

History 485, section 8: Junior Tutorial European Colonialisms, 1830-1960

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Office Hours: Monday 2-3pm, Wed. 2-3pm, or by appointment

The History 485 tutorial seminar is designed to prepare you to write a long, original research paper in History 490. In this class we will study historians' methodologies, writing styles, and theories, and how historians put together reviews, articles, chapters, and books.

Our topic is European colonialism, one of the most important, yet most controversial, aspects of world history. The wide variety in colonial and postcolonial historiography offers us an excellent means to analyze how historians study the same events and reach startlingly different conclusions. The class also affords you the opportunity to investigate a topic you might pursue in your 490 paper.

This course aims to help you improve your skills in historical analysis and critical thinking, displayed in class discussion and in your writing; to give you practice in identifying and evaluating historians' arguments, methodologies, and use of sources; and to help you identify leading historical trends, debates, and dialogues in colonial history.

Assignments

1. Article analysis (350-500 words): This is an exercise in critical thinking and close reading of content, to form your own opinions about a scholarly article, its purpose, content, tone, style, and organization. Is it successful? Why? If not, why?
2. Analysis of book reviews. Find three book reviews on modern Europe, Africa, or Asia from the last three years; reviews dealing with colonialism and its effects would be preferable. Outline each review and then write a 1-2 page instruction guide on what to do and not to do in a review. Be sure to identify the elements in a successful book review. Major review journals include: *American Historical Review*, *Journal of Modern History*, and *Past and Present*. Do not pick reviews from the *New York Review of Books* or the *New York Times Book Review*, because they are written for a different purpose.
3. Two book reviews (600 words): For the first review, you will all review the same book, Sara Berry's *No Condition is Permanent*, and we will compare reviews anonymously to highlight successes. You will choose the second book for review, related to your historiographical essay.
4. Class presentations: Each Monday, at the start of class, one person will give a 10-15 minute presentation based on the readings, summarizing them, highlighting interesting or important issues, and raising possible topics and questions for discussion. The presenter

will also bring a one-page handout for the class, listing the presentation's key points.

5. Historiographical essay of 10-15 pages. Choose a geographic or thematic focus in European colonialism and address the most important scholarship and ideas on the topic, stressing different historians' approaches and conclusions. More narrow topics are usually easier to write about than broad topics. This paper will be due by April 15, and you will turn in your topic by February 11 and your bibliography by March 13.

I expect to meet with each of you at least once to discuss the development of your paper.

Grading

Class presentations: 10%

Attendance and participation in discussions: 10%

Article analysis: 10%

Book review analysis: 10%

Two book reviews: 10% each

Historiographical essay: 40%

Assigned books:

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*.

John A. Hobson, *Imperialism: A study*.

R. Robinson and J. Gallagher with Alice Denny, *Africa and the Victorians: The Official Mind of Imperialism*, 2nd ed. [out of print]

Edward W. Said, *Orientalism*, 1979.

James C. Scott, *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*, 1990.

On reserve in library: Wolfgang Mommsen, *Theories of Imperialism*

Schedule

Week 1 Introduction: Colonialism, imperialism, empire

January 7, Monday: Introductions

January 9, Wednesday: Overview of European colonialism

Week 2 Anti-monopoly theories of "Imperialism": Hobson

January 14, Monday: Hobson and the New Imperialism; Patrick Wolfe, "History and imperialism: a century of theory, from Marx to postcolonialism," *American Historical Review* 102, no. 2 (1997): 388-420

Presentation by Eric Buhler

January 16, Wednesday: Hobson and the New Imperialism; Rudyard Kipling, "The White Man's Burden"

Week 3

January 21, Monday: **HOLIDAY: No class**

January 23, **Article analysis is due, in class.** Discussion of C. M. Andrew, and A. S. Kanya-Forstner, "The French "Colonial Party": Its Composition, Aims and Influence, 1885-1914," *The Historical Journal* 14, no. 1 (1971): 99-128; P.J. Cain and A.G. Hopkins, "Gentlemanly Capitalism and British

