

**PSCI 3105A**  
**IMPERIALISM**  
F 11:35-2:25 (SA 417)

Professor Jeff Sahadeo  
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**Objectives**

This course explores encounters between the “western” states of Europe and the USA (along with a brief discussion of Japan) and the “periphery” of Asia, Africa, and Latin America from the late nineteenth century to the present. How did modern empires compete and evolve? What were the effects on colonized peoples? Has the United States created a new, global empire? How does its expansionist venture compare to past imperial enterprises? Imperialism has filled the coffers of western states, but that wealth has hardly been spread equally. Imperial expansion has wrought violence and destruction, but delivered opportunities to subject peoples even if the “civilizing mission” has proven but a myth. Strategies of accommodation and resistance by non-European peoples has often subverted the central goals of empire, transforming the process in unforeseen ways. We will also examine the complex ways in which empire structures thoughts and conditions actions in imperial capitals as well as on the colonial frontier.

**Readings**

Required: Alice Conklin and Ian Christopher Fletcher, *European Imperialism, 1830-1930* (1999)  
Other **required** readings will be available in a reading packet or through online databases accessed via the Carleton University library website. Other materials will be placed on reserve at McOdrum Library. Readings will average 50-60pp weekly.

**Requirements**

*Attendance/ participation (class discussion, debate):	20%
**Discussion Papers (1-2pp)	(4x5%) 20%
Final Paper (10pp)	25%
Take Home Midterm (posted Feb. 25 / due Feb. 29)	15%
Final exam (in regular exam period, April 11-29):	20%

\*Students will be expected to participate regularly, drawing in material from the assigned readings. Participation in the discussion (which may include quizzes), and a role play will be 20% of the grade. **Attendance is mandatory**; penalties for not attending (without medical documentation) are: 1 absence= 10% deduction from participation grade; 2 absences= 30% deduction; 3 absences= 50% deduction; 4 absences= 100% deduction from participation grade. Each **late arrival** (after 11:40) will cost 25% of that day’s attendance/ participation grade for every 15 minutes late. Ringing cellphones, note passing, and other disruptions will also result in a loss of the participation mark on the same scale as absences.

Participation grades will be determined based on: (a) attendance and attention level and (b) active participation that (i) displays knowledge of the subject (ii) contributes to the flow of conversation (iii) shows knowledge of the readings (iv) offers critical analysis of the readings and appropriate themes

\*\*Short (1-2pp) discussion papers will be based on the weekly readings. Each paper will discuss, in critical and analytical fashions, some (not necessarily all) of the major themes of the readings, and will be handed in the week the material is to be discussed. Essay samples will be posted on the web CT site. You may choose the weeks to hand in your papers, **as long as the first is handed in by Jan 25, the second by Feb 15, the third by Mar 7, and the fourth by Mar. 28.**

The take home midterm will be posted on WebCT on Feb 25 and is due Feb 29. It will consist of two short and one long essay question.

Assignments sent by fax to the Political Science department will not be accepted. It is not acceptable to hand in the same assignment for two courses. This will result in a mark of "0." **(SEE THE PLAGIARISM STATEMENT AT THE END OF THE SYLLABUS)** Late papers will lose 1 grade for each day late: (ie. B+--B)

**To obtain credit in a course, students must meet all the course requirements for attendance, term work, and examinations.**

**Note: No laptops will be allowed during the discussion sections of the class, and their use is discouraged during lectures.**

## Schedule

### Jan 11: Introduction

1. Opening Discussion: What is Imperialism?
2. Introductory Lecture: Empire, Imperialism, and Colonialism, Past and Present

#### Lecture/ Discussion Readings

Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/ Postcolonialism*, 1-12

### Jan 18: The Rise of British and European Empires

1. "Gentlemanly Capitalism"
2. Slavery and Racism
3. India and the 1857 Rebellion

#### Background Readings

Timothy H. Parsons, *The British Imperial Century, 1815-1914*, 9-51

#### Discussion Readings

Edward Said, *Orientalism*, 1-9

Alice Conklin and Ian Christopher Fletcher, *European Imperialism, 1830-1930*, 1-9

Bernard Cohn, "Cloth, Clothes, and Colonialism: India in the Nineteenth Century" *Imperialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India* (1996), 106-7, 121-9

John Gallagher and Ronald Robinson, "The Imperialism of Free Trade" *Economic History Review*, 6, no. 1 (1953), 5-15

Richard Graham, "Robinson and Gallagher in Latin America" Wm. Roger Louis, ed., *Imperialism* (1976), 217-221

### Jan 25: Why was it so Easy?

1. Science and Technology
2. Civilizing Mission/ White Man's Burden
3. Methods of Rule

#### Discussion Readings

Daniel R. Headrick, *The Tools of Empire: Technology and European Imperialism in the*

*Nineteenth Century*, 204-210  
 Rudyard Kipling, "The White Man's Burden" Alice Conklin and Ian Christopher Fletcher,  
*European Imperialism, 1830-1930*, 58-59  
 Michael Adas, "The Machine as Civilizer" *European Imperialism, 1830-1930*, 60-6  
 Alice Conklin, "The French Republican Civilizing Mission" *European Imperialism...*, 67-74  
 Adrian Hastings, "Christianity, Civilization, and Commerce" *European Imperialism...*74-81  
 Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/ Postcolonialism*, 104-123

### **Feb 1: The Scramble for Africa**

1. Causes
2. Winners and Losers (Documentary: *Africa: A Voyage of Discovery*)
3. Variations of Imperial Rule
4. Consequences

