

## **REGN U6405 Sino-African Relations in History and Present**

Fall 2021

*\*Syllabus is preliminary and subject to change. Changes will be announced well in advance in class and please check Canvas for the updates\**

**Course Instructors:** Yuan Wang

**Day & Time:** Tue 2:10 - 4:00pm

**Location:** 501a International Affairs Bldg

**Office hours:** Tue 4:30 – 6:30 pm, IAB 901B

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Since the 2000s, China-Africa diplomatic and economic relations have accelerated rapidly; however, links between them are not new. Since pre-colonial times, there have been flows of people, goods, and ideas; at times more intense than others. In recent years, China and Africa have renewed their relations at many different levels. From political engagement to increased trade and economic relations, and perhaps more importantly, to increased contact between ordinary Africans and Chinese. What are the implications of contemporary Sino-African engagements? Is China's economic activities in Africa representing a 'new scramble for Africa' and China's 'neo-imperialism?' What are the differences between Chinese and Western approach in Africa? How to understand African agency in the continent's asymmetric relationship with global powers? Is China a development model for Africa? Are Chinese people racist? How much soft power does China have in Africa?

This course explores both historical and contemporary linkages between Africa and China in political and macro-economic realm, as well as socio-cultural aspects. This course invites students to see how various interests impact the ways in which 'China-Africa' is framed; and to explore these engagements by sector, by individual African country, and vis-à-vis concerns about racism, labour issues, and China's increasing environmental footprint in Africa. This course aims for students to develop and understanding of not only China's impact on Africa, but also how African actors actively shape their relations with China as well as with other global powers.

### **COURSE GOALS**

By the end of this course, students should:

- Have a solid understanding of the history and the present state of China-Africa relations;
- Have a solid grasp of the role of China in Africa's external relations as compared to the West;
- Have a general knowledge of key debates in China-Africa relations and are able to formulate their own educated opinions on the relevant China-Africa issues and debunk the many myths and rumours that surround contemporary Sino-African relations; and
- Have a detailed understanding of China's relations with at least one or more specific African countries.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

The seminar-style class will meet once a week for a combination of small lecture, student presentation, and discussion. Student are expected to have read the assigned readings before coming to the seminar and engage in discussions. In addition to readings suggested in the syllabus, students are encouraged to find additional outside readings and resources for their presentation. Course assessment is composed of the following segments:

- **Class participation** (10%): Participation requires regular weekly attendance,<sup>1</sup> completing all readings, and being part of discussion. Each week students should complete all required readings in advance of that week's seminar. As the seminar is primarily discussion-based, it is important that students come to class having finished and thought critically about the readings to ensure a lively discussion.
- **Talking points** (20%): Starting from the second class (Sept 21), students are required to submit on Canvas **one talking point** that they think should be discussed in class meetings. The talking point should be relevant to the readings assigned and addressing one of the guiding questions. You may use the argument provided in the assigned readings to discuss the guiding questions, or come up with an alternative explanation different from the arguments in the reading and explain why. Each talking point should be below 200 words and students only need to submit one talking point per week. The due time is 24 hours before class meeting, which is **2pm every Monday**. Missing or late submission of one talking point will lead to one point reduction in final grade.
- **Group presentation** – country case study (30%): Students will self-select into groups of 2-3 (depending on final enrolment) and pick an African country to develop a **20 minutes** presentation about the country's engagement with China, the presentation should end with three questions for class discussion. The first presentation will be on the second week of class, on **Sept 21**. Presentation should primary concentrate on the topic of the week's class, and may extend to a brief history, key sectors of engagement, and any tensions or issues. Students should make use of, but not limited to, the core and extended readings as well as the 'useful website, media, and resources' section on this syllabus to prepare the presentation. Presenting students should email powerpoint or handouts to the instructor at least 48 hours prior to the presentation.
- **Final paper** (40%): The Final Paper is a great opportunity for students to explore their particular interests in depth. Students are welcome to choose their own topics (and have them approved via instructions below) related to China and Africa, or use one of the guiding questions on this syllabus. Students may also choose to expand on the topics explored in the group presentation. The final paper should be between 10-12 pages (5000-6000 words). The paper is due by noon, Dec 17.  
All paper topics should be approved by the instructor. Please submit a brief summary of the approved topic on Canvas by noon, Nov 26. Students are encouraged to email me or make use of the office hours to discuss their topics with me. The summary can be a couple of paragraphs or a list of bullet points.  
Late assignments will be docked by one sub-letter grade (e.g. A to A-) for each additional day of delay. Exceptions are pre-approved extensions due to excused reasons, or unforeseen extenuating circumstances with adequate documentation. In general no extensions will be given for the research paper as the instructor needs time to grade before Fall grades are due.

