

Professor Malini J. Schueller

AML 6027

Office: 4113 TUR

Fall '21

Office Hours: W 4-6 pm

(<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97411381723>)

Meeting ID: 974 1138 1723

For some meetings with guest speakers)

Personal Room:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/2447969731?pwd=amJBb25uZ115b0tKcXVBNXdPYjd2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 244 796 9731

Passcode: 131131

W periods 3-5

Seminar Room

Office Ph.: 392-6650

(9:35-12:35)

e-mail: malini@ufl.edu

Cultures of US Imperialism

Course Description: This course takes its title from the well-known collection published in 1993 which transformed the field of American studies by making colonialism and imperialism central to conceptions of nation, culture, and identity. The theoretical basis for the course will be the broad field of postcolonial studies and the smaller, but burgeoning field of U.S. empire studies. By reading a broad range of works of twentieth and twenty-first century American literature, we will examine different tropes of empire such as going native, colonial domesticity, pornotropics, tutelary colonialism, exhibiting empire and remasculinization; at the same time, we will focus on the specific sites of empire such as Hawai'i, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Vietnam. The course will engage with different forms of U.S. imperialism such as North American settler colonialism, Pacific and continental expansionism, control of far-flung colonies, and empire without colonies. The purpose is to examine the different ways in which, at historically specific moments, cultural texts (memoirs, novels, and films) and empire are imbricated and to raise a number of questions: How are travel and exploration implicated in empire? What are the differences in how the sites of U.S. empire are constructed in the national imaginary? How are questions of empire and gender related? How does contemporary literature

register histories of, and ongoing US imperialism? How might literature resist cultural imperialism?

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

Responses to Readings: A one paragraph response to the readings for the day. This should be one well defined idea that you think is important and needs discussion. Include a reference to the sentences/passages that need particular attention. You may skip any two weeks if you wish. Please submit these paragraphs by 7:30 am on the day of class. 15%

Two Oral presentations: 20%

The purpose of these presentations is to make you think critically and intensively about the texts you are reading and to engage you in further research. For one presentation, choose a critical work from which we are reading for the day and do a full presentation of the book. Your presentation should include (a) the book's main argument, (b) a summary of each chapter except the one assigned for class and (c) what you found most useful and most problematic. Please email a handout of the presentation to me by 10 pm on the Tuesday before class and send it to the class as well. For the second presentation, evaluate 3 critical articles on a literary text/film being discussed in class. Present the arguments of each essay and your assessment of the successes and problems of the arguments. I have listed the articles/essays for many of these. An option for some days might be a presentation on a related topic (noted on the syllabus under "Presentation"). Again a short handout (two paragraphs for each article) for me and the rest of the class would be good but please don't simply read the handout. **Both presentations should take no more than 15 minutes each so please time yourself beforehand.**

Final paper (20 pages): 65%

These should be analytical papers about 20 pages in length (excluding Notes and Bibliography). They may be extensions of the work you've done for the presentation or entirely new papers. Whatever option you choose, you need to do a complete MLA search on your subject and incorporate the research into your paper. Be sure that your papers have a theoretical angle so that the argument you make is significant not only because of the specific works you are considering but also to an interpretation of certain cultural issues. Connect your critical angle to current scholarship on the subject. You need not deal with the specific texts we're discussing in class (although you can) but the paper should be about settler colonial studies.

If you are a Ph.D. student, as most of you are, I strongly urge you to think about your paper as a possible publication. You will need to look at some journal issues in order to see how you need to frame your argument.

Attendance

It is understood that graduate students do not skip class. Please remember that this is an intensive discussion class and part of the work of the class is building up a series of discussions which we continue to build upon in the course of the semester. When there is a guest speaker we will meet by zoom because that's the best way for you to have a discussion with the speaker. I'll let you know ahead of time when these will be and have also marked them on the syllabus. **In these meetings, please turn your video on so that people in class can see each other.** In the event of an internet problem you could temporarily turn the video off.

Required Texts:

Tommy Pico's (Kumeyaay) *Nature Poem*

David Henry Hwang *M Butterfly*

Mary Helen Fee *A Woman's Impression of the Philippines*

Gina Apostol *Insurrecto*

Jack Kerouac *On the Road*

Lois Ann Yamanaka *Blu's Hanging*

Craig Santos Perez *from Unincorporated Territory [hacha]*

Aimee Phan *We Should Never Meet*

Nora Okja Keller *Fox Girl*

Syllabus: This is a tentative syllabus which might be changed according to the needs of the course

Aug 25 Robert Young from *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*, pp. 1-49; 57-61

Alfred McCoy, Francisco Scarano and Courtney Johnson, "On the Tropic of Cancer: Transitions and Transformations in the U.S. Imperial State" from *Colonial Crucible: Empire in the Making of the Modern American State*, 3-33.

