

Professor Malini J. Schueller

LIT 4233; Section 37DO

Office Hours: F: 10:30-12:30

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

Meeting ID: 244 796 9731

Password: 131131

and by appointment

Class Meeting: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96716986248?pwd=VGhiNVdXWjhKcFA4dzk4ZHhXR1Yrdz09>

(easiest via Canvas)

Meeting ID: 967 1698 6248

Passcode: 0o658q

e-mail:malini@ufl.edu

Postcolonial Theory

“Before postcolonial studies, Western scholarship was an embarrassment”

Susie O’Brien and Imre Szeman SAQ 100 iii (2001)

Course Description:

This course introduces you to the field of postcolonial theory. By the beginning of the twentieth century, a few European powers had colonized 80% of Asia and Africa. Nationalist movements during the latter half of the century led to territorial, but not necessarily economic, cultural and intellectual decolonization. The continuing cultural, political, and economic effects of colonialism, as well as new forms of colonialism and imperialism sanctioned on the global South constitute the field of postcolonial studies. We will study the ways in which postcolonial theory has intersected with and impacted diverse areas of inquiry such as feminism, historiography, ethnography, politics, and literature. At the same time, this course will stress the importance of historicizing postcoloniality. The course will focus on the central concerns of postcolonial studies: the nature of colonial discourse, the articulation of revolutionary national consciousness, questions of subalternity and history, the relationship of postcolonial studies to gender studies, and the politics of contemporary colonialism and neocolonialism. We will read the works of major revolutionaries and theorists and the debates and arguments about these works. The course will cover writings from and about the major parts of the world affected by imperialism: Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East, and the U.S.. We will see how postcolonial theory can be useful in analyzing conditions of oppression today.

This is an intensive discussion course. Please come to class prepared to raise questions about the readings for the day. I am interested in your active responses to the materials you are reading.

Required Texts

Ed. Patrick Williams and Laura Chrisman Colonial Discourse and Postcolonial Theory

Ama Ata Aidoo Changes

Readings on canvas.

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution:

Oral Presentation.....	8%
Take Home Essay Exam 1.....	30%
Take Home Essay Exam 2.....	30%
Pop Quizzes.....	20%
Class Participation.....	12%

Special Requirements for Online Class:

*Because I'll be conducting the class as synchronous zoom I would like to be able to see all of you while class is in session so that we can have good discussions. Please turn your video on. If you experience problems with connectivity, switch to audio alone but do not start that way or make it a habit.

*You will also need to print out all canvas readings ahead of time so that you're not switching screens and are able to focus on the discussion/lecture during class time.

*Your quizzes will be on canvas. I'll set up the quiz before the class meeting. While in class I'll read aloud quiz questions and you can answer them on canvas. Please be prepared to open the quiz when I announce a quiz in class.

Attendance: Please remember that this is a discussion class and that you are expected to attend every meeting. day. Attendance means being present with your video on and all printed materials ready so that you can take notes and participate in discussion. If you come to class without the reading material, you will be marked absent. There is no way to simply "make up" work for missed classes. **If you miss more than four hours of class, you will lose a third of a letter grade for each additional absence.** The absence policy does not mean that I am encouraging these absences or that you should, indeed, miss four hours (hours, not classes). **The allowed absences are meant strictly to cover emergencies (if you "use up" your absences and then have an emergency, you're out of luck).** **Missing eight hours of class constitutes failing the course.**

Turning in Essay Exams: Please turn in all essay exams as Word attachments on canvas. If you are absent you are still responsible for knowing the material and turning in assignments. Essay exams turned in late because you missed a class will be marked down for lateness.

