

Malini Johar Schueller

LIT 6236

4113 Turlington

Fall '23

Office Hours: Wednesday 3:30-5:15 and on zoom

LIT 6236: Global Settler Colonialism, Indigenous Resistance and Contemporary Literature

Settler colonialism has often been marginalized within postcolonial studies which have focused largely on colonization and decolonization in places such as Kenya, Nigeria, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, or French Indochina. This course attends to the different theories, practices, and literatures of settler colonialisms--marked by large populations of Europeans who have moved to places not simply as functionaries of a colonial power but to live permanently while enjoying the privileges of a ruling race. While the structures of some settler colonialisms have been dismantled and others still continue, the effects of settler colonialism are present to date. Indeed one of the most important global connections of the twenty-first century is that of indigenous resistance against settler colonialism. North American Indian, Hawaiian, Palestinian, Maori, and Kashmiris speak a similar language of dispossession and activism and are often involved in advocacy campaigns that connect different indigenous spaces. This course focuses on the literatures and theories of indigeneity and settler colonialism by focusing on four very different sites: US North America, Hawai'i, South Africa, and Palestine. We will study the specific constructions of race in different settler colonial contexts and the intersection of colonial racism and gender. We will read works by both the colonized and settlers and the in order to understand questions of indigeneity, sovereignty, racial politics, occupation, nationalism, the politics of recognition, and revolutionary solidarity. We will study the current, often contentious theoretical debates about the different politics of settler colonial studies and indigeneity studies and some conversations between indigenous and environmental studies. We will also follow present-day activism against settler colonialism and see how settler colonial and indigeneity studies continue to develop tactics against forms of oppression today.

The course will begin with a brief foray into nineteenth-century literature of settler colonialism and native resistance in the US which will serve as a foundation to reading the contemporary literature and theory. We will put into conversation twenty-first century contemporary global literature of resistance to settler colonialism and twentieth century literature. We will also read the works of theorists such as Patrick Wolfe, Jodi Byrd, Craig Womack, Kehaulani Kanui, Achille Mbembe, Rob Wilson, Edward Said, Frantz Fanon, Ghassan Hage, and Eyal Weizman.

Required Texts

Sherman Alexie *Indian Killer*

Liliuokalani *Hawaii's Story by Hawaii's Queen*

Lois Ann Yamanaka *Blu's Hanging*

Alan Paton *Cry, the Beloved Country*

Peter Abrahams *Mine Boy*

Raja Shehade *Palestinian Walks*

Susan Abulhawa *Mornings in Jenin*

Ibtisam Azem *The Book of Disappearance*

All other readings will be on canvas. If a reading is not on canvas, it means that there's an electronic book in the library. Be sure to download the required reading ahead of class. On occasion you might find extra pages on canvas but you don't need to read beyond the assigned pages.

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. This is not formal writing and doesn't need citations etc but often this informal writing allows you to think through ideas that may generate your final paper. You can skip any three weeks. Please submit these paragraphs by 8 pm on the Tuesday before 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 some of these. 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. **The 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. Because your participation is central to these discussions, you are expected to read all materials carefully and attend every meeting.

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

Aug 23: Introduction

Robert Young *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*, pp. 1-43; 57-61

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

The Scope of Settler Colonial Studies

Aug 30: Patrick Wolfe "Settler Colonialism and the Elimination of the Native" *Journal of Genocide Research* (2006), 8(4), December, 387-409

Alissa Macoun and Elizabeth Strakosch "The Ethical Demands of Settler Colonial Theory" *Settler Colonial Studies* 3 iii-iv (2013) 426-443

*Steven Salaita *Inter/Nationalism: Decolonizing Native America and Palestine*, pp. ix-xix; 71-102

*Jodi Byrd *Transit of Empire* xx-xxxix; 1-38 (do not use 1-38 again—just about how different critics use indigeneity and too referential to be useful for discussion)

Andrea Smith "Queer Theory and Native Studies: The Heteronormativity of Settler Colonialism" *GLQ* 16, Number 1-2 (2010), 42-68.

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

Indians and Settlers in the US

Settler Anxiety, Masculinity and Nostalgia

Sept 6: *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.

