

HISTORY 500: COLONIALISM IN SOUTH ASIAN AND AFRICAN HISTORY

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History 500, Fall 2012
3 units
Tuesdays 3:30-5:30pm
Humanities room 5245

DESCRIPTION: This seminar introduces students to the history of colonialism in South Asia and Africa. Through select readings each week students will analyze some key events, issues and debates in the history and historiography of colonial rule and anti-colonial resistance. These include the international context for the emergence of Britain's second empire in the nineteenth century; the nature of early colonial expansion and consolidation through collaborative trade, missionary work and military expansion; the re-invention of tradition in colonial societies especially with regard to racial and ethnic identity, gender, religion and caste; the changes brought about by missionary and colonial education, labor migration and urbanization; and various expressions of resistance to colonial rule in non-violent, violent and millenarian movements. Although at its height Britain had an empire over which the sun never set, Britain was not the only colonial power in South Asia and Africa, nor was the experience of colonialism the same across all colonies and societies. Through an exploration of the changes brought about by colonial rule in the political, social and economic spheres in several different colonial situations, this course provides a unique comparative perspective on the history of colonialism in various regions of the world including India, East Africa and South Africa.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1) **Four** 3-page (double-spaced) response papers on assigned primary sources due on the dates indicated in the syllabus
- 2) **One** 10-page mid-term short paper (literature review essay) on any one of the book listed at the end of the syllabus due on 10/30
- 3) **One** 20-page final long paper due on 12/17
- 4) **One** student-led discussion every week
- 5) Student presentations on final papers

EVALUATION:

Class participation: 15%
Discussion lead & Student presentation: 10%
Response Papers: 20%
Mid-term Paper: 20%
Final Paper: 35%

More than **two** unexplained absences taken without the instructor's prior permission will result in a point deduction from the overall class grade. All medical claims must be accompanied by a doctor's note. Please look over the due dates of assignments carefully for any potential conflict with other class commitments. You can request a change in the due-date by **9/13**. No extensions will be considered after this date with the exception of medical emergencies that must be supported with appropriate documentation.

READINGS:

All readings listed in the syllabus are required readings. Short articles and chapters are available on the learn@uw course website; primary sources accessible on the internet have been indicated as appropriate. Journal articles are can be accessed online through MadCat. One book is available for purchase from the university book store:

Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*

Please check the course website for guidelines for response papers, mid-term literature review and final paper.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week I 4 September
Introductions

Week II 11 September
Imperial Impulse

P. J. Cain and A. G. Hopkins, "Gentlemanly capitalism and British Expansion Overseas II: New Imperialism, 1850-1945", *The Economic History Review*, Volume 40, Issue 1, 1987

Chris Bayly, "The Second British Empire" in Robin Wink (ed) *Oxford History of the British Empire: Historiography*, 1999, pp.54-72

Andrew Porter "Cultural imperialism' and protestant missionary enterprise, 1780–1914", *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* ,Vol. 25, Iss. 3, 1997

Mrinalini Sinha, "Britishness, Clubbability, and the Colonial Public Sphere: The Genealogy of an Imperial Institution in Colonial India" *Journal of British Studies* , Vol. 40, No. 4

Week III

18 September

Ruling India

Chris Bayly, *Origins of Nationality in South Asia: Patriotism and Ethical Governance in the Making of Modern India*, ch. 8

Nicholas Dirks, *The Scandal of Empire: India and the Creation of Imperial Britain*, chs 1-3

Durba Ghosh, "Making and Un-making Loyal Subjects: Pensioning Widows and Educating Orphans in Early Colonial India", *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, Vol. 31, Iss. 1, 2003

Primary Source for Response Paper I due in class: Painting of Polier's "nautch" (on course website)

Week IV

25 September

Scramble for Africa

Elizabeth Colson, "African Society at the Time of the Scramble," in P. Duignan and L.H. Gann (eds) *Colonialism in Africa, 1870-1960*, 27-65

R. Oliver and A. Atmore, *Africa Since 1800*, chapters 9 & 10

Patrick Brantlinger, Victorians and Africans: The Genealogy of the Myth of the Dark Continent *Critical Inquiry*, Vol. 12, No. 1, 1985, pp. 166-203

Week V

2 October

Re/Invention of Tradition (I)

T. Ranger, "Invention of Tradition in Colonial Africa", in E. Hobsbawm and T. Ranger (ed), *The Invention of Tradition*

Timothy H. Parsons, "Wakamba Warriors Are Soldiers of the Queen": The Evolution of the Kamba as a Martial Race, 1890-1970, *Ethnohistory*, Vol. 46, No. 4, (Autumn, 1999), pp. 671-701

