

Professor Malini J. Schueller  
Office: 4113 TUR  
Office Hours: M 5-6 pm  
                  F 1-2:30  
Office Ph.: 392-6650  
e-mail: malini@ufl.edu

LIT 6236; 1G27  
Fall '14

### Cultures of United States 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. We will examine different tropes of empire such as going native, colonial domesticity, pornotropics, exhibiting empire and remasculinization; at the same time, we will focus on the specific sites of empire such as the Af Frontier, Hawaii, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, 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. We will also examine some cultural expressions of resistance to empire. The purpose is to examine the different ways in which, at historically specific moments, culture and empire are imbricated and to raise a number of questions about the intersection of culture and imperialism: How are narratives of travel and exploration implicated in empire? What are the differences in how the sites of U.S. empire are constructed in the national imaginary? What does it mean to resist cultural imperialism?

Texts: (Available at Orange and Blue Textbooks)

James Fenimore Cooper The Last of the Mohicans

Mary Helen Fee A Woman=s Impression of the Philippines

Lois Ann Yamanaka Blue=s Hanging

Ann Junghyo Silver Stallion: A Novel of Korea

Luis Rafael Sanchez Macho Camacho=s Beat

Assata Shakur Assata: an Autobiography

Jean Sasson Princess Sultana=s Circle

R Zamora Linmark Leche

Coursepack: Available at Orange and Blue Textbooks (309 NW 13<sup>th</sup> St)

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

*Position papers* on the readings due during class (2-3 pages): 15%

These should be critical and evaluative rather than summations of the readings. Raise questions here but be specific and try to link the readings with each other or to issues discussed earlier. You need to turn in a total of 6 position papers but you may turn in more if you wish. I'm happy to read more. Please do not turn in these papers late because we'll be discussing them in class.

*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 and (c) what you found most useful and most problematic. This presentation should take about 15-20 minutes. A short handout for the class would be good. For the second presentation, take a short passage from a literary/cultural text we are reading that week and do a close reading to demonstrate how it illuminates central concerns of the work. This presentation should take about 10-15 minutes.

*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.

As part of the requirements for the paper you need to :

1. Find conference with a Spring deadline for the CFP.
  2. Write the required abstract for the conference, as well as the letter of submission.
- If you are a Ph.D. student, 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. Because your participation is central to these discussions, you are expected to read all materials carefully and attend every meeting. If you are presenting a paper at a conference and have a conflict with ONE weekly meeting, please see me. There will be a grade penalty for missed classes.

## *Reading Materials*

You are required to read all assigned material and bring the readings to class.

August 27 Introduction

George Frederickson The Arrogance of Race pp. 218-221

Edward Said from Culture and Imperialism xi-xxv; 9

### **Settler Colonialism, Colonialism, Post-colonialism: Debates in American Studies**

Sept 3 Amy Kaplan "Left Alone with America"

from The Empire Writes Back (1-27)

Lawrence Buell "Postcolonial Anxiety in Classic U.S. Literature"

Walt Whitman Preface to the 1855 edition of Leaves of Grass

Malini Johar Schueller and Edward Watts "Theorizing Early American Studies and Postcoloniality" From Messy Beginnings 1-25

Lorenzo Veracini "Introducing Settler Colonial Studies" 1 (2011) 1-12

Alan Lawson "Comparative Studies and Post-Colonial Settler Cultures"

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

Henry Luce "The American Century"

### **Imagining the Nation: The Subalterns and the Indians**

Sept 10 Ranajit Guha "On Some Aspects of Historiography in Colonial India" from Selected Subaltern Studies pp. 37-44

Ed White from The Backcountry and the City 1-23

Edward Watts "The Wish for a White West: Welsh Indians On the Early Republic's

Frontier"

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.

James Fenimore Cooper The Last of the Mohicans

### **Imperial Eyes and the Mystique of Reciprocity**

Sept 17 Mary Louise Pratt from Imperial Eyes, pp. 1-11; 78-85

Bruce Harvey "Beyond Manifest Destiny: American Studies, National Identity, and Other Worlds", pp. 1-26 in Packet

Paul Lyons American Pacificism 1-23

Jack London "The Heathen" "The Whale Tooth" "The Inevitable White Man" from South Sea Tales

Willowdean Handy "Kaoha! Marquesan Sketches" Yale Review XIV 1924-25, 335-365

### **Hawai=i**

#### *Pornotropics*

Sept 24 Haunani Kay Trask from From A Native Daughter, pp. 1-39; 136-147      Teresia  
K. Teaiwa Abikinis and other s/pacific n/oceans

Elizabeth Walker From Hawaii and the South Seas in Packet

NoeNoe Silva from Aloha Betrayed 1-12; 152-161 in Packet

Imada, Adria. Hawaiians on Tour: Hula Circuits Through the American Empire

American Quarterly Volume 56, Number 1, March 2004ELECTRONIC

Andrea Smith American Studies without America: Native Feminisms and the  
Nation\_State@ American Quarterly 60 ii (2008): 309-315ELECTRONIC

J. Kehaulani Kauanui ANative Hawaiian Decolonization and the Politics of Gender

Epeli Hauofa, "Our Sea of Islands"

Film: Blue Hawaii (Please watch on your own)

#### *Hawaiians or Settlers of Color?*

October 1 Kauanui Hawaiian Blood 1-24; 32-35; 197-201.

