participation. Case studies and individual projects provide a focus for analyses.	**16**
Elective Modules (select two)		
ASOC7924	**Development Communication in an African Context** The module exposes students to the discipline of development communication and the cardinal role the practice thereof plays in the successful and sustainable implementation of development endeavours. The genesis of development communication as response to modernization and the dominant paradigm and its roots in the Critical Tradition will be explored, as well as the dominant concepts and theses underpinning the discipline. The module will further offer a perspective on the different schools of development communication, especially the African School and its main proponents. The module also provides a platform for critical engagement with the views of leading theorists such as Paulo Freire, Nora Quebral and Everett Rodgers. The practical implication of implementing development communication in research projects will be explored as well.	**16**

ASOE7924	**Dynamics of Nature and Environment in Africa**	**16**
	The world has a wealth of natural resources, but also some severe environmental problems. Human impacts on the environment become deeper and wider reaching every day, and trends such as increasing average temperature, overpopulation, water scarcity, soil erosion, pollution, and resource depletion become clearer. This module focuses on some of these global environmental issues, their socio-economic and political repercussions, and future prospects with specific reference to Africa.	
ASOH7924	**Health and Health Care in Africa**	**16**
	Worldwide, there is a growing realization that health is an integral part of sustainable development efforts. The relevance of health is also acknowledged in foreign policy circles, and in relation to socio-cultural issues and matters of economic development. The saliency of these issues is particularly noticeable in the developing world - Africa in particular, where poverty, conflict, poor governance and dysfunctional health systems prevail. The module therefore examines the intersection between health issues and development discourses on the continent, with special reference to the dynamics, challenges and solutions to health-related issues. An attempt is made to reconcile global imperatives (and trends) with the context-specific challenges of the African environment.	
ASOL7924	**Land Issues in Africa**	**16**
	The course provides, first, the historical context of land issues in Africa and proceeds to identify high-level policy issues around the land question in Africa. It examines commonalities and differences based on regional variations related to history and socio-political contexts. The course also highlights theoretical questions and debates emerging in the historiography of land issues in the African continent. Lastly it focuses on land issues in the SADC region and provides detailed comparison of the approaches followed under conditions of negotiated democracies in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.	
ASOP7924	**Political Economy Perspectives on Aid, Trade, Poverty and Wealth in Africa**	**16**
	This module focuses on various political economy perspectives on aid, trade, poverty and wealth in Africa in order to critically evaluate the state of Africa in the global economic system. It intersects the development and democracy in Africa and critically evaluates the structural adjustment programmes of the 1980s and 1990s. China's involvement in Africa is also of particular interest.	

OR

SPECIALIST FIELD: Heritage Studies and Africa (Academic Plan Code: BC170611)		
CODE	**NAME OF MODULE**	**CREDITS**
Compulsory Module		
ASHT7924	**Heritage Studies: Theory and Systems**	**16**
	Heritage refers to a legacy of resources of cultural significance, that may include oral traditions and customs, places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage; historical settlements; landscapes and natural features of cultural significance; archaeological and paleontological sites; graves and burial grounds, including ancestral and royal graves and graves of traditional leaders; graves of victims of conflict; and sites relating to the history of slavery. This module provides an overview of the field of Heritage Studies, various paradigms and schools of thought, the methodological issues and challenges of researching heritage, intangible and tangible. There are crucial ethical issues that should be taken into account in this kind of research.	
Elective Modules (select two)		
ASHC7924	**Culture-Historical Heritage of Africa**	**16**
	This module considers the diverse cultures and thought systems constructed by various	

