

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

SOCI5806, Decolonizing Sociology: Intersections, Contradictions and Possibilities.

**Fall, 2024  
11:30-2:30, Thursdays**

**Instructor: Dr. Laura Hall**  
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**Office hours:** 2:30-3:30 Thursdays

**Method of Delivery: In-Person**



**Course Description:**

This course will examine the ways that sociology is being transformed through decolonial principles, activism/s and theories. The course will also explore the ways that these endeavours struggle in the face of systems of domination. We will look at Indigenous feminisms, settler colonial theories, postcolonial scholarship, and the intersections that push even further toward a creative and systemic approach to theorizing power and transformation. We will discuss the works of people like Jodi Byrd on 'Zombie Imperialism', and Tuck and Yang's 'Decolonization is Not a Metaphor,' among other works.

**Reading (s)/Textbook (s):**

Jodi A. Byrd. *The Transit of Empire Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism*. Find at the library fully online (you can download it). Or purchase from one of your favourite online book sellers.

All other readings will be uploaded onto Brightspace.

**Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**

10% PARTICIPATION Self-assessed. Some suggestions for how you might self-assess your attendance: did you show up, if so how, did you do readings, did you contribute to your own studies by participating in this class? And so on. Wing it! Write creatively! Document your participation right from the start☺

25% FINAL PAPER PRESENTATION (present on your topic, the class wants to hear what you have to say!) use a Power Point if you want. Use chalk if you want. It's your presentation. You can submit it to me directly as a video if you're not comfortable with presentations.

20% FINAL PAPER PROPOSAL (name your topic, provide 6 academic articles or book chapters that you'll include in the paper with an in-depth synopsis for each)

45% FINAL PAPER 12-14 pages, double spaced

Topic suggestions: explore a particular decolonial and intersectional theory and apply that theory to a real-world issue or example. Possible topics include:

- a. An anti-colonial take on constructions of the family in XYZ film/tv show
- b. Resilience and decolonial approaches to healthcare provision (inclusive of some understanding that various health issues might also include socially constructed elements, for example Diabetes literature suffers greatly from social constructions of body weight/size/etc)
- c. Social constructions of housing or design and ways of being inclusive in those areas
- d. Cultural/social constructions of homelessness and applications of the solutions raised by particular groups in this area in XYZ community/city
- e. Decolonial parenting
- f. Decolonizing food security
- g. Decolonizing the Greenbelt
- h. Decolonizing sociology very generally
- i. Something else you feel like writing about...

Your final research paper will have some inclusion of Jody Byrd's work. You will also find sources on your own, using the library, and I will even give you a class to go do that work. Cite properly, including when you use quotes, with page numbers and everything. Include those citations when you paraphrase a source. When you paraphrase a source, try to really get at what they're saying.

**\*\*all assignments will be uploaded onto Brightspace**

## **The Course.**

### **September 5<sup>th</sup> Week 1**

Intro to the course

### **September 12<sup>th</sup> Week 2**

Byrd Introduction: Indigenous Critical Theory and the Diminishing Returns of Civilization

Byrd Chapter 1. Is and Was: Poststructural Indians without Ancestry

### **September 19<sup>th</sup> Week 3**

Byrd Chapter 2. “This Island’s Mine”: The Parallax Logics of Caliban’s Cacophony

Byrd Chapter 3. The Masks of Conquest: Wilson Harris’s Jonestown and the Thresholds of Grievability

Janne Laht. 2024. Settler Colonial Solutions to Settler Colonial Problems: Settler Cinemas and the Crisis of Colonization of Outer Space. In J. L. Hennessey (ed.), History and Speculative Fiction,

### **September 26<sup>th</sup> Week 4**

\*\*Independent reading/library research. Go to the library or use the online library function. Do some research for your paper.

**Paper proposal due**

### **October 3<sup>rd</sup> Week 5**

Byrd Chapter 4. “Been to the Nation, Lord, but I Couldn’t Stay There”: Cherokee Freedmen, Internal Colonialism, and the Racialization of Citizenship

Tuck and Yang, Decolonization is Not a Metaphor.

### **October 10<sup>th</sup> Week 6**

Byrd Chapter 5. Satisfied with Stones: Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization and the Discourses of Resistance

Byrd Chapter 6. Killing States: Removals, Other Americans, and the “Pale Promise of Democracy”

### **October 17<sup>th</sup> Week 7**

Love NS. Shield Maidens, Fashy Femmes, and TradWives: Feminism, Patriarchy, and Right-Wing Populism. *Front Sociology*. 2020

Shelbi Nahwilet Meissner. Outlaw epistemologies: Resisting the viciousness of country music's settler ignorance.

**October 24<sup>th</sup> Week 8.**

Reading Week

**October 31<sup>st</sup> Week 9**

Why I Teach 'The Walking Dead' in My Native Studies Classes  
by Cutcha Risling Baldy.