## USEFUL WEBSITES, MEDIA, AND RESOURCES:

### Media/blog:

- The China-Africa Knowledge Project Resource Hub (of the Chinese in Africa/Africans in China Research Network) - <http://china-africa.ssrc.org/>
- The China-Africa Project - <http://www.chinaafricaproject.com/>
- Wits Journalism Africa-China Reporting Project at the University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa) has been training African and Chinese journalists on how to better report in this controversial terrain. <http://africachinareporting.co.za/>
- China Africa News, <http://chinaafricanews.com>

---

<sup>1</sup> Unexcused missing of a week's class will result in a deduction of one sub-letter grade in their final grade.

- AfriMonitor: China-Africa News, <http://afrimonitor.com/news/china-africa/> Africans in China (Roberto Castillo's blog/website): <http://africansinchina.net/>
- Former US ambassador David Shinn has been looking at US-China- Africa relations for nearly a decade. <http://davidshinn.blogspot.com/>

#### **Data and case studies:**

- Deborah Brautigam and the SAIS-China Africa Research Initiative (CARI). <http://www.sais-cari.org/>. CARI publishes a series of policy papers and working papers on different topics of China in Africa, and their data on Chinese loans, investment, and contracts in Africa can be a useful resource.
- AIDDATA also provides data for Chinese loans and investment in Africa and elsewhere. <https://www.aiddata.org>

**Seminars/Conferences/Research Centres:** (Due to COVID-19, many of these seminars are made available online.)

- Chinese in Africa/Africans in China Research Network: <https://ca-ac.org>
- SAIS-CARI seminars and annual conference: <http://www.sais-cari.org/>
- Global China Initiative at Boston University: <https://www.bu.edu/gdp/research/gci/>
- The Centre for Chinese Studies (CCS) at Stellenbosch University (South Africa) <http://www.ccs.org.za> and the African-East Asian Affairs/The China Monitor – <http://www.ccs.org.za/?cat=13>
- The South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA) China in Africa Project: <http://www.saiia.org.za/china-in-africa-project/china-in-africa-project.html>
- Oxford University China-Africa Network (OUCAN) seminar series and annual conferences

#### **SIPA ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT**

The School of International & Public Affairs does not tolerate cheating and/or plagiarism in any form. Those students who violate the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct will be subject to the Dean's Disciplinary Procedures.

Please familiarize yourself with the proper methods of citation and attribution. The School provides some useful resources online; we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these various styles before conducting your research. Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct and to access useful resources on citation and attribution: <http://bulletin.columbia.edu/sipa/academic-policies/>

Violations of the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct should be reported to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

#### **SIPA DISABILITY STATEMENT**

SIPA is committed to ensuring that students registered with [Columbia University's Disability Services](#) (DS) receive the reasonable accommodations necessary for their full participation in their academic programs. If you are a student with a disability and have a DS-certified accommodation letter, you may wish to make an appointment with the course instructor to discuss your accommodations. Faculty provide disability accommodations to students with DS-certified accommodation letters, and they provide the accommodations specified in such letters. If you have any additional questions, please contact SIPA's DS liaison at [disability@sipa.columbia.edu](mailto:disability@sipa.columbia.edu) and/or 212-854-8690.

## COURSE SCHEDULE & READINGS

Section 1. Introduction, framing the discourse	<p>Sept 7. [No class]</p> <p>Sept 14. Introduction: China in Africa</p> <p>Sept 21. African historical relations with external powers</p>
Section 2. China's engagement in Africa by Sector	<p>Sept 28. Infrastructure</p> <p>Oct 5. Extractive industry</p> <p>Oct 12. Agriculture</p> <p>Oct 19. Industrial cooperation &amp; trade</p> <p>Oct 26. Medical team, public health, and aid</p>
Section 3. Topics of concerns	<p>Nov 2. [No class]</p> <p>Nov 9. Governance</p> <p>Nov 16. Labour rights</p> <p>Nov 23. Environment and wildlife preservation</p>
Section 4. Issues of analysis	<p>Nov 30. African agency in Sino-African relations</p> <p>Dec 7. Soft power and China-Africa media interaction</p> <p>Additional reading: Africans in China</p>

### Preliminary readings:

Alden, Chris. 2007. *China in Africa*. London, New York: ZED Books.

Brautigam, Deborah. 2009. *The Dragon's Gift. The Real Story of China in Africa*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Taylor, Ian. 2009. *China's New Role in Africa*. Boulder, London: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Bayart, J.-F. 2000. "Africa within the world: a history of extraversion", *African Affairs*, 99: 395.

Clapham, Christopher, 1996. *Africa and the International System*, Cambridge University Press.

Lee, Ching Kwan. *The Specter of Global China: Politics, labor, and foreign investment in Africa*. University of Chicago Press

### Section 1. Introduction, framing the discourse

## 1.1 Introduction: China in Africa (Sept 14)

**Guiding questions: Why is China's rise a challenge for development studies and practices? What are the continuity of China's cooperation with Africa? What has changed over the decades?**

Large, D. (2008), "Beyond 'Dragon in the Bush': The Study of China–Africa Relations". *African Affairs*, Volume 107, Issue 426, January 2008, pp 45–61.