Imperialism and America: Debates, Literature, Political Theories

Sept 1 (Class on zoom. Professor Julian Go will join us)

Edward Said from *Culture and Imperialism* xi-xxv; 9

Amy Kaplan "Left Alone with America"

from *The Empire Writes Back* (1-27)

Julian Go "The Provinciality of American Empire: *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 49 i (2007): 74-108.

Henry Luce “The American Century” *Life* February 1941
Hillary Clinton “America’s Pacific Century”
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2011/10/11/americas-pacific-century/>
Walt Whitman Preface to the 1855 edition of *Leaves of Grass*

Going Indian: Embodying Nature

Sept 8: Shari M. Huhndorf from *Going Native: Indians in the American Cultural Imagination*, 1-18

Neil Diamond Reel Injun (2009) DVD on reserve; also available for library streaming
Philip DeLoria from *Playing Indian* 1-10.

Carol Smith Rosenberg “Surrogate Americans: Masculinity, Masquerade, and the Formation of a National Identity” *PMLA* 119 (2004), 1325-35.

Kyle Whyte “Settler Colonialism, Ecology, and Environmental Justice” *Environment and Society* 9 (2018), pp. 125-144.

Tommy Pico's (Kumeyaay) *Nature Poem*

The Frontier and Masculinity

- September 15: From Gail Bederman *Manliness and Civilization*, pp. 1-24.
- Frederick Jackson Turner “The Significance of the Frontier..” in Packet
- Theodore Roosevelt “The Spread of the English Speaking Peoples” from *The Winning of the West..* in Packet
- Richard Slotkin “The Significance of the Frontier Myth in American History” from *Gunfighter Nation* 1-26
- Jack Kerouac *On the Road*

Orientalism and Empire: Imagining Japan

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- September 22: Edward Said *Orientalism*, Preface to 25th anniversary edition and pp 1-73
- John Luther Long, “Madame Butterfly” in Packet
- Jonathan Wisenthal “Inventing the Orient” From *A Vision of the Orient*, pp. 3-20
- Lisa Yoneyama “Liberation Under Siege: U.S. Military Occupation and Japanese Women’s Enfranchisement” *American Quarterly* 57 iii (2005), 885-910.
- Mire Koikari “American Women, ‘Feminist Reforms,’ and the Politics of Imperialism in the U.S. Occupation of Japan, 1945-1952” *Frontiers* 23 I (2002), 23-45
- David Henry Hwang *M. Butterfly*

The Philippines

Exhibiting Empire

Sept 29: (Class on zoom. Professor Paul Kramer will join us)

- William McKinley Remarks to the Methodist Delegation
 William McKinley Benevolent Assimilation Proclamation
 Becker “Are the Philippines Worth Having?”
 Theodore Roosevelt “The Strenuous Life”
 Mark Twain “To the Person Sitting in Darkness”
 Robert Rydell from *All The World’s A Fair* pp. 2-8
- Paul A Kramer “Mixed Messages at the St Louis World’s Fair” from
The Blood of Government pp. 229-284
 Transnational Indigenous Exchange: Rethinking Global Interactions of
 Indigenous Peoples at the 1904 St. Louis Exposition American Quarterly 62 iii (2010):
 591-615
- Cynthia Marasigan “Race, Performance and Colonial Governance: The Philippine Constabulary
 Band Plays the St Louis World’s Fair” *Journal of Asian American Studies* 22 iii (2019), 349-
 385.
- Screening Marlon Fuentes *Bontoc Eulogy* or watch on your own. DVD on reserve.

Tutelary Colonialism and Colonial Domesticity

- Oct 6: Gauri Viswanathan *Masks of Conquest* 1-22; 166-169
 Julian Go “Tutelary Colonialism and Cultural Power” from *American
 Empire and the Politics of Meaning*, 25-53; 303-307
 Sarah Steinbock-Pratt “A Political Education” from *Educating Empire*, 173-210.
 Meg Wesling from Empire’s Proxy pp. 1-35.
 Vicente Rafael “Colonial Domesticity” in *White Love and Other Events in Filipino
 History*, 52-75.
 Mary Helen Fee *A Woman’s Impression of the Philippines*
 Renato Constantino “The Miseducation of the Filipino”
 Carlos Bulosan “The Education of My Father”
 “My Mother’s Borders”

