PSCI 3105
Imperialism
Fridays 8:35-11:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor: Dr. Peter Atack
Office: Loeb B641
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 3052 (no voicemail)
Email: Peter.Atack@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Fridays 12-2 pm

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the complex phenomena of imperialism. We will begin by exploring some of the theories for, of, about and behind imperialism. Then, in order to test some of these theories we will look at the history of the waves of Western European expansion and contraction, examining how one small corner of the globe conquered all, and then watched as it all melted away and vanished. Finally, we will be using the understanding we have gained to ask is the current world system just another Empire, an American Empire or does it simply have some of the characteristics of an empire.

cuLearn content. Students will find 4 useful sections on the web site
1. Power point slides: These contain:
   A) A list of concepts, terms and people.
   B) Quotations that are used in the lecture,
   C) Learning outcomes for the lecture.
   D) Images used to illustrate the subject.
   E) Summary of the central points and ideas raised in the lecture. However, since any good lecture (and lecturer) will have more to say than just the power point slides do come and have fun thinking.
2. A list of literature and film suggestions pertaining to imperialism.
3. Instructions and helpful hints for the assignments.
4. Readings. Are now all available online through the Library link. Does not include the course textbook.

Course Textbook:
Available at Octopus Books.
Course Requirements and Assignments:

Participation: 10%
Proposal: 15% due October 5th.
Empire in Film and fiction: 15% Due November 2nd.
Final Research Paper: 30% due November 30th.
Final Exam: 30% During Final exam period.

Participation: While attendance will be noted at the discretion of the lecturer, participation requires thoughtful and learned contributions to class discussions that reflect course readings. Attendance is required to understand the course. Those who are silent even if usually present will not achieve high marks for this component. Due: every lecture and all weeks.

Proposal: must include: two double-spaced pages (essay and paragraph format) explaining the proposed essay. The two page length does not include a bibliography. The proposal must include 1) a clear research question or what is it you are going to examine 2) a description of what issues you are going to examine in order to answer your question, and 3) a tentative thesis statement which is essentially the one sentence answer to your question and also 4) a bibliography with at least 8 academic sources including at least one book. Warning: a research paper proposal is not an outline. Due October 5th.

Imperialism in fiction and film: must be 4-6 pages, double spaced and paginated. Imperialism can be understood through its role in popular culture. Examine one of the films or pieces of fiction and ask yourself what is the author or director trying to explain about imperialism. What can we understand about this particular kind or period of Imperialism as expressed in this film or piece of fiction? Are there any rules or codes of conduct expressed through the actions of the characters? How does the work support or subvert the project of imperialism? This assignment does not require academic sources, just critical thinking. Due November 2nd.

Final Research Essay: Take one of the theories examined in the course and apply it to a specific case. Or examine how ideology or economic systems or state structures led to the rise and fall of empire in a specific case. A case is defined by a specific time or era, place or location and an imperial power. The purpose of the assignment is not to provide a narrative account of an example of imperialism, but rather to apply one of the theories about imperialism to a specific place, to discover how useful that theory is at explaining the rise and fall and rise of imperialism. Due November 30th.

Final Exam: During the official exam period. The purpose of an exam is to give the student an opportunity to apply what one has learned to searching questions, not attempt to discover what a student has missed reading.

Late Penalties and extensions: Extensions are given out at the discretion of the instructor for documented personal, family or health reasons. Extensions will only be granted by the instructor during office hours. Otherwise papers will be penalized at the rate of 1 mark per day or ½ % point of the final mark. In accordance with University policy, no term work will be accepted after the last day of classes.
Course Outline

Note as the course progresses there may be new readings coming available. They will be listed on culearn.

September 7th Week 1 Lecture 1: Introduction to the Course
Welcome to the course, an introduction to the themes and issues we will be examining as well as a run through of the syllabus, course text and assignments.

Theories of, about and for Imperialism

September 14th Week 2 Lecture 2: Classic Theories about Imperialism
Classic early political economic theories that sought to explain the second wave of Empires. Hobson and Lenin on the economic roots of late 19th century imperialism.


September 21st Week 3, Lecture 3: Dependency theory, Political Economy and Imperialism
Dependency theory explains how the underlying economy of imperialism is reflected in the social formations of the periphery.


September 28th Week 4 Lecture 4: The Culture of Imperialism and the Postcolonial critique
How the ideas of the time justified and legitimated imperialism. How the subaltern culture also helped support the Imperial state.

The long history of European Imperialism 1415-1980

**October 5th Week 5 Lecture 5: Why was it Europe that explored, expanded and conquered?**
What were the factors behind European expansion across the globe beginning in 1415? Beyond guns, germs and steel there were missionaries, merchants and marines.


**Research Proposal due**

**October 12th Week 7 Lecture 7: Case studies of successful conquest and colonization: Spanish Empire and British settler colonies.**

**Critique of the Culture of Imperialism Due**
How did they organize and develop their colonies? How did their differences reflect underlying ideological and economic structures?

Abernethy: Chapter 1, 3.

**October 19th Week 8 Lecture 8: The first contractions of empires: Independence movements in the Americas. 1775-1824**
Why did colonists rebel, and the mother countries fail to suppress rebellions? The cases of Latin America and the United States.

Abernethy: Chapter 4, 15

**October 26th, Week 9 Fall Reading Week:** No office hours but email contact.

**November 2nd Week 10 Lecture 9: The second wave of empires: Expansion throughout Asia and the Scramble for Africa. 1815-1919**

**Critique of the Culture of Empire Due**
Why and how did the Europeans seek to expand their control beyond settler colonies in the nineteenth century? How did la mission civilatrice drive the expansion of empire and how did economic interests also motivate the enterprise of empire?

Abernethy: Chapter 5.

**November 9th Week 10 Lecture 9: The British Raj and the Heart of Darkness. 1759-1919**
Empires in all their glory and horror as exemplified in the cases of the British in India and the horror of the Belgian Congo.


From 1919 to 1980 European empires first stabilized then after WWII quickly moved into a phase of decolonization.

Abernethy Chapters 6, 7.


Does the American mission and experience with colonies and interventions in Mexico and Central America before the US became a superpower, mark the imperial roots of the American foreign policy or does it mark what makes the American system different from the age of empires? Is the American military experience in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan part of the dangers of falling into imperialism?


Two moments of empire Coca cola versus fast fashion. End of Fordism and the rise of a global economy. How does globalization with its new ideology of neoliberalism change everything? Is this an Empire of the US or the WTO? Does the Age of Trump mark an end of Empire or is this era like the meaning of his name in British slang, mean a foul wind full of sound and fury signifying absolutely nothing.

Final Paper Due

Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

**Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [PMC@carleton.ca](mailto:PMC@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc)

**Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

**Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. [https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

**Plagiarism**
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
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### 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.

### Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

### Carleton Political Science Society

"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/) and our website [https://carletonpss.com/](https://carletonpss.com/), or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

### Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.