Strauss, J.C. (2009), "The Past in the Present: Historical and Rhetorical Lineages in China's Relations with Africa," *The China Quarterly* (199): 777–795.

Monson, J. (2009), *Africa's Freedom Railway*. Bloomington, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. Chapters 1 (pp. 1-14)

Hirono, M., & Suzuki, S. (2014). "Why do we need 'myth-busting' in the study of Sino–African relations?" *Journal of Contemporary China*, 23(87), 443-461.

Alden, C. & Large, D. (2011). "China's exceptionalism and the challenges of delivering differences in Africa." *Journal of Contemporary China*. 20(68), 21-38.

### Further reading

Monson, J. (2009), *Africa's Freedom Railway*. Bloomington, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. Chapters 2 & 3 (pp. 15-70)

Strange, A. (2019). "Seven decades of Chinese state financing in Africa: Tempering current debates." *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 34(3), 259-279.

Chellaney, B. (2017). "China's Debt-trap Diplomacy." Project Syndicate. January 23. <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/china-one-belt-one-road-loans-debt-by-brahma-chellaney-2017-01?barrier=accesspaylog>.

Brautigam, D. (2020). "A Critical Look at Chinese 'Debt-trap Diplomacy': The Rise of a Meme." *Area Development and Policy* 5 (1): 1–14.

BBC documentary, 'When China meets Africa.' <https://whenchinametafrica.com>

CCTV documentary, 'A new era of China-Africa Cooperation (中非合作新时代) series I-V' available on Youtube. [\[The two documentaries stands at starkly different perspective to view Chinese engagement with Africa – an interesting comparison.\]](#)

## 1.2 African historical relations with external powers (Sept 21)

**Guiding questions: China is not a recent arrival in Africa. Is the past prologue to the future? Does China's engagement with Africa confirmative to or divergent from the continent's historical relations with external powers?**

Bayart, J.-F. (2000). "Africa within the world: a history of extraversion", *African Affairs*, 99:395; 217-267.

Clapham, C. (1996). *Africa and the international system: The politics of state survival* (No. 50). Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1&2 (pp.1-43)

Herbst, J. (2014). *States and power in Africa*. Princeton University Press. Chapter 1. “The Challenge of State-building in Africa.” (pp. 11-31)

Brautigam, D. (2011). *The dragon's gift: the real story of China in Africa*. Oxford University Press, Chapter 1, 2, 3 (pp. 1-70)

Fraser, A. (2009). “Aid-recipient sovereignty in historical context.” In Whitfield, L. (ed) *The politics of aid: African strategies for dealing with donors*, Chapter 2. pp. 45-73.

### **Further reading:**

Leys, 1996. *The Rise and Fall of Development Theory*. James Currey, London. Chapter 2. (pp.45-63)

Whitfield, L., & Fraser, A. (2010). “Negotiating Aid: The structural conditions shaping the negotiating strategies of African governments.” *International Negotiation*, 15(3), 341-366.

Claude, A. (2001). *Democracy and Development in Africa*, (Washington, D. C, Brookings Institution).

Lee, C. (2010), *Making a World after Empire: The Bandung Moment and Its Political Afterlives*. Athens: Ohio University Press. Read “Introduction” and “Working Ahead of Time”(Chapter 1, 7). 1-45; 235-265.

## **Section 2. China’s engagement in Africa by Sector**

### **2.1 Infrastructure (Sept 28)**

**Guiding questions: What is the “Angola model” and how should we understand the “Angola model” from African and Chinese perspectives respectively? What impact has Chinese infrastructure engagement had on Africa’s dependency position to the global capitalism? How were Chinese-sponsored infrastructure projects shaped by Chinese and African actors respectively?**

Alves, A.C. (2013), “China’s ‘Win-Win’ Cooperation: Unpacking the Impact of Infrastructure-for-Resources Deals in Africa,” *South African Journal of International Affairs*, 20 (2) pp. 207-226.

Corkin, L. (2011). “Redefining foreign policy impulses toward Africa: The roles of the MFA, the MOFCOM and China Exim Bank.” *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*, 40(4), 61-90.

Croese, S. (2017). “State-led housing delivery as an instrument of developmental patrimonialism: The case of post-war Angola.” *African Affairs*, 116(462), 80-100.

Wang, Y. (2021). “Executive Agency and State Capacity in Development: Comparing Sino-African Railways in Kenya and Ethiopia,” *Comparative Politics*. (Access accepted version from <https://yuanwangorg.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/wang-2021-executive-agency-and-state-capacity-in-development-1.pdf>)

Taylor, I. & Zajontz, T. (2020). “In a fix: Africa's place in the Belt and Road Initiative and the reproduction of dependency.” *South African Journal of International Affairs*, 27(3), 277-295.

Zhang, H. (2021). “Chinese International Contractors in Africa: Structure and Agency.” SAIS-CARI Working Paper: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5652847de4b033f56d2bdc29/t/6099cc5d267fb10016b82045/16>

[20692064252/WP+47+-+ZHANG%2C+Hong+-+Chinese+Intl+Contractors%27+Market+Power+Africa.pdf](https://www.iese.ac.mz/lib/saber/fd_384.pdf)

### **Further reading:**

Jenkins, R. (2012). “Latin America and China—a new dependency?” *Third World Quarterly* v. 33, n. 7: 1337-1358.