Colonial Trauma, Postcolonial (anti) Recovery

- Oct 13 (Class on zoom. Professor David Lloyd will join us)
 David Lloyd “Colonial Trauma/Postcolonial Recovery” *Interventions* 2 ii (2000), 212-228 (focus
 on pp. 212-220).
 Greg Forster “Critique and Utopia in Postcolonial Historical Fiction” *PMLA* 13 v (2016)1328-1343
 Nerissa S. Balce “Necropolitics and the U.S. Imperial Photography Complex” from *Body Parts of
 Empire*, pp. 45-90.
 Marianne Hirsch “The Generation of Postmemory” *Poetics Today* (2008) 103-128 (read till p. 115)

Gina Apostol *Insurrecto*

Hawai’i

Pornotropics and Cultural Prostitution

Oct 20 Haunani Kay Trask from *From A Native Daughter*, pp. 1-39; 136-147
Willard French “Hawaii: Our Key to the Pacific Ocean” 37-47
Teresia K. Teaiwa “bikinis and other s/pacific n/oceans”
Paul Lyons from *American Pacificism*
Watch Norman Taurog’s *Blue Hawaii* and Cameron Crowe’s *Aloha* on your own.

Being Hawaiian

Haunani Kay-Trask “Decolonizing Hawaiian Literature”

Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl “Ho’oulu Lahui”

Michael Puleola “The Fisherman” “Something in the Wind”

Settlers of Color

Oct 27: Lois Ann Yamanaka *Blu’s Hanging*

Haunani Kay-Trask Settlers of Color and Immigrant Hegemony *Amerasia Journal* 26 ii (2000): 1-24

Candace Fujikane “Mapping Abundance on Mauna Wakea as a Practice of Ea” *Hulili* 11 I (2019), 23-54.

Gary Pak “The Watcher of Waipuna”

Articles for Presentation:

Candace Fujikane “Sweeping Racism Under the Rug of Censorship. . .”

Emily Russell “Locating Cure: Leprosy and Lois Ann Yamanaka’s Blu’s Hanging”

Banal Spaces of Empire: Guam

Nov 3 Michael Lujan, “The Banality of American Empire: The Curious Case of Guam, USA,” *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 11 I (2020)

Cathy Schlund-Vials “Finding Guam: Distant Epistemologies and Cartographic Pedagogies” *Asian American Literature: Discourses and Pedagogies* 5 (2014) 45-60.

Epeli Hau’ofa, “Our Sea of Islands” in *Packet*

Bill Ashcroft “Introduction: Spaces of Utopia” *Spaces of Utopia 2ndseries* 1 (2012), 1-17.

Geoff White “Introduction” *We Are the Ocean*

Frederic Jameson "The Politics of Utopia" *New Left Review* 25 (2004) 25-54
Craig Santos Perez *from Unincorporated Territory [hacha]*

Vietnam

Remasculinization and Honor

Nov 10 Richard Slotkin from Gunfighter Nation 1-26, 489-533.
Susan Jeffords from The Remasculinization of America pp. ix-22; 116-143;
Paul Smith, "Eastwood Bound" from Constructing Masculinity, pp. 69-97 in Packet
From Susan Bordo The Male Body.
Watch *Rambo, First Blood II* and *Missing in Action*

The Empire Rescues Babies

Nov 17 Aimee Phan We Should Never Meet
Yen Le Espiritu from *Body Counts* (intro, ch2 possibly 4)
Natalie Cherot "Storytelling and Ethnographic Intersections: Vietnamese Adoptees and Rescue Narratives" *Qualitative Inquiry* 15 I (2008) 113-148
Seeojun Pate "From Orphan to Adoptee: US Empire and Genealogies of Korean Adoption" (Introduction)

Intimacies of Empire: Sexual Politics at the Base: Korea

Dec 1: Cynthia Enloe from *Bananas Beaches and Bases*, pp. 1-18; 65-93
Katharine S. Moon from *Sex Among Allies* 1-47
Sherridan Prasso from *The Asian Mystique*
Nora Okja Keller *Fox Girl*

Saving Brown Women

Dec 8 Lila Abu-Lughod from *Do Muslim Women Need Saving* pp. 1-26; 81-112
Watch *Beauty Academy of Kabul*
Judith Butler "Violence, Mourning, Politics" from *Precarious Life*, pp. 19-49.
John Carlos Rowe, "Culture, US Imperialism and Globalization" American Literary History 16 iv (2004) 575-595

Optional: Zillah Eisenstein "Hillary Clinton's Imperial Feminism" *Cairo Review* 23 (2016), 50-57.