#### Background Readings

M.E. Chamberlain, *The Scramble for Africa*, 15-27, 46-55

#### Discussion Readings

Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost*, 6-18, 115-77

### **Feb 8: Critics, War, and the Roots of Dependency**

1. Hobson, Lenin, and the early critics of Imperialism
2. World War I and the Postwar Settlements
3. The Colonial Encounter and the Growth of Resistance
4. Enshrining Dependency (Documentary: *Africa: A Voyage of Discovery*)

#### Background Readings

P.J. Cain and A.G. Hopkins, "Playing the Game in Tropical Africa" *British Imperialism: Crisis and Deconstruction, 1914-1990*, 201-34

#### Discussion Readings

J.A Hobson, "Imperialism" *European Imperialism, 1830-1930*, 14-20

R. Luxemburg, "Capitalism depends on the Non-Capitalist World" *European Imperialism*, 29-36

V.I. Lenin, "Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism" *European Imperialism...* 36-42

Catherine Hall, "An Imperial Man in Australasia..." *European Imperialism*, 100-110

Adeeb Khalid, "Representations of Russia in Central Asian Jadid Discourse" Brower and Lazzarini, eds. *Russia's Orient: Imperial Peoples and Borderlands, 1700-1917*, 188-202

Ronald Robinson, "Non-European Foundations of European Imperialism: Sketch for a Theory of Collaboration" Wm. Roger Louis, ed., *Imperialism* (1976), 128-151

M.K. Gandhi, "The Disease of Civilization" *European Imperialism*, 22-8

James C. Scott, "Peasant Weapons of the Weak" *European Imperialism*, 184-9

George Orwell, *Burmese Days* (1934), 36-45

### **Feb 15: Postcolonialism: Dealing with the withdrawal of Europe**

1. Roots of Decolonization
2. World War II
3. Palestine and India
4. Africa

#### Background Readings

Raymond F. Betts, *Decolonization* (1998), 37-45, 61-70

#### Discussion Readings

Jawaharlal Nehru "The Discovery of India" *Nationalism Reader* ed.O. Dahbour (1995), 248-54

Franz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1963). 35-82, 148-61

Partha Chatterjee, "The Nation and Home" *European Imperialism* 212-20

## **Feb 22: Winter Break**

### **Feb 29: Russia and Asia**

1. The Tsarist Empire and Asian Expansion
2. The Reach of the Russo-Japanese War
3. The Soviet Union: an Empire?
4. the Caucasus, Putin, and Terrorism

#### Discussion Readings

- Thomas M. Barrett, "The Remaking of the Lion of Dagestan: Shamil in Captivity" *Russian Review* (July 1994) 352-66
- J. Charles Schencking, "The Imperial Japanese Navy and the Constructed Consciousness of a South Sea Destiny" *Modern Asian Studies* 33, no. 4 (1999): 769-96
- Douglas Northrop, "The Limits of Liberation: Gender, Revolution, and the Veil in Soviet Uzbekistan" *Everyday Life in Central Asia* ed. Sahadeo and Zanca (2007), 89-102
- John Russell, "Terrorists, Bandits, Spooks and Thieves: Russian Demonisation of the Chechens before and since 9/11" *Third World Quarterly* (March 2005): 101-116

### **Mar 7: The United States and Empire**

1. Origins of the American Empire
2. The Cold War
3. The "Global Policeman"

#### Discussion Readings

- Samuel P. Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs*, 72 (Summer 1993), 22-39
- Edward W. Said, "The Clash of Ignorance" *The Nation*, 22 October 2001
- Michael H. Hunt "In the Wake of September 11, the Clash of What?" *Journal of American History* 2002 89(2): 417-25
- Thomas Bender, "The American Way of Empire" *World Policy Journal* 23, no. 1 (2006): 45-61
- "Kipling, The White Man's Burden, and US Imperialism" *Monthly Review* 55 no. 6 (2003): 1-11
- Robert Kagan, "The Benevolent Empire" *Foreign Policy* 1998, no. 111: 24-35
- Anders Stephenson, "A Most Interesting Empire" ed. Gardner and Young, *The New American Empire*, 253-75
- Makdisi Ussama, "Anti-Americanism in the Arab World: An Interpretation of a Brief History" *Journal of American History* 2002 89(2): 538-557

### **Mar 14: Racism in the Metropole/ Movie**

- 1) Colonials (and ex-colonials) in the Metropole
- 2) Film: *Prisoner of the Caucasus*

#### Discussion Readings

- Tyler Stovall, "Colonial Workers in France during the Great War" *European Imperialism*, 165-73
- Meredith Roman, "Making Caucasians Black: Moscow since the Fall of Communism and the Racialization of non-Russians" *Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics* 18, no. 2 (2002): 1-16
- (other readings to be announced)

### **Mar 21: University closed**

### **Mar 28: 9/11, Oil, the Middle East, (Afghanistan) and Iraq**

- 1) The Background to 9/11
- 2) 9/11
- 3) The US Empire today

### Discussion Readings

Ahmed Rashid, *Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil, and Fundamentalism in Central Asia* (2001), 17-30, 170-82

Edward Rhodes, "Outward, Liberal Soldiers?: The Crusading Logic of Bush's Grand Strategy and What is Wrong with It" ed. Gardner and Young, *The New American Empire*, 227-252

Michael Mandelbaum, "David's Friend Goliath" *Foreign Policy* 2006, no. 152: 50-56

Current media articles TBA

### **Apr 4: Debate/ Role Play**

International Conference: Imperialism and Terrorism

### **April 7: New Directions**

Background and Discussion to be determined based on present events

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### **Academic Accommodations**

**For Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class test or CUTV midterm exam**. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadline for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008** for April examinations.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.