		peoples on the continent and what 'culture', 'worldview' and 'thought systems' mean for social cohesion and what happens when they meet. Concepts such as identity construction, hybridity, acculturation and enculturation are used to unpack what it means to belong to a culture or share a world view or system of thought. The legacy of colonialism and western knowledge imperialism and hegemony provide an ideal opportunity to engage with Africa's cultural-philosophical heritage and in particular indigenous knowledge systems and the theses of African systems of thought that underpin it, their contribution to humanity, science and their significance for development. The module provides a platform for critically engaging with the western knowledge hegemony and positions African thought systems as alternative and valid mode of thought.	
ASHE7924	**Heritage, Nature and Environment in Africa** There is a complex interaction between heritage and the environment that has not been explored in much depth. This module will introduce students to this relationship and the complexities involved. This module is interdisciplinary and will also include the study of the environment from a natural scientific perspective.		**16**
ASHO7924	**Africa and the Oral Tradition** The oral tradition is a widespread paradigm in many African countries and it describes the nature of much of the heritage on the continent. Because of its transient nature, there are numerous challenges involved in the exploration and understanding of heritage that are transmitted in and through this paradigm. The overlap and connectedness of indigenous knowledge systems, heritage and the oral tradition are complex are complex, but the exact dynamics and interplay among these study areas have yet to be fully explored. This course will provide students with the opportunity to critically engage with the complex issues and concepts informing the discourse on heritage, the role of IKS in the heritage landscape and its encompassing domain, namely the oral tradition as contextualized within African contexts.		**16**
ASHP7924	**The Political Economy of Heritage** This module will revolve around the multi-faceted interface between heritage and development with heritage tourism included in the discussion. Both tangible and intangible heritage are often viewed as important development resources, but there are severe implications for the integrity of heritage if appropriated for purely commercial purposes. Issues of intellectual property rights protection as well as difficult heritage are also crucial here.		**16**
ASHR7924	**Religio-Spiritual Heritage of Africa** This module exposes students to African cosmology and spirituality. Can one speak of an African cosmology or would the plural African cosmologies be more appropriate and what is meant when using the concept 'African spirituality'? The module acknowledges that African landscapes are imbued with African cosmology and spirituality and that there is a close connection with oral bodies of knowledge. African cosmology is holistic in nature where human beings, society and the physical environment form part of one reality with oral knowledge acting as the unifying fabric. This module explores this dynamic relationship, while also considering the role of World Religions.		**16**

OR

SPECIALIST FIELD: Global Political Dynamics and Africa (Academic Plan Code: BC170612)		
CODE	**NAME OF MODULE**	**CREDITS**
Compulsory Module		
ASGG7924	**Global Political Economy, International Relations and the African Paradox** This module focuses on Africa's place in the context of globalisation. Globalisation has fundamental implications for world politics in general, and African politics and the African state in particular. Although Africa will remain marginalised for the next decade or so, some scholars believe that with the gradual shift in the balance of power from West to the East	**16**