Wang, Y., & Wissenbach, U. (2019). “Clientelism at work? A case study of Kenyan Standard Gauge Railway project.” *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 34(3), 280-299.

Bosshard, P. (2007). China’s role in financing African infrastructure. *International Rivers Network*, 14. [https://www.iese.ac.mz/lib/saber/fd\\_384.pdf](https://www.iese.ac.mz/lib/saber/fd_384.pdf)

Wethal, U. (2019) “[Building Africa's infrastructure: Reinstating History in Infrastructure Debates,](#)” Forum for Development Studies.

## **2.2 Extractive industry (Oct 5)**

**Guiding questions: How does Chinese investment compare with companies from other regions? What differences do we see among African states, and why?**

Downs, E. (2007). “The Fact and Fiction of Sino-African Energy Relations.” *China Security*, 3, 3, Summer: 42-68.

Hilson, G., Hilson, A., & Adu-Darko, E. (2014). Chinese participation in Ghana's informal gold mining economy: Drivers, implications and clarifications. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 34, 292-303.

Soares de Oliveira, R. (2008). “Making sense of Chinese Oil Investment in Africa.” C. Alden, D. Large, R. Soares de Oliveira (ed.), *China Returns to Africa. A Rising Power and a Continent Embrace*, London, Hurst & Company, 83-109.

Vines, A., Wong, L., Weimer, M. and Campos, I. (2009). *Thirst for African oil: Asian national oil companies in Nigeria and Angola*. London: Chatham House.

Brautigam, D. and K. Gallagher. (2014). “[Bartering Globalization: China’s Commodity-backed Finance in Africa and Latin America,](#)” *Global Policy* 5, 4.

Alves, A.C. (2013). “Chinese Economic Statecraft: A Comparative Study of China’s Oil-backed Loans in Angola and Brazil,” *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*, 42, 1, 99-130.

Taylor, I. (2006). “China's oil diplomacy in Africa.” *International affairs*, 82(5), 937-959.

### **Further reading**

Ferguson, J. (2005) “Seeing Like an Oil Company: Space, Security, and Global Capital in Neoliberal Africa”, *American Anthropologist*, 107, 3, 377–382.

Jensen, N. and L. Wantchekon, (2004). “Resource Wealth and Political Regimes in Africa”, *Comparative Political Studies*, 37: 7.

Frynas, G. and M. Paulo, (2007) “A New Scramble for African Oil?”, *African Affairs*, 106: 423.

Global Witness. (2009). "Oil-backed loans to Angola," in *Undue Diligence: How Banks do Business with Corrupt Regimes*, March: read only pp. 90-104  
[https://www.transparency.de/fileadmin/pdfs/Themen/Finanzmarkt/Undue\\_Diligence\\_Report\\_Global\\_Witness.pdf](https://www.transparency.de/fileadmin/pdfs/Themen/Finanzmarkt/Undue_Diligence_Report_Global_Witness.pdf)

Downs, E. (2011). "[China Development Bank's Oil Loans: Pursuing Policy – and Profit](#)," in: *China Economic Quarterly*, December, 43–47.

Rocha, J. "A new frontier in the exploitation of Africa's natural resources: the emergence of China", pp.15-34 in Firoze Manji and Stephen Marks (Eds.) (2007) *African Perspectives on China in Africa*. Oxford, Cape Town and Nairobi: Fahamu

Hansen, M. W., Buur, L., Therkildsen, O., & Kjær, M. (2014). The political economy of local content in African extractives: Lessons from three African countries. *Proceedings of the 46. Årsmøde i Dansk Selskab for Statskundskab*.

### 2.3 Agriculture (Oct 12)

**Guiding questions: Does Africa have anything to learn from Asian experience? Why did many African agriculture policies fail? To what extent does foreign investment offer new opportunities or new threats to advancing agricultural production in developing countries?**

Li, Xiaoyun, Tang Lixia; Xu Xiuli, Qi Gubo, Wang Haimin (2013) 'What Can Africa Learn from China's Experience in Agricultural Development' IDS bulletin 44.4 (July): 31-41.

Bates, R. (1981) *Markets and states in tropical Africa: the political basis of agricultural policies*, Berkeley: University of California Press. Ch 1. "Policies towards Cash Crops for Export."

Dercon, S., & Gollin, D. (2014). [Agriculture in African development: theories and strategies](#). *Annu. Rev. Resour. Econ.*, 6(1), 471-492.

Brautigam, D. (2014). *Will Africa Feed China?* New York: Oxford University Press. Ch4 (pp.56-75)

Tang, X. (2021). *Coevolutionary Pragmatism: Approaches and Impacts of China-Africa Economic Cooperation*. Cambridge University Press. Ch. 4 (pp.102-129)

Buckley, L. (2013). "Chinese Land-Based Interventions in Senegal," *Development and Change* Special Issue: Governing the Global Land Grab: The Role of the State in the Rush for Land, 44, 2, pp. 429–450.