Week 4 Anti-monopoly theories of "Imperialism": Lenin

January 28, Monday: Lenin

Presentation by Michael Hawkins

January 30, Wednesday: Lenin

Week 5 Debates over method and intent in Britain's scramble in Africa: Robinson and Gallagher

February 4, Monday: Robinson and Gallagher. **Book review analysis is due, in class**

Presentation by Autumn Fitzwater

February 6, Wednesday: Robinson and Gallagher: Their Critics.

Selections from Wm. Roger Louis, ed., *Imperialism: The Robinson & Gallagher Controversy*

Week 6 Cultural critiques of European colonialism

February 11, Monday: Edward Said, *Orientalism*

Topic of historiographical essay is due

Presentation by Stewart Forbes

February 13, Wednesday: *Orientalism* and Postcolonialism

PRESIDENT'S DAY AND OLYMPIC HOLIDAY: No class February 18 and 20

Week 7 The limits of British indirect rule in Africa

February 25, Monday: Selections from Sara Berry, *No Condition is Permanent: The Social Dynamics of Agrarian Change in Sub-Saharan Africa*

Presentation by Jed Rogers

Book Review of Sara Berry is due, in class

February 27, Wednesday: Sara Berry, and discussion of book reviewing

Week 8 Peasant resistance and historiography

March 4, Monday: James C. Scott, *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday forms of peasant resistance*
Presentation by Lee Kimball

March 6, Wednesday: Jim Scott

Week 9 Debates over the economics of imperialism

March 11, Monday: Selections from P. J. Cain and A. G. Hopkins, *British Imperialism: Innovation and Expansion, 1688-1914*
Presentation by Kevin Peine

March 13, Wednesday: Cain and Hopkins; in class, read and discuss Michael J. Heffernan, "The Parisian Poor and the Colonization of Algeria during the Second Empire," *French History* 3, no. 4 (1989): 377-403.

Bibliography for historiographical essay is due

Week 10

March 18, Monday: Individual meetings to discuss paper

March 20, Wednesday: Individual meetings to discuss paper

Week 11 France, Catholicism, and Vietnam

March 25, Monday: Selections from Patrick J. N. Tuck, ed. *French Catholic missionaries and the politics of imperialism in Vietnam, 1857-1914: a documentary survey*
Presentation by Darrin Bateman

March 27, Wednesday: The Italian colonial experience, presentation by Mark Choate; the development and presentation of research topics

Week 12

April 1, Monday: Informal presentations of paper projects

April 3, Wednesday: Informal presentations of paper projects

Week 13 German colonial ideology

April 8, Monday: Selections from Woodruff D. Smith, *The Ideological Origins of Nazi Imperialism*
Presentation by Melissa Taucher

April 10, Wednesday: Nazi imperialism; Decolonization

Week 14

April 15, Monday: Visual culture of colonialism
Presentations by Darci Bailey and Nathan Tolman

April 17, Wednesday: Conclusion. Perhaps a movie or movie clips
Historiographical essay is due

This outline is subject to change.

Course Policies.

This course will be conducted according to university and departmental policies regarding plagiarism, grading, the Honor Code, attendance, examinations, nondiscrimination, and other matters. You are expected to participate in all class meetings, and you must let me know if you will not be able to attend. Assignments must be completed by the deadline, or they will be penalized.

I will include two university policies in detail:

Sexual Discrimination and Harassment. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the university but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 378-2847.

BOTTOM LINE: Sexual harassment and discrimination will not be tolerated. Please contact me or the Equal Employment Office (378-5895/5689).

Students With Disabilities. Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (378-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SSD Office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895, D-282 ASB.

BOTTOM LINE: If you need special accommodations in the classroom or during examinations because of disabilities, please call 378-2767 and let me know.