	(China) Africa's importance will steadily increase. The module therefore focuses on the megatrends and shifts that will determine the future place of Africa in the global order. It further examines African International Relations with emerging powers such as India, Brazil and Russia and explores the role of Africa in the reform of global governance through its involvement in the G20. External and domestic variables in the areas of security, peacekeeping/peacebuilding, governance and the political economy serve as markers of Africa's place in the globalised world order. A view of Africa's role would also not be complete without an examination of the role of South Africa in Africa's development, with special reference to developments in the SADC sub-region.	
Elective Modules (select two)		
ASGC7924	**Citizenship Debates, Gender and Social Movements** The wave of democratisation in Africa in the 1990s has had a positive effect on women's formal representation in the decision-making structures of state. In Africa, where many societies are undergoing post-conflict reconstruction and state-building, the inclusion of women in the peace processes becomes paramount to carving out a political space for women that can similarly promote sustainable peace. In this module, the various theories and concepts of citizenship and gender will be unpacked by considering issues of identity; public-political dimensions of gendered citizenship; the interplay of gender, citizenship and war; as well as the questions of media representation and social movements. Contemporary governance and theorising about citizenship will take account of means to establish more effective participation; sustain representative institutions and social movements; and develop policies that are sensitive to women's informal and unpaid work.	**16**
ASGE7924	**Electoral Politics and Democratisation in Africa** This module deals with electoral politics and democratisation processes in Africa. Post-conflict elections are indeed the site where contradictions and trade-offs are amplified through the international community's insistence on seeing elections as an integral part of the process. Trade-offs include a balancing of the interests of elites or warring parties and democratic political parties; elite and mass politics; efficacy and legitimacy; local ownership and international control; short and long-term effects on democratisation and peacebuilding. Peacebuilding may, for example, involve restrictions on democratic freedoms such as freedom of the press and mass demonstrations (Jarstad and Sisk 2008:11). Elections are in this context expected to both end the war and consolidate democracy. In view of such ambitious goals, it is no wonder that the success rate is patchy – e.g. Angola's abortive elections in 1992 and the 1997 Liberian elections which created more problems than they solved (Reilly 2008:157-8). In Liberia, elections brought non-democratic elites into power. In post-war Rwanda and Uganda the winning parties to the conflict held elections to legitimise their victory – a far cry from the intention of these elections as a means of conflict mediation (Reilly 2008:164). Other factors also come into play, such as the design of the elections and whether it is aimed at a 'winner takes all' or power-sharing arrangement. In Sierra Leone the elections were viewed as a threat to incumbent elites and in Rwanda it was identified as a factor in the 1993 genocide (Reilly 2008:164). In Côte d'Ivoire, presidential elections were postponed six times in five years. Elections finally took place on 31 October 2010 and the results were contested. In this module, students will be confronted with the dilemma of peacebuilding – do you wait until conditions are conducive for elections and risk violence breaking out before elections are held, or do you proceed with flawed elections and then deal with the possible violent fall-out?	**16**
ASGM7924	**Media and Democracy in Africa** This module will offer the students the opportunity of exploring the African media landscape – past and present – and how this media landscape relates to the political configuration of a particular country. The complex relationship between the media and ideology will also be explored in terms of neutral and critical theories of ideology. The role of the media in the democratic process will receive particular attention and especially the public expectations of the transformative power of the media in the postcolonial state. Students will further be exposed to critical issues including new media and democracy, information and communication technologies, media ownership, press freedom and propaganda in Africa. All pertinent issues will be illustrated by suitable case studies on the African continent.	**16**

ASGP7924	**Partnerships and the Politics of Dependency**	16
	Cornelissen (2009: 5-26) argues that the rise of emerging powers has affected Africa's international position. The emerging powers have not eclipsed the role traditionally played by the Northern states on the continent, but the presence of emerging powers through their leadership in new Southern-based multilateral fora has moulded Africa's interaction with the North. With the entry of emerging powers there is a need to revisit the ways in which we understand international hierarchy, hegemony and power. Three trends become evident, namely that there is greater Northern interest in the African continent and its involvement in the establishment of major aid and development programmes; that there is a deepening multilateralism in the South; and that there is more extensive securitisation of international politics stemming from, *inter alia,* the so-called Global War on Terror. This module critically considers Africa's partnerships in the geopolitical sphere and the inherent politics of dependency. Partnerships include the Africa-India Forum Summit, Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, the China-Africa Cooperation Forum, and the Africa-South America Summit (Abuja Resolution, follow-up and the Caracas meeting), Africa-India, Brazil-Africa cooperation and intra-continental African relations. In essence, while there are many vibrant bilateral and multilateral partnerships emerging, the jury is still out on their long-term effects. It is too early to tell whether these have had a substantial and sustainable impact in addressing the continent's development needs.	
ASGS7924	**State, Democracy and Governance in Africa**	16
	The module addresses the contemporary debates on the 'state of the nation state' in Africa in an era of globalisation. Core themes include democratic theory and the historical evolution of the state to a post-Westphalian configuration amidst state collapse and civil conflict. The need to move beyond Third Wave analyses of democratisation is emphasised. Other pertinent issues include an exploration of the feasibility of a union government and a united states of Africa as a form of suprastate governance. The course also looks at non-traditional political role players such as civil society and the role of ethnopolitics and nationalism. African case studies are included to add 'thick' description of the theoretical issues in the course and to also illustrate the complexity and diversity of experience on the continent.	