Chatelard, S. and Chu, J. (2015) "Chinese Agricultural Engagements in Zambia," SAIS Policy Brief, [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5652847de4b033f56d2bdc29/t/568c474fd8af1097861ed025/1452033871\\_100/CARI\\_PolicyBrief\\_4\\_Jan2015.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5652847de4b033f56d2bdc29/t/568c474fd8af1097861ed025/1452033871_100/CARI_PolicyBrief_4_Jan2015.pdf)

#### **Further reading:**

Brautigam, D. 2014, *Will Africa Feed China?* New York: Oxford University Press. [*A book demystifying the 'land grab' accusation towards China.*]

Brautigam, D. & H Zhang (2013) "Green Dreams: Myth and Reality in China's Agricultural Investment in Africa", *Third World Quarterly*, 34:9, 1676-1696

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



Chen, K.Z., C. Hsu and S. Fan. (2014) “Steadying the Ladder: China’s Agricultural and Rural Development Engagement in Africa,” *China Agricultural Economic Review*, 6 (1), pp. 2-20.

Buckley, L. 2011. “[Eating Bitter to Taste Sweet](#): An Ethnographic Sketch of a Chinese Agriculture Project in Senegal.” Paper presented at the International Conference on Global Land Grabbing, April 2011.

## 2.4 Industrial Cooperation & trade (Oct 19)

**Guiding questions: What impact has Chinese engagement had on African manufacturing? Does this impact vary across the continent? Given new developments in international investment and trade (including the role of global value chains), should African industrial policy conform to comparative advantage or defy it?**

Eisenman, J. (2012). China–Africa trade patterns: causes and consequences. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 21(77), 793-810.

Altenburg, T., Chen, X., Lütkenhorst, W., Staritz, C., & Whitfield, L. (2020). “Exporting out of China or out of Africa? Automation versus relocation in the global clothing industry” (No. 1/2020). Discussion Paper.

Brautigam, D. (2011) *The Dragon’s Gift*. Ch. 7 —Flying Geese, and Ch. 8 —Asian Tsunami

Tang, X. (2014) “The Impact of Asian Investment on Africa’s Textile Industries,” paper published by the Center for Global Policy at Carnegie-Tsinghua. See at <http://carnegietsinghua.org/2014/08/05/impact-of-asian-investment-on-africa-s-textile-industries/hjwx#>.

Kaplinsky, R. (2008) “What Does the Rise of China Do for Industrialization in Sub-Saharan Africa?”, *Review of African Political Economy* 35: 115, 7-22.

Lin, J.Y. (2015), “China’s Rise and Structural Transformation in Africa: Ideas and Opportunities,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Africa and Economics, Volume II: Policies and Practices*, edited by Celestin Monga and Justin Yifu Lin, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. Irene

### Further reading:

Gebre-Egziabher, T. (2007). “Impacts of Chinese Imports and Coping Strategies of Local Producers: The Case of Small-Scale Footwear Enterprises in Ethiopia,” *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 45.

Lippolis, N. & Peel, S. (2014). “[Political Strategies for Industrial Development: Theories, Concepts and Praxis](#).” Rethinking African Paths to Industrial Development (RAPID) working paper.

Lin, J.Y. (2011) “From Flying Geese to Leading Dragons: New Opportunities and Strategies for Structural Transformation in Developing Countries,” World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5702, June.

Kaplinsky, R. (2014). “What Contribution Can China Make to Inclusive Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa?” *Development and Change*, 44, 6, pp. 1295–1316.

Haugen, H.Ø., (2011) “Chinese Exports to Africa: Competition, Complementarity and Cooperation between Micro-Level Actors,” *Forum for Development Studies*, v. 38, no. 2, pp. 157-76.

Onjala, J. “Merchandise Trading between Kenya and China: Implications for the East African Community (EAC)” (Chapter 4, pp 63-85) in Adem, S. (Ed.) (2013) *China’s Diplomacy in Eastern and Southern Africa*, Burlington, VT: Ashgate.

Sutherland D., and J. Anderson. (2015). “The Pitfalls of Using Foreign Direct Investment Data to Measure Chinese Multinational Enterprise Activity,” *The China Quarterly* 221, March 2015: 21-48.

## 2.5 Medical team, public health, and aid (Oct 26)

**Guiding questions: What are the dimensions of Chinese aid? Does aid from China divergent from those of other bilateral and multilateral donors? How are Chinese aid to Africa connected to Chinese business in Africa?**

Li A. (2011), “Chinese Medical Cooperation in Africa,” Discussion Paper No. 52, Nordiska Afrika Institutet, Uppsala.

Hsu, E. (2002). “‘The Medicine from China Has Rapid Effects’: Chinese medicine patients in Tanzania.” *Anthropology & Medicine* 9(3):291-313.