Lydia Maria Child “Willie Wharton”

*Jean M. O’Brien “Lasting Texts Purify the landscape of Indians...” From *Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England*, pp. 105-144. On Canvas.

Edward Watts “Welsh Indians in the Early Republic” from *Colonizing the Past : Mythmaking and Pre-Columbian Whites in Nineteenth-Century American Writing*, pp. 23-53. On Canvas

Freneau “Indian Burial Grounds” (1787) On Canvas

William Cullen Bryant “The Prairies” (1832) On Canvas

Gerald Torres and Kathryn Milun “Stories and Standing: The Legal Meaning of Identity” from *After Identity: A Reader in Law & Culture*, pp. 129-142.

Indigeneity and Recognition

Sept 13 Hegel “Notes on Lordship and Bondage” from *Phenomenology of Spirit* on canvas

Frantz Fanon “Introduction” and “The Fact of Blackness” from *Black Skins White Masks* on canvas

*Glen Coulthard *Red Skin, White Masks* pp. 25-49; 131-180.

*John Brown Childs from *Transcommunalism: From the Politics of Conversion to the Ethics of Respect*, pp. 21-45.

William Apess William Apess “Eulogy on King Philip”

“An Indian’s Looking Glass for the White Man”

Cultural Colonialism and Resistance

Sept 20: David Wallace Adams *Education for extinction*, chapter 5

Craig S. Womack *Red on Red: Native American Literary Separatism* pp. 1-22; 51-67.

*Ruth Spack America’s “English and Colonialist Discourses” from *America’s Second Tongue*, pp. 13-44

Taiaiake Alfred “Sovereignty” from *Sovereignty Matters* pp. 33-49

Zitkala Sa “The School Days of an Indian Girl” CUT?
Sherman Alexie *Indian Killer*

Settler Colonialism and Hawai’i

Pornotropics and Cultural Prostitution,

Sept 27: *Haunani Kay Trask from *From A Native Daughter*, pp. 1-39; 136-147

Christen Tsuyuko Sasaki “Threads of Empire: Militourism and the Aloha Wear
Industry in Hawai’i” *American Quarterly* 68 iii (September 2016), pp. 643-667.

Dean Saranillo’s *Unsustainable Empire* (2018). Introduction.

Watch *Blue Hawaii* on your own

Being Hawaiian

Haunani Kay-Trask “Decolonizing Hawaiian Literature”

Epeli Hau’ofa “Our Sea of Islands”

Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl “Ho’oulu Lahui”

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

The Paradoxes of Mimicry

Oct 4: Homi Bhabha “Of Mimicry and Man”

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

American Quarterly Volume 56, Number 1, March 2000

Liliuokalani *Hawaii’s Story by Hawaii’s Queen*

*NoeNoe Silva from *Aloha Betrayed* 1-12; 164-203 (do that?)

Kehaulani *Paradoxes of Hawaiian Sovereignty*, 1-10.

Settlers of Color

Oct 11: 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.

Rob Wilson “Bloody Mary Meets Lois-Ann Yamanaka...” *Public Culture* 8 (1995), 127-158.

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

Articles for Presentation:

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

Crystal Parikh, “Blue Hawaii: Asian Hawaiian Cultural Production and Racial Melancholia

Book For Presentation: *Candace Fujikane Mapping Abundance for a Planetary Future*

(any three chapters)

Settler Colonialism and Apartheid: South Africa

Afrikaners, Apartheid, White Liberalism

Oct. 18: Gordon *South Africa*

*Anne McClintock from “Nationalism as Fetish Spectacle” from *Imperial Leather*, pp. 368-389.
(For presentation: Intro, chs 7, 8 and 9)

Hendrick Verwoerd Speech 1966

Elleke Boehmer “Where We Belong: South Africa as a Settler Colony and the Calibration of African and Afrikaner Indigeneity” from *Studies in Settler Colonialism* (2011), pp. 257-271

Alan Paton *Cry, the Beloved Country*

The Politics of Race and Resistance

Oct 25: Peter Abrahams *Mine Boy*

Makhosana Xaba “Running” from *Running and Other Stories*

*Frantz Fanon “Concerning Violence” from *The Wretched of the Earth*

Nelson Mandela Statement at the Rivonia Trial

Cheryl McEwan “Building a Postcolonial Archive? Gender, Collective Memory and Citizenship in Post-Apartheid South Africa” *Journal of South African Studies* 29 iii (2003) 739-757.