OR

SPECIALIST FIELD: Conflict and Peace in Context (Academic Plan Code: BC170613)		
CODE	**NAME OF MODULE**	**CREDITS**
Compulsory Module		
ASCS7924	**Theory of Peace and Security in Africa**	16
	In this module students will be introduced to core theories and approaches to peace and will be expected to assess their relevance and application for the African continent. In contrast to the state-centric approach adhered to in traditional studies of International Relations, Peace Studies goes beyond the narrow militaristic approach to conflict, its causes and different permutations. It seeks not only to understand the nature, root causes and consequences of conflict, but also to eliminate conflict through non-violent conflict transformation processes. It challenges the conventional analysis of war and violence by offering critical and creative alternatives to understanding wars and violence that are informed by a normative, multilevel and interdisciplinary orientation and an integrated understanding of theory and practice. Africa, with its colonial and post-colonial history of instability, proxy wars, resource conflicts and current exposure to fundamentalism and extremism has seen a number of different interventions aimed at making and ensuring peace - all with differing results in the longer term. Even though many conflicts in Africa have had some form of external intervention, it is often argued that Africans have to find African solutions to their problems, particularly since outside interventions are often driven by hegemonic interests and therefore could perpetuate conflicts.	
Elective Modules (select two)		
ASCC7924	**Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice**	16

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	The module exposes students to the theory and practice of conflict resolution with a focus on the emerging theories on conflict transformation. Pre-eminence is given to theorists such as Galtung, Miall, and Lederach. Explanations for conflict transformations are explored by using case studies, as supported by theories of conflict escalation and de-escalation as well as the role of actors and dynamics both "external" and 'internal' to the conflict. A more practical edge to the module is provided by a detailed exploration of a number of conflict resolution methodologies practiced in recent and current interventions in Africa, creating a platform for critical discourse on the applicability of current intervention methodologies. Specific focus is given to conflict resolution efforts undertaken by South Africa on the continent since democratization. Conflict resolution as an "art" and a "skill" is further explored by looking at the skills of facilitation, mediation, arbitration and others peculiar to successful conflict interventions, utilising good practice in the African context.	
ASCG7924	**Gender, Security and Conflict** This module explores gender mainstreaming in the security domain and the resulting implications regarding conflict, security and opportunities for peace. Students will be exposed to feminist theories of International Relations and will examine the relevance of these critiques of militarised citizenship and the role of the state to the African context. The aim is also to understand how and why conflict and insecurity affect genders differently – thereby reconfirming social hierarchies, power relationships and hegemonic masculinities. This insight is a necessary starting point for motivating actors to transcend cultural boundaries and redefine their identities, roles and relationships. The role of women as protagonists in conflict, disproportionately affected by sexual and gender- based violence during conflict, but also being perpetrators of violence as well as being ultimate peace builders are examined with reference to African case studies. Women in fragile and conflict-affected states in Africa face a variety of challenges - reflected in UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions. These resolutions recognise the peace building potential of women and the importance of women's political participation; acknowledge the impact of conflict on women; and set the basis for international policy on women, peace and security. Gender dynamics often play a part in what is driving conflict, and can also provide pathways to peace. This theoretical gender analysis will enable students to explain why, in practice, women's peace building contributions at the grassroots level have been repeatedly noted but have not changed the fact that women remain absent at the formal level as peace negotiators and political decision-makers.	16
ASCP7924	**Peacebuilding and Development** The module exposes students to the contested space surrounding the concepts of peacebuilding and development. Interpretations of the concept of peacebuilding differ, especially against the background of the aims of building "positive" or "negative" peace (Galtung, 1969). Even though peacebuilding constitutes a dynamic approach that could comprise a number of different interventions by a number of different actors at the same or different points in time, it often ends up being a reactive process of post-conflict peacebuilding or post conflict reconstruction and development. Critical issues pertaining to the discourse on the security development nexus are addressed in the module, focusing on the changing discourses of recognition and identity at the security-development interface and changes in security-development linkages accompanying transitions from conflict to peace. The module further explores the political economy of conflict, delving into linkages between conflict, poverty and profit – exploring the economic motives that contribute to the outbreak, continuation, perpetuation and transformation of conflict as well as the important role that poverty plays in causing violent conflict. The role natural resources and the so-called "resource curse" is thoroughly reviewed.	16
ASCR7924	**Religion, Violence and the Politics of Pacifism** The twenty-first century has seen a rise in the importance of religion as a factor in international relations and security – both as a contributor to conflict and an important factor in its resolution. In contemporary Africa, religion appears to be motivating a growing number of groupings to participate in armed conflict. This module examines a number of conflicts in Africa that are related to religion while it also endeavours to provide an overview of the history of religion and conflict in the region. It assesses the present situation and prospects for the future in terms of a number of such case studies. Questions pertaining to religion, conflict propensity or terrorism; linkages	16

