

History 419/519
Spring 2010
e-mail: david_gilmartin@ncsu.edu

David Gilmartin
476 Withers
Tel: 513-2243

Modern European Imperialism

This course will examine a number of the central issues in the modern history of European imperialism. We will begin with a survey of the spread of European world domination, particularly in the 18th and 19th centuries, examining the patterns and causes of European expansion. We will then look at the theories that have been offered to explain the new imperialism of the late 19th century, and the role of imperialism in European life and politics. The course will then turn to an examination of the structure, culture, and economics of European domination in the colonial world, particularly in Asia and Africa. The history of colonialism's demise in the nationalist revolts of the 20th century will conclude the course.

The course will be based on readings, lectures and discussions. There will be a take-home mid-term exam, a final, and occasional short written assignments. There will be a final paper (10 pages) due from all those enrolled in HI419 due at the time of the final exam. This paper should take the experience of one country and assess the impact of colonialism on its contemporary situation. Graduate students enrolled in HI 519 will instead be required to write a longer term paper (20 pages) on any subject relating to the course, due at the time of the final exam. Undergraduates enrolled in HI 419 may, with my permission, write a longer paper (20 pages) as a substitute for both the final paper due on May 2 and the final exam.

Attendance: In a class that meets once a week, regular attendance is critical. **Excessive absences (more than one) may lead to a lowering of your grade.**

Grading: For students in HI419, grades will be based as follows: mid-term, 20%; final, 20%; final paper, 40% (60% for a long paper substituting for the final as well); class participation and other short assignments, 20%. For students enrolled in HI519, grades will be based as follows: mid-term, 15%; final, 15%, final paper, 50%; class participation and other short assignments, 20%.

Honor Code: Remember that plagiarism, or copying without attribution, is a violation of the student honor code and the University's policy on academic integrity. If you are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism or the nature of the policy, please talk to me. You should be familiar with the Code of Student Conduct (<http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/ncsulegal/codeof.htm>).

Readings: The following paperbacks are available for purchase in the bookstore:

Robert B. Marks, The Origins of the Modern World

Eric Wolf, Europe and the People Without History

Adam Hochschild, King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa

E. M. Forster, A Passage to India

Chinua Achebe, Arrow of God

Zareer Masani, Indian Tales of the Raj

Other readings are either on electronic reserve (available through the library website), or are accessible through JSTOR as marked on the syllabus.

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 (January 12) - *Course Introduction*

I. European Expansion and World History

WEEK 2 (January 19) - *Imperialism as World History*

READING: Robert B. Marks, The Origins of the Modern World

WEEK 3 (January 26) - *Patterns of World Transformation: Expansion, Culture and Economics*

READING: Eric Wolf, Europe and the People Without History, pp. 129-261

II. The Old and the New Imperialism: Politics and Domination in the 19th Century

WEEK 4 (February 2) - *The New Imperialism: Theoretical Approaches to Capitalism and Imperialism*

READING: Tony Smith, The Pattern of Imperialism, pp. 15-49

Harrison Wright, The New Imperialism: Analysis of

Late Nineteenth Century Expansion, pp. 5-44 (Hobson), 69-88 (Schumpeter), 134-156 (Robinson & Gallagher)

Daniel R. Headrick, "The Tools of Imperialism: Technology and the Expansion of European Colonial Empires in the Nineteenth Century," Journal of Modern History, 51 (June 1979), pp. 231-263

WEEK 5 (February 9) - *Imperialism in European Politics: Class, Nationalism and Imperialism in Germany and Britain*

READING: Hans-Ulrich Wehler, "Industrial Growth and Early German Imperialism," in Owen & Sutcliffe, Studies in the Theory of Imperialism, pp. 71-92

Richard N. Price, "Society, Status and Jingoism: The Social Roots of Lower Middle Class Patriotism, 1870-1900," in Geoffrey Crossick, ed., The Lower Middle Class in Britain, pp. 89-112

Susan Thorne, "'The Conversion of Englishmen and the Conversion of the World Inseparable': Missionary Imperialism and the Language of Class in Early Industrial Britain," in Frederick Cooper and Ann Laura Stoler, eds. *Tensions of Empire*, pp. 238-262

David Cannadine, Ornamentalism, pp. xiii-xxii, 3-24, 101-135

WEEK 6 (February 16) - *Imperialism and Popular Culture: Science, Spectacle and Order*

READING: Harriet Ritvo, The Animal Estate, pp. 205-288

Stephen Jay Gould, The Mismeasure of Man, pp. 73-107

Robert Giddings, "Cry God for Harry, England and Lord Kitchener: A Tale of Tel-el-Kebir, Suakin, Wadi Halfa and Omdurman," in Giddings, ed., Literature and Imperialism, 182-219

FILM: "The Four Feathers" (1939)

WEEK 7 (February 23) - *Scandal and Morality: Colonialism and its Critics*

READING: Adam Hochschild, King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa, pp. 1-5, 61-87, 115-181, 209-274, 292-306

WEEK 8 (March 2) – *Conceptualizing Domination and Culture*

READING: E. M. Forster, A Passage to India

III. The Economics and Structure of Colonial Control

WEEK 9 (March 9) - *Order & Exploitation: Contradictions of Colonial State & Society*

READING: Joel S. Migdal, Strong Societies and Weak States, pp. 52-141

Mike Davis, Late Victorian Holocausts ("Victoria's Ghosts") pp. 25-59

Ronald Robinson, "Non-European Foundations of European Imperialism: Sketch for a Theory of Collaboration," in Owen & Sutcliffe, pp. 117-142

WEEK 10 (March 23) - *The Manipulation of Law and Culture*

READING: Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities, pp. 163-85

Ann Laura Stoler, "Sexual Affronts and Racial Frontiers: European Identities and the Cultural Politics of Exclusion in Colonial Southeast Asia," in Cooper and Stoler, eds., *Tensions of Empire*, pp. 198-237

John Iliffe, "The Creation of Tribes," in A Modern History of Tanganyika, pp. 318-341

Thomas Spear, "Neo-Traditionalism and the Limits of Invention in British Colonial Africa," The Journal of African History (2003), pp. 3-27 [JSTOR]

Clifford Geertz, Islam Observed, pp. 56-89

WEEK 11 (March 30) - *Colonial Culture: Resistance and Collaboration*

READING: Chinua Achebe, Arrow of God

III. The Era of Decolonization

WEEK 12 (April 6) - *Patterns of Organized Revolt and Reform*

READING: Terence Ranger, "African Reactions to the Imposition of Colonial Rule in East and Central Africa," in Gann and Duignan, Colonialism in Africa, 1870-1960, vol. 1, pp. 293-324
Zareer Masani, Indian Tales of the Raj, pp. 1-80

WEEK 13 (April 13) - *The Character of Colonial Nationalism*

READING: Zareer Masani, Indian Tales of the Raj, pp. 81-129

AND

Eric Wolf, Peasant Wars of the Twentieth Century, pp. 159-207 (on Vietnam)

OR

Eric Wolf, Peasant Wars of the Twentieth Century, pp. 211-247 (on Algeria)

WEEK 14 (April 20) - *Decolonization and Colonial Nationalism*

READING: Tony Smith, The Pattern of Imperialism, pp. 85-137

Paul Kennedy, "Why Did the British Empire Last So Long," in Strategy and Diplomacy, 1870-1945 (1983), pp. 197-218.

WEEK 15 (April 27) – The Legacies of Imperialism