Byrd Conclusion: Zombie Imperialism

**November 7<sup>th</sup> Week 10**

Veracini, L. *Settler Colonialism: A Theoretical Overview*. 1st ed., Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2010. Intro and Chapter 1.

**\*presentations**

**November 14<sup>th</sup> Week 11**

**\*presentations**

**November 21<sup>st</sup> Week 12**

**\*presentations**

**November 28<sup>th</sup> Week 13**

Definition of Indigenous Homelessness in Canada.

<https://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHIndigenousHomelessnessDefinition.pdf>

Kristjansson, Margaux. "Refusing Child-Stealing States: Settler Capitalism and the Ends of Canada's Indigenous Child Removal System." *Theory & Event*, vol. 27, no. 3, 2024, pp. 381–410.

Final paper due

**December 5<sup>th</sup> Week 14 Review**

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

### **Citation Style**

The Chicago author-date citation style (17th edition) is to be used in the assignments and papers of this course. For more information, please see:

[https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html)

### **Additional Information**

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

### **Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.**

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

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

### **Academic Accommodations:**

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students

in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website ([students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)).

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608** or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your ***Letter of Accommodation*** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

\*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for October/November examinations is **October 1, 2024** and **November 15, 2024** for December examinations.

### **For Religious Obligations:**

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: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **For Pregnancy:**

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: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **For 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 where 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: [www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](https://www.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](#)

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

### **What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?**

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

### **What are the Procedures?**

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

### **Assistance for Students:**

**Mental Health:** As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

**Academic and Career Development Services:** <https://carleton.ca/career/>

**Writing Services:** <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

**Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS):** <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

### **Important Information:**

- 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).
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.



- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
- Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
- Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>.

### FALL TERM 2024 – Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Activity
<b>August 28, 2024</b>	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full fall, early fall, and fall/winter courses.
<b>August 30, 2024</b>	Last day for receipt of applications from potential fall (November) graduates.
<b>September 2, 2024</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.
<b>September 3, 2024</b>	Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate students).
	Orientation for new Teaching Assistants.
	All new students are expected to be on campus. Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students, and other academic preparation activities will be held.
<b>September 4, 2024</b>	Fall term begins. Full fall, early fall, and fall/winter classes begin.
<b>September 10, 2024</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early fall courses.



<b>September 17, 2024</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full fall, late fall, and fall/winter courses.
	Last day to withdraw from early fall courses with a full fee adjustment.
	Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2024 and must register for the fall 2024 term.
<b>September 20-22, 2024</b>	Deferred Exam Period: Full Summer term final examinations; Late Summer term final examinations
<b>September 30, 2024</b>	Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>October 1, 2024</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from early fall courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Oct/Nov final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
<b>October 11, 2024</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early fall term undergraduate courses, before the official Oct/Nov final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
	December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.
<b>October 14, 2024</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.
<b>October 15, 2024</b>	Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term from applicants whose documents originate from outside Canada or the United States.
<b>October 18, 2024</b>	Last day of early fall classes.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early fall courses, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

	Last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for early fall courses.
<b>October 21, 2024</b>	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late fall courses.
<b>October 21-25, 2024</b>	<p>Fall Break: No classes will take place. Students cannot be required to attend class or submit coursework from Sunday, October 20 to Sunday, October 27. The following exceptions may apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If it is necessary to hold a test after Friday, October 18 due to exceptional circumstances, it can only be scheduled on Saturday, October 19. <b>This timing must be announced on the course outline that is distributed at the beginning of the term.</b></li> <li>• Final exams for Early Fall undergraduate courses may be held on October 26-27 and November 2-3.</li> </ul>
<b>October 26-27, November 2-3, 2024</b>	Final examinations in early fall undergraduate courses will be held.
<b>October 28, 2024</b>	Late fall classes begin.
<b>November 8, 2024</b>	Last day to withdraw from late fall term courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>November 11, 2024</b>	Remembrance Day is on Monday, November 11. As much as possible, course instructors are asked to allow for a moment of silence for personal reflection at 11 a.m. in accordance with Senate policy.
<b>November 15, 2024</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
	Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term.
<b>November 15-17, 2024</b>	Deferred Exam Period: Early Fall term undergraduate final examinations
<b>November 22, 2024</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full fall

	term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>November 29, 2024</b>	Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.
	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late fall term undergraduate courses, before the official final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>November 30, 2024</b>	Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.
<b>December 6, 2024</b>	Fall term ends.
	Last day of full fall and late fall classes.
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
<b>December 9-21, 2024</b>	Final examinations in Full Fall and Late Fall courses and mid-term examinations in Fall/Winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
<b>December 21, 2024</b>	All final take-home examinations are due on this day