Liu, P, Guo, Y, Qian, X, Tang, S, Li, Z, & Chen, L. (2014). “China's Distinctive Engagement in Global Health,” *The Lancet*, 384(9945), 793-804.

Dreher, A., Fuchs, A., Parks, B., Strange, A. M., & Tierney, M. J. (2018). “Apples and dragon fruits: The determinants of aid and other forms of state financing from China to Africa.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 62(1), 182-194.

King, K. (2013). “China’s Soft Power in Africa: Past, Present and Future,” in *China’s Aid and Soft Power in Africa: The Case of Education and Training*. Suffolk: James Currey, pp. 172-207.

Brautigam, D. (2011). “Aid ‘With Chinese Characteristics’: Chinese Foreign Aid And Development Finance Meet The OECD-DAC Aid Regime,” *Journal of International Development*. 23(5), 752-764.

### **Further reading:**

Brautigam, D. (2011). *The Dragon’s Gift*. Ch. 6 “Apples and Lychees”.

Moyo, D. (2009), *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There Is A Better Way Forward for Africa*, London, UK: Allen Lane. Chapter 7 (“The Chinese Are Our Friends”), 98-113, and Chapter 8 (“Let’s Trade”), 114-125.

Deborah Wei Mullins, “The alternative of Chinese aid in Africa: impacts of China's development strategy through Chinese aid, finance, and firms in Kenya,” Master’s Thesis, MIT, 2009  
<http://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/46674>

Jiang, X. (2017), “Chinese Medical Teams in the DRC: A Comparative Case Study,” Policy Brief, No. 21, SAIS-CARI.

## **Section 3. Topics of concerns**

### 3.1 Governance (Nov 9)

**Guiding questions: How should we evaluate the political dimensions of China's renewed engagement in Africa? Does China-Africa (South-South) racialization differ from North-South one?**

**Required reading:**

Taylor, I. (2019). "China and Political Governance in Africa." In *Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of Politics*.

Brautigam, D. (2011). *The Dragon's Gift*. Ch. 10 — Rogue Donor: Myths and Realities.

Large, D. (2008), "China & the Contradictions of 'Non- interference' in Sudan." *Review of African Political Economy* No. 115:93-106

Taylor, I. 2008. Sino-African relations and the problem of human rights. *African Affairs*, 107(426), 63-87.

Bader, J. (2015). "China, autocratic patron? An empirical investigation of China as a factor in autocratic survival." *International Studies Quarterly*, 59(1), 23-33.

Holslag, J. (2011). "China and the Coups: Coping with Political Instability in Africa," *African Affairs*, 110/440, pp. 367-86.

**Further reading:**

Shaw, T., Cooper, A. and Chin G. (2009), "Emerging Powers and Africa: Implications For/From Global Governance", *Politikon*, 36, 1, 27-44.

Isaksson, A. S., & Kotsadam, A. (2018). Chinese aid and local corruption. *Journal of Public Economics*, 159, 146-159.

Verhoeven, Harry. (2014) "Is Beijing's Non-Interference Policy History? How Africa is Changing China," *The Washington Quarterly*, 37 (2), pp. 55-70.

### 3.2 Labour rights (Nov 16)

**Guiding questions: What are the dimensions of Chinese labor exports. Are the management practices of Chinese companies differ from others. What are the potential consequences of racism on Sino-African relations?**

Lee, C.K. (2009). Raw Encounters: Chinese Managers, African Workers and the Politics of Casualization in Africa's Chinese Enclaves," *China Quarterly*, 199, pp. 647-666.

Oya, C., & Schaefer, F. (2019). Chinese firms and employment dynamics in Africa: A comparative analysis. IDCEA Synthesis Report. Link: <https://eprints.soas.ac.uk/34241/1/file141857.pdf>

Tan-Mullins, M. & P. S. Hofman. (2014). "The Shaping of Chinese Corporate Social Responsibility," *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*, 43, 4, 3-18.

Sautman, B., and Yan H. (2016), "The Discourse of Racialization of Labor and Chinese Enterprise in Africa," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 39 (12): 2149-2168.

Tang, X. (2016). "Does Chinese Employment Benefit Africans? Investigating Chinese Enterprises and their Operations in Africa." *African Studies Quarterly*, 16.

Karsten G. and A. Thiel, "The Vulnerable Other: Distorted Equity in Chinese-Ghanaian Employment Relations," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 37: 6 (2012): 1101- 1120.

Kamoche, K., & Siebers, L. Q. (2015). Chinese management practices in Kenya: toward a post-colonial critique. *The International Journal of Human Resource Management*, 26(21), 2718-2743.

#### **Further reading:**

Smith, G. (2013). "Nupela Masta? Local and Expatriate Labour in a Chinese-Run Nickel Mine in Papua New Guinea," *Asian Studies Review*, 37, 2, pp. 178-195.

Human Rights Watch. (2011). "You'll Be Fired if You Refuse" Labor Abuses in Zambia's Chinese State-owned Copper Mines. Human Rights Watch (skim)

Pál, N. (2014). "Chinese Investors, Labour Discipline and Developmental Cosmopolitanism," *Development and Change*, 44, 6, pp.1387–1405.