Dec 11: Final Papers Due

Tech Requirements and Policies

You are required to have access to Canvas for accessing course materials and turning in assignments. It is expected that you will check your email daily for any updates and announcements. If you need to contact me, please do so through email (malini@ufl.edu) rather than Canvas. I usually check my email at least once a day during the week from 9 am-5 pm.

For help with all tech issues, contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

Web: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>

Phone: (352) 392-HELP (4357)

Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu

Walk-in: HUB 132

Recording Policy

According to state law, students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited.

Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Classroom Expectations

1. Per university policy <https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/faqs/> you are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated against COVID.
2. If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.u&ealth.org/vaccinaioons/vaccine-availability/>

Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.

3. If you get sick, you are expected to stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/>

about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Continue to regularly visit <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/> and <https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/> for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

4. If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

Reserve Items

Warwick Anderson, Colonial pathologies : American tropical medicine, race, and hygiene in the Philippines. Duke, 2006.

Nerrisa S. Balce Body Parts of Empire, U Michigan 2016.

Maurice Berger Ed. Constructing Masculinity, 1995

Susan Bordo, The male body : a new look at men in public and in private. Farrar, Straus, 1999

Laura Briggs, Reproducing empire : race, sex, science, and U.S. imperialism in Puerto Rico. U of California, 2002.

Wendy Brown, Regulating aversion : tolerance in the age of identity and empire. Princeton, 2006

Judith Butler, Precarious Life Verso 2004.

Renato Constantino, The Miseducation of the Filipino, 1961

Cynthia Enloe, Bananas, beaches and bases : making feminist sense of international politics
cynthia enloe. Berkeley, 1990

Cynthia Enloe, Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women=s Lives. U of California, 2000.

Mary Helen Fee A woman's impression of the Philippines. Electronic Book 1910

Marlon Fuentes, Bontoc Eulogy

Bruce Harvey, American Geographics: U.S. national narratives and the representation of the non European world, 1830 1865. Stanford, 2001.

Shari M. Huhndorf from Going Native: Indians in the American Cultural Imagination 2001

Susan Jeffords, The remasculinization of America : gender and the Vietnam War. Indiana UP, 1989

Amy Kaplan, The anarchy of empire in the making of U.S. culture. Harvard, 2002.

Eds. Amy Kaplan and Donald Pease, Cultures of United States Imperialism. Duke 1993

J. Kehaulani Kauanui, Hawaiian blood : colonialism and the politics of sovereignty and Indigeneity. Duke, 2008.

Haunani Kay-Trask, From a Native Daughter. Hawai'i, 1993

Paul Kramer, The Blood of Government: race, empire, the United States, & the Philippines. North Carolina, 2006.

Paul Lyons, American Pacificism : Oceania in the U.S. imagination. Palgrave, 2006.

Mary Louise Pratt, Imperial eyes : travel writing and transculturation. Routledge, 1991,
Ed. Alfred Mc Coy Colonial Crucible: Empire in the Making of the Modern American State. U Wisconsin, 2009.

Vicente Rafael, White love and other events in Filipino history. Duke, 2000.

Brian Russell Roberts, Borderwaters: Amid the Archipelagic States of America. Duke 2021

John Carlos Rowe, Literary Culture and U.S. imperialism: from the Revolution to World War II. Oxford UP, 2000.

Robert Rydell, All the world's a fair: visions of empire at American international expositions, 1876_1916. U Chicago, 1984

Edward Said Culture and Imperialism. Vintage, 1994.

Luis Rafael Sanchez Macho Camacho's Beat

Lidia Santos, Tropical Kitsch 2006

Noe Noe Silva Aloha Betrayed: Native Hawaiian Resistance to American Colonialism. Duke 2006

Richard Slotkin, Gunfighter nation : the myth of the frontier in Twentieth_Century America, 1992

Norman Taurog, Blue Hawaii, 1961

Gauri Viswanathan, Masks of Conquest: literary study and British rule in India. Columbia, 1989.

Meg Wesling Empire's Proxy (NYUP, 2011).

Jonathan Wisenthal "Inventing the Orient" From A Vision of the Orient U Toronto_2006.

Ed Toby Alice Volkman Cultures of Transnational Adoption. Lisa Cartwright "Images of 'Waiting Children' Spectatorship and Pity in the Representation of the Global Social Order 185-212

Volkman "Embodying Chinese Culture: Transnational Adoption in North America" 81-116

Yngverson B and Mahoney "As One Should, Ought, and Wants to be" Theory Culture Society 17 (6) 2000 77-110

Brenda Boyle Masculinity in Vietnam War Narratives—last chapter

Marta Laura Cenedese Narratives of Postcolonial Rememory Storyworlds 10 I (2018) 95-116