

SCHEMA ALTRE ATTIVITÀ FORMATIVE

A.A. 2025-2026

Corso di Laurea	Lingue e culture dell'Asia e dell'Africa (MAA)
Titolo	African youth protests
Delibera di autorizzazione del Corso di Laurea	
Tipologia attività (conferenze, seminari, laboratori ecc.)	Ciclo di seminari
Docente responsabile	Proff. Antonio Pezzano e Maria Suriano
A cura di	Prof. Noor Nieftagodien (History Workshop, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg)
Numero ore	12
Numero CFU	2
Data inizio attività	1/12/2025
Calendario	Da definire
Destinatari	Studenti magistrali
Prenotazione richiesta (sì/no)	sì
e-mail per informazioni	apezzano@unior.it ; maria.suriano@unior.it
Modalità di verifica	Relazione
Note	Il laboratorio nasce dalla collaborazione del CeSAC dell'UNIOR con l'History Workshop della University of the Witwatersrand di Johannesburg e intende esplorare il ruolo che i giovani, in particolare gli studenti, hanno avuto e hanno nelle forme di mobilitazione e lotta sociale e politica in Africa. Si svolgerà attraverso 6 seminari, tenuti da docenti e ricercatori internazionali, in forma ibrida (presenza e online), con l'attiva partecipazione degli studenti. Pertanto la frequenza sarà obbligatoria. Il programma dettagliato sarà pubblicato nei prossimi mesi e fornito agli studenti interessati. Di seguito l'abstract. Abstract: Young people in Africa, especially students, have since the mid-20th century been prominent actors in the political sphere. Although small in number, they were influential in shaping anti-colonial politics and resistance. In post-colonial contexts, young people have often been in the forefront of campaigns against

	anti-democratic and authoritarian regimes, and against policies that have exacerbated inequality, poverty and unemployment. Historically, the 1976 uprising in Soweto (and other parts of South Africa) stands out as a defining moment of student protests. It triggered a popular uprising against apartheid, the last bastion of colonialism on the continent, and became a touchstone for youth and student protest movements ever since. In the last 15 years, young people on the continent have repeatedly mobilised against various manifestations of authoritarianism and inequality, thus defining the politics of protest on the continent: from the Arab Spring across north Africa (2011/12), FeesMustFall in South Africa (2015/16) to the EndSars Protest in Nigeria (2020) and RejectFinanceBill in Kenya (2024). The centrality of youth in African politics reflects their weight in society: 70% of sub-Saharan's population is under the age of 30. This series of seminars aims, firstly, to use the 50th anniversary of the Soweto Uprising (2026) to reflect on student/youth protests in South Africa, both against apartheid and more recently for decolonised universities. Secondly, it will focus attention on youth/student protests in other parts of the continent in post-colonial contexts to understand contemporary changes in the nature of African politics. Thirdly, there will be some focus on research methods on youth/student protests.
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