Lois Ann Yamanaka Blu's Hanging

Emily Russell Locating Cure: Leprosy and Lois Ann Yamanaka=s Blu=s Hanging  
MELUS 31 i (Spring 2006), 53-80.

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

Candace Fujikane ASweeping Racism Under the Rug of Censorship...@

Amerasia Journal 26 ii (2000): 158-194.

### **The Philippines**

#### *Colonial Domesticity*

Mark Twain "To the Person Sitting in Darkness"

Oct 8      Vincente Rafael from White Love, pp. 1-15      William McKinley  
Remarks      to      the      Methodist      Delegation      (1899)

Vincente L. Rafael Colonial Domesticity from White Love 52-75; 237-242

Mary Helen Fee A Woman's Impression of the Philippines

From Warwick Anderson Colonial Pathologies 1-10; 237-240.

#### *Tutelary Colonialism*

Oct 15 Gauri Viswanathan Masks of Conquest 1-22; 166-169  
Homi Bhabha "Of Mimicry and Man"  
Julian Go "Tutelar Colonialism and Cultural Power" from American Empire and the Politics of Meaning, 25-53; 303-307  
Renato Constantino The Miseducation of the Filipino  
Meg Wesling from Empire's Proxy pp. 1-35.  
Carlos Bulosan "The Education of My Father"  
R Zamora Linmark Leche

*Exhibiting the World*  
Oct 22 George F. Becker "Are the Philippines Worth Having?"  
Kipling "The White Man's Burden"  
Frederick Palmer "White Man and Brown Man in the Philippines"  
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  
Screening Marlon Fuentes Bontoc Eulogy

### **Americanization and Imperialism: Puerto Rico**

Oct 29 Arjun Appadurai "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy"  
Radhakrishnan "Globalization, Desire and the Politics of Representation"  
Laura Briggs from Reproducing Empire pp. 1-20  
From Tropical Kitsch, pp. 101-111  
Alejo Carpentier "Prologue" The Kingdom of the World  
Jorge Duany from The Puerto Rican Nation on the Move, pp. 1-11.  
  
Luis Rafael Sanchez Macho Camacho's Beat

### **Remasculinization and Honor: Vietnam**

Nov 5 Richard Slotkin from Gunfighter Nation 489-533  
Susan Jeffords from The Remasculinization of America pp. ix-22; 116-127; 187-192  
in Packet  
Paul Smith, "Eastwood Bound" from Constructing Masculinity, pp. 69-97 in Packet

From Susan Bordo The Male Body pp. 25-59

Screening Missing in Action

Aimee Phan "Miss" Lien "Gates of Saigon" and "We Should Never Meet" from  
We Should Never Meet 213-243

Yen Le Espiritu The "We-Win-Even-When-We-Lose" Syndrome..." American  
Quarterly 58 ii (2006), pp. 329-352

### **Intimacies of Empire: Sexual Politics at the Base**

Nov 12 Ann Laura Stoler from Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power 41-67

Cynthia Enloe from Bananas Beaches and Bases, pp. 65-93 Katharine S. Moon  
from Sex Among Allies 1-47

Ann Junghyo Silver Stallion: A Novel of Korea

### **Writing Resistance**

Nov 19 Nikhil Pal Singh "Decolonizing America" from Black is a Country

Eldridge Cleaver "The Land Question and Black Liberation"

Malcolm X "Not Just an American Problem But a World Problem" 16 Feb 1965

<http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds/maai3/community/text10/malcolmxworldproblem.pdf>

Assata Shakur Assata: An Autobiography

### **Saving Brown Women**

Dec 3 Lila Abu-Lughod From Do Muslim women need saving? Pp. 1-26; 54-95

Jean Sasson Princess Sultana's Circle

Dec 10 Finish student presentations

Judith Butler from Precarious Life, 19-49

John Carlos Rowe, "Culture, US Imperialism and Globalization" American Literary  
History 16 iv (2004) 575-595

Dec 12 Final papers Due

## Reserve Items

Benedict Anderson, Imagined communities : reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism

, 1983.

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

Arjun Appadurai, Modernity at large : cultural dimensions of globalization. U of Minneapolis, 1996

Maurice Berger Ed. Constructing Masculinity, 1995

Homi K. Bhabha, The location of culture. Routledge, 1994

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

Renato Constantino, The Miseducation of the Filipino, 1961

Mary L. Dudziak, September 11 in history. Duke 2003

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

C., The Curious Feminist. California, 2004

C., 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

George Frederickson, The Arrogance of race. Wesleyan, 1988

Marlon Fuentes, Bontoc Eulogy

Ranajit Guha, Selected Subaltern Studies. Oxford UP, 1988

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

R. Radhakrishnan, Theory in an Uneven World. Blackwell, 2003.

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

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

Bienvenido Santos, Scent of apples : a collection of stories. 1979

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

Ann Laura Stoler, Carnal knowledge and imperial power : race and the intimate in colonial rule. U of California, 2002

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).