Xing, Y., Y. Liu, S. Y. Tarba, C. L. Cooper. (2014). "Intercultural influences on managing African employees of Chinese firms in Africa: Chinese managers' HRM practices," *International Business Review*, 25(1), 28-41.

Akhidenor, A.E. (2013). "Code-switching in the Conservations of the Chinese Trading Community in Africa: The Case of Botswana," *English Today*, 29 (4), pp. 30-36

Castillo, R. (2020). "Race" and "racism" in contemporary Africa-China relations research: approaches, controversies and reflections. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 21(3), 310-336.

Lan, S. (2016). The shifting meanings of race in China: A case study of the African diaspora communities in Guangzhou. *City & Society*, 28(3), 298-318.

Sautman, B. (1994), "Anti-Black Racism in Post-Mao China," *The China Quarterly*, 138: 413-437.

Adebayo, K. O. (2021). Racial Discrimination in Uncertain Times: Covid-19, Positionality and Africans in China Studies. *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, 33(2), 174-183.

### **3.3 Environment and wildlife preservation (Nov 23)**

#### **Guiding questions: Have changing norms in China affected its African engagement? What is China's environmental impact in Africa?**

Tan-Mullins, M. (2014). "Successes and Failures of Corporate Social Responsibility Mechanisms in Chinese Extractive Industries," *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*, 43, 4, 19–39.

Pegg, S. (2012). "Social responsibility and resource extraction: Are Chinese oil companies different?" *Resources Policy* 37, no. 2 (June 2012): 164-165.

Daniel C. and A. Alejandro, "China's External Environmental Policy: Understanding China's Environmental Impact in Africa and How It Is Addressed", *Environmental Practice* 15 (3) September 2013, pp. 220-227

Cerutti, P. O, S. Assembe-Mvondo, L. German and L. Putzel. (2011). "Is China Unique? Exploring the Behavior of Chinese and European Firms in the Cameroonian Logging Sector," *International Forestry Review*, 13, 1: 23-34

Bosshard, P. (2008). "China's Environmental Footprint in Africa," Policy Brief from South Africa Institute for International Affairs. [https://www.internationalrivers.org/sites/default/files/attached-files/saiaa\\_policy\\_briefing\\_508.pdf](https://www.internationalrivers.org/sites/default/files/attached-files/saiaa_policy_briefing_508.pdf)

Grimm, S. and M. Burgess, "Greening Chinese- African Relations?" pp71-85, in Li Xing and Abdulkadir Osmam Farah (eds) (2013), *China-Africa Relations in an Era of Great Transformations*, Burlington, VT: Ashgate

#### **Further reading:**

World Wildlife Fund (2012), "Africa and China: Cooperation for Sustainability". Direct Link: [http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/wwf\\_briefing\\_note\\_africa\\_china\\_cooperation\\_for\\_sustainability\\_en\\_1.pdf](http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_briefing_note_africa_china_cooperation_for_sustainability_en_1.pdf).

Shinn, D. H. (2016). The Environmental Impact of China's Investment in Africa. *Cornell Int'l LJ*, 49, 25.

### **Section 4. Issues of analysis:**

#### **4.1 African agency in Sino-African relations (Nov 30)**

**Guiding questions: Is dependency theory a good way to capture Sino-African relations? Does African countries have agency towards China under Sino-African structural asymmetry? If so, which African actors have agency and how are the agency exercised?**

Mohan, G., & Lampert, B. (2013). Negotiating china: reinserting African agency into china–Africa relations. *African Affairs*, 112(446), 92-110.

Phillips, J. (2019). Who's in charge of Sino-African resource politics? Situating African state agency in Ghana. *African Affairs*, 118(470), 101-124.

Folashadé S.K. (2018). "Bureaucratic agency and power asymmetry in Benin–China relations." In Alden, C., & Large, D. (Eds.). (2018). *New Directions in Africa–China Studies*. Routledge.

Verhoeven, H. (2016). Briefing: African dam building as extraversion: The case of Sudan's dam programme, Nubian resistance, and the Saudi-Iranian proxy war in Yemen. *African Affairs*, 115(460), 562-573.

Taylor, I. (2016). "Dependency redux: Why Africa is not rising". *Review of African Political Economy*, 43(147), 8-25.

Cabestan, J. P. (2020). African Agency and Chinese Power: The Case of Djibouti. SAIIA. Link: <https://media.africaportal.org/documents/Policy-Insights-93-cabestan.pdf>

#### **Further Reading:**

Taylor, I., & Zajontz, T. (2020). "In a fix: Africa's place in the Belt and Road Initiative and the reproduction of dependency." *South African Journal of International Affairs*, 27(3), 277-295.

Carmody, P., & Kragelund, P. (2016). "Who Is in Charge-State Power and Agency in Sino-African Relations." *Cornell Int'l LJ*, 49, 1.