Take Home Essay Exams: Intended to make you think about, interrogate, and synthesize the theories you are reading. You are required to do two of the three take home exams due on the scheduled dates No exceptions. (10 pages). Exam questions will be handed out at least a week, possibly two, before the essays are due.
30% each

Oral Presentation: You can do these alone or with one other student. These panels are either intended to broaden, contextualize, or interrogate the topic being discussed in class. Some panels ask you to respond to a question or take a position on a question. A position must be supported by close readings of the text/s in question. Your best option is to direct the class to a specific page and offer specific analyses. After that, the panel will open to class discussion. **Please don't pose questions to the class. This strategy usually inhibits discussion.**

All panelists should e-mail a 1-2 page statement to their panel participant as well as to me at least 24 hours before class. If I do not get your panel statement 24 hours before class, I will consider it late. Submit the final statement before class on the day you're presenting. Please practice and time yourself before you present in class. Panels will be graded on the information provided, clarity, and on the ability to elicit questions. Panels should take no longer than five minutes each. Questions and answers can take an additional ten to fifteen minutes.8%

Pop Quizzes: There will be at least twelve unannounced quizzes. These will generally be given at the beginning of class although I might quiz you at the end of a class period on what was discussed during class or in the middle of class. The quizzes are easy. If you've done the reading you'll find it simple to get an "A." I will not be able to do any makeups for quizzes but I will drop the lowest two quiz grades. A missed quiz will receive a grade of "0". 20%

Class Participation: Initiating discussion and responding to questions. In addition to engaging in discussion throughout the semester, pick one reading (marked *) for which you will bring a question or aspect of the reading you found most interesting and would like to discuss. Email me this two-three sentence question an hour before class. 12%

All papers and the panel must be done in order to pass the course. Work not done will receive a grade of "0"

For purposes of calculation A=93 and above; A- 90; B+= 87 B=83 etc

Syllabus: This syllabus might be changed according to the needs of the course

- | | |
|--|--|
| Aug 31 | Introduction |
| Sept 2 | From Robert Young <u>Postcolonialism</u> pp 1-19; 57-61 on canvas |
| Sept 4 | Watch <u>Not Without My Daughter</u> |
| Sept 7: | Labor Day |
| <i>The Languages of Postcolonial Theory</i> | |
| Sept 8: | * From Edward Said from <u>Orientalism</u> in <u>Colonial Discourse</u> pp. 132-150. |

Said Preface to 25th anniversary edition of Orientalism on Canvas

Sept 11: Panel 1: Is Not Without My Daughter an Orientalist film?
Dennis Porter “Orientalism and Its Problems” in Colonial Discourse, pp. 150-161.

Sept 14: * Aime Cesaire from Discourse on Colonialism in Colonial Discourse 172-181

Sept 16: * Leopold Senghor “Negritude” in Colonial Discourse pp. 27-36.
Frantz Fanon “Introduction” to Black Skin White Masks on canvas

Sept 18: *Frantz Fanon “The Fact of Blackness” in Black Skin White Masks on canvas

Sept 21: Homi Bhabha “Of Mimicry and Man” from Location of Culture on canvas

Sept 23: Homi Bhabha “The Other Question” from Location of Culture on canvas

Nationalism and Revolutionary Consciousness

Sept. 25:* Cabral “National Liberation and Culture” in Colonial Discourse

Sept 28: *Chinua Achebe “The African Writer and the English Language” in Colonial Discourse

Sept 30: Ngugi wa Thiong’o “The Language of African Literature” in Colonial Discourse
Panel # 2: Do you agree/not with Thiong’o’s position on Achebe?

Oct 2: Homecoming

Oct 5: *Benedict Anderson from Imagined Communities pp. 1-36 on canvas

Historiography and Subalternity

Oct 7: *Partha Chatterjee “Whose Imagined Community?” and “The Colonial State”
From The Nation and Its Fragments on canvas

Oct 9: *Edward Said “Foreward” to Selected Subaltern Studies on canvas
*Ranjit Guha “On Some Aspects of Historiography in Colonial India” from
Selected Subaltern Studies on canvas
*Ranjit Guha “Preface” on canvas

Oct 12: *Gayatri Spivak “Can the Subaltern Speak” Colonial Discourse (possibly tape lecture)

Oct 14: “Can the Subaltern Speak” continued

*History of Mary Prince <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/17851/17851-h/17851-h.htm>
pp. 1-24 (if you can't access this just google History of Mary Prince full text and read the entire narrative)

Panel # 3: Can Mary Prince (as subaltern) speak?