	between religious terrorism and nationalism and the rise of specifically Islamic fundamentalism in Africa is explored. Against this background using religion as a bulwark of peace through, for instance, the use of interfaith dialogue as a mechanism, has nowadays become more important for those seeking to mediate conflict and build peace. Military interventions such as the war in Vietnam and Iraq, the velvet revolutions as well the experiences of Ghandi and the Indian independence movement have proven that physical superiority does not always translate into final political outcomes – highlighting the importance of a reinterpretation of pacifism and non-violent approaches and their contradictory relationships with political violence as it occurs in current African and international conflict environments.		
ASCT7924	**Terrorism: Critical Debates** Drawing on the theory of critical terrorism studies, an interdisciplinary sub-field of critical security studies, this module analyses contemporary developments and challenges in the global war on terrorism by tracking and critiquing the key debates on terrorism in Africa and Africa in terrorism. Violence in global politics is approached from a critical terrorism studies perspective and the discourses are highly critical of the conventional state-centric perspective on terrorism. The interdisciplinary of the engagement presupposes diverse perspectives on terrorism from politics, economics, law, socio-cultural dynamics, religion and gender. Women's role in terrorism is also specifically interrogated.	**16**	

2.3 Compulsory research project (112 credits) of approximately 30 000 – 40 000 words

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ASFM7900	**Mini-Dissertation Africa Studies (Structured Masters)** This module encompasses independent research on a topic determined in conjunction with the Programme Management and relevant supervisor(s) culminating in a comprehensive mini-dissertation of 30 000 to 40 000 words.	**112**

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ASSESSMENT

Rules of progression will apply. Students are required to successfully complete all the course work (core and elective modules) during the first year of registration before they can proceed to the mini-dissertation. The core modules are all compulsory. Students write two examination papers in the first semester of the first year of study and four examination papers in the second semester of the first year of study. The mini-dissertation of approximately 30 000 – 40 000 words is completed in the second year of study.

This programme will not be offered if, in the sole discretion of the University of the Free State, a sufficient number of enrolments cannot be secured to render the programme sustainable.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN AFRICA STUDIES

Qualification	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN AFRICA STUDIES				
Abbreviation	PhD with specialisation in Africa Studies				
Min. study period	Programme Code	Degree Code	Academic Plan Code	NQF Level	Total credits
2 years	B1906	19061	BC190610	10	360

1. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements as presented in 1.4 under General Information in this Rule Book, the following requirements apply:
(i) Only students with a proven research background and in possession of a research Master's degree with at least 65% for the master's dissertation or equivalent qualification at Exit Level 9 will be admitted.
(ii) Additional requirements may be set should an applicant not meet all the admission requirements.

(iii)   Successful completion of selection tests in language and comprehension are also applicable.

2.   CURRICULUM

Students must conduct scientific research of high standard and write a thesis (**ASPH9100**) on a topic chosen in consultation with the programme directorate. The thesis must encompass an adequate theoretical framework and must adhere to all criteria required at this advanced level of research.