Elleke Boehmer “Where We Belong: South Africa as a Settler Colony and the Calibration of African and Afrikaner Indigeneity” from *Studies in Settler Colonialism* (2011), pp. 257-271

The Question of Palestine

States of Exception

Nov 1: *Edward Said “The Question of Palestine” from *The Question of Palestine*, pp. 3-55.

Eric Cheyfitz, “The Force of Exceptionalist Narratives in the Israeli—Palestinian Conflict” *Native American and Indigenous Studies* , Vol. 1, No. 2 (Fall 2014), pp. 107-124

Achille Mbembe “Necropolitics” *Public Culture* 15(1) (2003):11-40.

*Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian “Our Existence is Upsetting Them: Gendered Violence and Unchilding in the Naqab” from *Incarcerated Childhood and the Politics of Unchilding*, pp. 51-72.

Susan Abulhawa *Mornings in Jenin*

(Optional Background reading) Joel Beinin and Lisa Hajjar “Palestine, Israel, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict”

(Optional) Edward Said “Zionism from the Standpoint of Its Victims”

Abstracts for Papers Due

Space, Nature, and Decolonization

Nov 8: Rob Wilson “Environmentalism and Postcolonialism” in *Postcolonial Studies and Beyond*. Ed. Ania Loomba et al pp. 233-251.

Greenwashing in Palestine/Israel: Settler colonialism and environmental injustice in the age of climate catastrophe. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 6(1) (2022), 495–513.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/25148486211069898>

Bardenstein, Carol, “Trees, Forests, and the Shaping of Palestinian and Israeli Collective Memory” from *Acts of Memory: Cultural Recall in the Present*, pp. 148-168

Franz Kruger “The Movement of Thought: Walking as decolonial practice of knowledge-growing” from *Scholarly Engagement and Decolonization* (2020), 323-342.

Lasczik “Walking as a Radical and critical art of Inquiry” *International Journal of Education Through Art* 17 I (2021), 3-11.

Raja Shehade *Palestinian Walks*

Displacement and Urban Warfare

Urban Warfare, Occupation and Exigophobia

Nov 15: Eyal Weizman “Frontier Architecture” 1-22; “ Urban Warfare: Walking Through Walls,” 185-217. *Hollow Land: Israel’s Architecture of Occupation*.

Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, “The Occupation of the Senses: The Prosthetic and Aesthetic of State Terror” *British Journal of Criminology* 57 (2017), 1279-1300.

Ghassan Hage, “Comes a Time We Are All Enthusiasm: Understanding Palestinian Suicide Bombers in Times of Exigophobia” *Public Culture* 15 i (2003) 65-89.

Achille Mbembe “Necropolitics” *Public Culture* 15(1) (2003):11-40.

Ibtisam Azem *The Book of Disappearance*

Nov 22: Thanksgiving

Narrating Return

Nov 29: From Cathy Caruth *Unclaimed Experience*, pp. 1-9

Ghassan Kanafani “Returning to Haifa”

Layla Allush “The Path of Affection”

Mourid Barghouti “Living in Time” from *I Saw Ramallah*, pp. 90-103

Lorenzo Veracini “Conclusion: Transcending the Settler Colonial Present” in *The Settler Colonial Present* 95-109, 129-133.

Presentation: Comparison South Africa and Palestine

Julie Peteet “The Work of Comparison: Israel/Palestine and Apartheid” *Anthropological Quarterly* 89 I (Winter 2016) 247-281.

Raef Zreik “Palestine, Apartheid, and the Rights Discourse” *Journal of Palestine Studies* 34 I (2004), pp. 68-80

Mahood Mamdani “The South African Moment” *Journal of Palestine Studies* 45 I (2015), pp. 63-68.

Dec 6: Work on Papers/Presentations on papers

Dec 10: **Final Papers Due**