Modes of Writing Back: Appropriation, Creolization

Oct 16: George Lamming The Pleasures of Exile pp. 9-13; 95-117.

Panel #4: Is Lamming's use of Shakespeare an important critique or is it caught up in a colonial lexicon?

October 17: **First Essay Exam Due**

Oct 19: *Antonio Benitez-Rojo The Repeating Island 1-22 canvas

Oct 21: *Stuart Hall “Cultural Identity and Diaspora” Colonial Discourse

Postcoloniality and Gender

1. Feminism and Imperialism

Oct 23: *Leila Ahmed “Western Ethnocentrism and Perceptions of the Harem” on canvas

*Radio Address by Mrs Bush in Packet (can access online)

<https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/11/20011117.html>

*Zillah Eisenstein “Feminisms and Afghan Women...”

Oct 26: *Miriam Cooke “Saving Brown Women” on canvas

Panel #5: Contemporary Manifestations of Saving Brown Women in any cultural form (a film, a novel, a newspaper article etc)

Oct 28: *Chandra Mohanty “Under Western Eyes” from Colonial Discourse

2. Gender and Nation

Oct 30: *Anne Mc Clintock from Imperial Leather, pp. 1-8; 21-36; 352-360; 368-388 on canvas

Nov 2: *Fanon “Algeria Unveiled” in A Dying Colonialism pp. 35-67 on canvas

Nov 4: *Case Study: Ama Ata Aidoo Changes, pp. 1-100

Nov 6: Ama Ata Aidoo Changes, pp. 101-166.

Panel #6: How does Changes critique postcolonial nationalism. Does it offer better alternatives?

Colonialism and Forms of Knowledge

Nov 9: *Bernard Cohn From Colonialism and Its Forms Of Knowledge, pp. 3-15

* Yao Jen-To “The Japanese Colonial State and Its Forms of Knowledge” from Taiwan Under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895-1945 Ed.Liao Ping-Hui et. als. pp. 37-61

Nov 11: Veterans Day

Nov 13: *Mary Louise Pratt: Imperial Eyes 1-37

Settler Colonialism

Nov 16: *Lorenzo Veracini “Introducing Settler Colonial Studies” 1 (2011) 1-12 on canvas

*Haunani Kay-Trask From a Native Daughter, pp. 1-40; 136-147 canvas

Nov 18: Case Study: Aloha (please watch on your own before class)

Panel #7: Does Aloha promote settler colonialism or critique it?

Nov 20: : *David Lloyd, “Settler Colonialism and the State of Exception: The Example of Israel/Palestine” Settler Colonial Studies vol 2 i (2012), 39-58 canvas

Globalization, Migration, Diaspora

Nov 23: *Arjun Appadurai “Disjuncture and Difference...” in Colonial Discourse

Nov 25: Thanksgiving

Nov 27: Thanksgiving

The New Imperialism

Nov 30: *David Harvey from The New Imperialism 137-182

Dec 2 : *Bret Benjamin from Invested Interests pp. 46-58

*Mike Davis Planet of Slums 11-19; 70-94; 151-158

Terror and Security

Dec 4: Samuel Huntington “The Clash of Civilizations” on canvas

Edward Said “The Clash of Ignorance” on canvas

Panel 8: Do you agree with Said’s critique of Huntington?

Ecology, Indigeneity and Resistance

Dec 7: *Macarena Gomez-Barris from The Extractive Zone, xiii-xx; 17-38. On canvas.

Dec 9: Robert J.C. Young. “Postcolonial Remains.” New Literary History 43, no. 1 (2012), pp. 19–42.

Dec 10: **Second Essay Exam Due**