Lonsdale, J. (2000). Agency in tight corners: narrative and initiative in African history. *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, 13(1), 5-16.

Van Staden, C., Alden, C., & Wu, Y. S. (2018). "In the Driver's Seat? African Agency and Chinese Power at FOCAC, the AU and the BRI." SAIIA.

Mohan, G., & Power, M. (2008). New African choices? The politics of Chinese engagement. *Review of African Political Economy*, 35(115), 23-42.

Mason, R. (2017). "China's impact on the landscape of African International Relations: implications for dependency theory". *Third World Quarterly*, 38(1), 84-96.

Stallings, B. (2020). *Dependency in the Twenty-First Century?: The Political Economy of China-Latin America Relations*. Cambridge University Press.

Corkin, Lucy. *Uncovering African agency: Angola's management of China's credit lines*. Routledge, 2016. Chapter 1, 2, pp 1-28.

#### 4.2 Soft power and China-Africa media interaction (Dec 7)

**Guiding questions: China's rise has a soft power dimension. Why has this become so important to the Chinese? Is it working?**

King, K. 2013. "China's Soft Power in Africa: Past, Present and Future," in *China's Aid and Soft Power in Africa: The Case of Education and Training* (Suffolk: James Currey, 2013), pp. 172-207

Jiang, F., S. Li, H. Rønning & E. Tjønneland (2016), "The Voice of China in Africa: Media, Communication Technologies and Image-building," *Chinese Journal of Communication* 9(1): 1-7.

van Staden, C., & Wu, Y. S. (2018). "Media As A Site Of Contestation In China–Africa Relations." In Alden, C., & Large, D. (Eds.). (2018). *New Directions in Africa–China Studies*. Routledge, 104-131.

Park, Y.J. (2013). "Perceptions of Chinese in Southern Africa: Constructions of the "Other" and the Role of Memory," *African Studies Review*, 56, 1, pp. 131-153.

Harber, A. (2013). "China's Soft Diplomacy in Africa," *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies* 34, 3, pp. 149-151.

Wasserman, H. (2013). "China in Africa: The implications for journalism," *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies* 34, 3, pp. 1-5.

Gagliardone, I. (2013). "China as a persuader: CCTV Africa's first steps in the African mediasphere," *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies*, 34, 3, pp. 25-40.

Brautigam, D. (2014). "African public opinion on China and the U.S.," Link: <http://www.chinaafricaarealstory.com/2014/12/african-public-opinion-on-china-and-us.html>

#### **Further reading:**

Shi, A. (2015), "Re-orienting the 'Charm Offensive' to the 'Charm Defensive': A Critical Review of Chinese Media Development in Africa," *African Journalism Studies* 36(1): 135-140.

Rønning, H. (2016). "How Much Soft Power Does China Have in Africa?", in *China's Media and Soft Power in Africa*, 65-78. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Li, S. (2017), "Covering Ebola: a comparative analysis of CCTV Africa's *Talk Africa* and Al Jazeera English's *Inside Story*," *Journal of African Cultural Studies* 29(1): 114-130.

Zhang, X., Wasserman, H., & Mano, W. (Eds.). (2016). *China's Media and Soft Power in Africa: Promotion and Perceptions*. Springer. Selected Chapters.

Nye, J. (2008) "Public Diplomacy and Soft Power," *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 616: 94-109.

Goldsmith, B E, Horiuchi, Y, & Wood, T. (2014). Doing Well by Doing Good: The Impact of Foreign Aid on Foreign Public Opinion. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, 9, 87-114.

### 4.3 Africans in China (extra reading)

**Guiding questions: Africans have long been part of diaspora communities. What drives migration? How do the new settlements and sojourners affect China-Africa relations? What developmental and social impact might African migrants have on China?**

Castillo, R. (2015), Landscapes of Aspiration in Guangzhou's African Music Scene: Beyond the Trading Narrative, *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* , 44, 4, 83– 115.

Lan, S. (2017). *Mapping the new African diaspora in China: Race and the cultural politics of belonging*. Taylor & Francis. Chapter 1, 2. 1-44

Pelican, M. and P. Tatab. 2009, "Migration to the Gulf States and China: Local Perspectives from Cameroon," *African Diaspora* 2:229-244.

Haugen, H. "African Pentecostal migrants in China: Marginalization and alternative geographies of a mission theology," in *African Studies Review*, v56 (n1) (April 2013): 81(22)

Haugen, H. Ø. (2012). Nigerians in China: A second state of immobility. *International Migration*, 50(2), 65-80.

Tu H. (2016) "A 'Wild West' of trade? African women and men and the gendering of globalisation from below in Guangzhou", *Identities*, 23:5, 501-518.

#### **Further reading:**

Li, Z., L.J.C. Ma, and D. Xue, "An African Enclave in China: The Making of a New Transnational Urban Space" in *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 2009, 50, No. 6, pp. 699–719.

Lan, S. (2015). State regulation of undocumented African migrants in China: A multi-scalar analysis. *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 50(3), 289-304.

