Course Description

Imperialism, Decolonization and Neo-colonialism continue to play a powerful role in shaping the world we live in--from the national borders we take for granted to the way collective identities have been constructed. This seminar course will be devoted to exploring the theoretically informed literature that attempts to engage with these subjects. The course will particularly focus on the work of figures who either sought to mobilize against imperialism and colonialism or were writing from the vantage point of the imperial margins. Aside from their political engagement, these writings have often been invaluable for conceptualizing and theorizing the histories of places and peoples who have been shaped by imperialism and colonialism. Postcolonial writings before the work of Edward Said such as that of Fanon and Cabral as well as ‘Post-Orientalist’ writings including Subaltern Studies will be explored in a fair amount of detail. The central objective of the course is to introduce students to the rich scholarship on the subject of imperialism, decolonization and neo-colonialism. Seminars will be organized with a view to interrogate, critique and assess the strength and limitations of the various approaches.

Required Texts:


A Course Reader consisting of various selected readings prepared by the instructor will be available for purchase at the Campus book store by the beginning of the academic year.
Recommended Texts:


Organization of the Seminar, Readings and Presentation Schedule:
The class will meet weekly in seminar format. Students are encouraged to play an active part in the class by leading and sustaining class discussions. After the first few weeks, students will take turns preparing a brief (approximately 1 to 2 pages) ‘think piece’ which they will use to engage with the readings and elicit discussions. Since all students will be on email, these pieces should be sent to the instructor for distribution to all members of the class at least a day preceding the seminar. Think pieces will be graded on a P-, P, P+ basis and a final grade will be assigned for their cumulative value plus the student’s ability to defend them orally and stimulate discussion in class. Think pieces should consider the following questions:

- Central thesis of the work in question
- What insights does the article reveal about the subject?
- How would you locate this writing within the wider scholarship on the subject?
- What questions do the readings provoke?

Attendance, Participation, Missed Classes:
Active participation forms a significant portion of the final grade. Attendance alone will count for only a small fraction of the final grade so expect to come to class prepared to either pose or respond to questions, to discuss ideas, or to challenge the opinions raised by the discussion leader.

Evaluation:
For both Undergraduate and Graduate Students
Seminar participation 20%
Discussion Papers and Presentation 10%
Research Paper #1 including paper proposal 35% due Nov. 26th
Research Paper #2 including paper proposal 35% due March 31st

Paper length: For His 4010 students 2000-2500 words, or 8-10 pages; for His 7930 students 2500-3750 words, or 10-15 pages.
Evaluative feedback will be provided by the voluntary withdrawal date of March 19th, 2010. Final grades subject to review by Department.
ASSIGNMENTS
Instructions for seminar topics, written and oral presentations as well as for the written assignments will be provided by the beginning of the semester. In general, written assignments should focus on critically analyzing the topic chosen. Students are encouraged to consult journal articles in addition to recent monographs on the subject. Use of primary sources if available is also encouraged. Essays must be typed, double spaced and documented with footnotes and bibliography. Students should use humanities citation style with footnotes. For a guide to proper citation consult Kate Tarabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations.* (Reference copy available at the Dafoe Library. Call No: LB 2369 T8 1987.)

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
“The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism in a written assignment, test, or examination is F on the paper and F for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism such as the purchase of an essay or cheating on a test or examination, the penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is being suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.” See page 29 of the University of Manitoba undergraduate Calendar, 2009-2010).

Grade Appeals & Unreturned term work
Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

POLICY ON LATE PAPERS
To ensure fairness to those who complete their work on time, a penalty of 2% per day will be assessed on essays handed in after the due date. The penalty will only be waived in case of verifiable medical reasons or personal bereavement. A note of explanation with supporting documentation is required in these exceptional circumstances.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

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