David Omissi, "Martial: Ethnicity and Security in Colonial India 1858-1939, *War & Society*, Volume 9, Number 1, May 1991, pp. 1-27(27)

Mridu Rai, *Hindu Rulers, Muslim Subjects*, ch 2

Week VI 9 October

Re/Invention of Tradition (II)

David Washbrook, "India 1818-1816: The Two Faces of Colonialism" *Oxford History of the British Empire The Nineteenth Century vol. iii*

Nicholas B. Dirks, "Castes of Mind" *Representations*, No. 37 (Winter, 1992), pp. 56-78

Lata Mani, "Contentious Traditions: The Debate on Sati in Colonial India" in K. Sangari and S. Vaid (eds), *Recasting Women: Essays in Indian Colonial History*, pp.88-126

Jocelyn Murray "The Church Missionary Society and the "Female Circumcision" Issue in Kenya 1929-1932", *Journal of Religion in Africa*, Vol. 8, 2 (1976), pp. 92-104

Heidi Gengenbach, "Boundaries of beauty: tattooed secrets of women's history in Magude District, Southern Mozambique" *Journal of Women's History* 14.4 (2003) 106-141

Primary Source for Response Paper II due in class: Jomo Kenyatta, Facing Mount Kenya (selections on course website)

Week VII 16 October

Rebellion, Resistance and Challenging Authority

Rudrangshu Mukherjee, "Satan Let Loose upon Earth": The Kanpur Massacres in India in the Revolt of 1857, *Past & Present*, No. 128 (Aug., 1990), pp. 92-116

David Hardiman, "Origins and Transformations of the Devi," *Subaltern Studies Reader 1986-1995*

Thaddeus Sunseri, "Famine and Wild Pigs: Gender Struggles and the Outbreak of the Majimaji War in Uzaramo" *The Journal of African History*, Vol. 38, No. 2 (1997), pp. 235-259

Terence Ranger, "Power, Religion and Community: The Matobo Case" in *Subaltern Studies*, 7

Week VIII 23 October

No Class – work on book reviews

Week IX 30 October

The "Civilizing" Mission

Tsitsi Dangarembga *Nervous Conditions* (entire book)

Week X

6 November

Labor Migration, Gender and Urbanization in Africa

Jeanne Marie Penvenne, *African Workers and Colonial Racism: Mozambican Strategies for Survival in Lourenço Marques, 1877-1962* Introduction and chs 2 & 3

Emmanuel Akyeampong, "Wop e tam won pe ba ('You like cloth but you don't want children'): Urbanization, individualism and gender relations in colonial Ghana c.1900-1939", in D. Anderson (ed) *Africa's Urban Past*, ch13

Phyllis Martin, *Leisure and Society in Colonial Brazzaville*, chs 4&6

Primary Source for Response Paper III due in class: Macaulay's Minute on Education

Week XI

13 November

Making the Anticolonial Movements "Nationalist"

Gautam Bhadra, "Four Rebels of 1857", *Selected Subaltern Studies*

Shahid Amin, "Gandhi as Mahatma, Gorakhpur District, Eastern UP, 1921" *Subaltern Studies vol 3*,

John Lonsdale, "Mau Maus of the Mind: Making Mau Mau and Remaking Kenya, *The Journal of African History*, Vol. 31, No. 3 (1990), pp. 393-421

John Lonsdale, "Authority, Gender and Violence", in E.S.A. Odhiambo and John Lonsdale (eds), *Mau Mau and Nationhood*

Week XII

20 November

Movie Viewing

WEEK XIII

27 November

Independence and Violence

Gyanendra Pandey, "The Prose of Otherness" *Subaltern Studies VIII*

Gyanendra Pandey, *Remembering Partition*, chs 4 & 5

Jonathon Glassman, "Slower than a Massacre: The Multiple Sources of Racial Thought in Colonial Africa", in *American Historical Review*, 109, 3, 2004

Jonathon Glassman, *War of Words*, ch 7

Primary Source for Response Paper IV due in class: Jawaharlal Nehru, "Tryst with Destiny"

Week XIV & V 4 & 11 December
Student Presentations

List of books for Mid-term Literature Review Essay

*******Select any one book*******

Amadou Hampate Ba, *The Fortunes of Wangrin*

J.M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians*

Amitav Ghosh, *The Calcutta Chromosome*

William Dalrymple, *The White Mughals*