

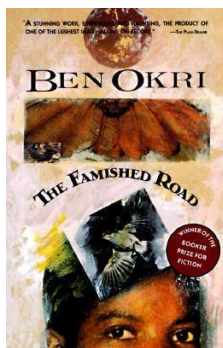
Fall 2015 Senior Seminar

ENG 461-01

Social and Political Issues in African Literature

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.

Africa's encounter with the West was a watershed moment in the history of the continent and has had an enduring impact upon its destiny. More than 50 years after the majority of African countries achieved independence, they are still not free. Democratic rule has yet to take root in most of these countries which are plagued by political instability, corruption and abuse of power, and poverty. Yet, Africa remains one of the most hospitable places on earth and the majority of its people are infinitely kind and generous.



In this seminar, we will examine, through the writings of some of Africa's greatest writers, colonization and its consequences, and issues pertaining to education, leadership, democracy, the conflict between tradition and modernity, inter-ethnic tensions, human rights, women's rights, children's rights, and the status of outcasts. Equally important, we will discuss which solutions, if any, African writers suggest for the various social, cultural, ethical, and political problems African countries face as they struggle to rise to the challenges of nationhood in the 21st century.