TUITION FEES FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDY

The fee structure for postgraduate degrees at the University of the Free State is calculated as per the credit values   of the modules. For information regarding tuition fees or any other tuition enquiry, please contact a relevant person   in the Class Fees division as provided below.

NO.	CONTACT PERSON	POSITION	CONTACT NUMBER	E-MAIL
1	Tuition Fees	BA Honours Students	Tel: +27(0) 51 401 2817/9670/3625	tuitionfees@ufs.ac.za
2	Mr Kgotso Mothewe	MPhil & PhD Students	Tel: +27(0) 51 401 9090	MothwewKl@ufs.ac.za
3	Mrs Susan Van Heerden	Client Services Line Manager	Tel: +27(0) 51 401 9092	fibu@ufs.ac.za
4	Mrs Wieda McCrae	Deputy Director Tuition Fees	Tel: +27(0) 51 401 3330	McCraeW@ufs.ac.za
5	Mr Chris Liebenberg	Senior Director Finance	Tel: +27(0) 51 401 2129	LiebenbergCR@ufs.ac.za

All correspondence regarding financial matters must be addressed to:

The Director Finance
University of the Free State
P.O. Box 339 Bloemfontein 9300

Fees may be subject to yearly increases. These fees represent the tuition for one year only and not the entire degree. A similar fee, taking into account any yearly increase that could occur, will be charged every year the   student is registered. The Centre for Gender and Africa Studies does not accept any responsibility for subsequent   changes. International students must direct all administrative enquiries through the International Office (Contact   person: Mrs Jeanne Niemann, Tel. +27(0)51 401 3219, E-mail: niemannaja@ufs.ac.za).

Bursary holders must make their own arrangements with the University's Administration:

Mr. A.L. Badenhorst
Deputy-Director Student Finance
Tel: +27(0)51-401 2479
Email: aaab@ufs.ac.za

STUDY MATERIAL

The relevant course material will be made available for acquisition during the time of the first contact session. Students are also required to pay a departmental fee per module. This fee will be included in the tuition fees.

APPLICATION

You may apply by completing hard copy application forms or alternatively by using the electronic application system (https://apply.ufs.ac.za/). Should you choose to use the electronic system, please inform us that you are doing so, as we require additional   documentation to be completed.

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Included in this pack, you will find two application forms i.e. one for postgraduate study at the UFS and one for the Programme for Africa Studies itself. Please complete both. All research qualifications (MPhil and PhD) require the submission of a draft proposal. If necessary, we may also require to view a copy of any dissertation or mini- dissertation of qualifications serving as minimum requirements.

Please take care to follow any and all instructions stated on the application form or as required in the electronic data flow. Make sure to submit full applications. Your application pack also includes a checklist. Please consult this checklist to ensure that your application is complete. Incomplete applications cannot be processed.

- **Preproposal** as indicated in the guidelines.
- Complete UFS official application & CGAS application form.
- Study record (Academic transcript) with certificate of conduct and/or qualification certificate if you have obtained your degree.
- Identity document or passport document (International students) of applicant.
- **SAQA** Evaluation Certificate for applicants with foreign qualifications (International students)

Important note for applicants with international qualifications: Please note that you will have to have your existing international qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The necessary SAQA evaluation must be included in your application otherwise the application will be considered incomplete and will not be processed. For further information, please go to: http://www.saqa.org.za/show.php?id=5741. Alternatively, you can also visit the UFS Postgraduate School for more information at http://www.ufs.ac.za/postgraduate/postgraduate-school-home/postgraduate-studies/international-students.

Deliver, mail or email your application to:

Mrs Ankia Bradfield
Programme Coordinator
Centre for Gender and Africa Studies (IB 110)
Pres Steyn Annex Room 133 (Opposite the Equitas Building, Faculty of Law) Senaat Street North
University of the Free State Bloemfontein Campus
205 Nelson Mandela Avenue / PO Box 339 / bradfielda@ufs.ac.za
Bloemfontein
9301

Other contact details:

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