

## CHS H192, Section 3: IMPERIAL IDENTITIES

Fall 2009  
Professor Stephanie Barczewski  
Department of History  
114 Hardin Hall  
656-3153  
[sbarcze@clemsun.edu](mailto:sbarcze@clemsun.edu)

Office Hours: Tues 3:30-4:30, Thur 1-2

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will use the British Empire to explore the complexities of identity in a contemporary and historical global world. For both the British and their colonial subjects, identity in an imperial context could simultaneously sharpen differences and blur boundaries between peoples and cultures. After an introductory section on the key theorists of imperial identity, this course will explore a number of specific contexts and issues through history, film and literature. It will offer insight not only into the British Empire specifically, but more broadly into the interaction between local and global identities in our contemporary world.

No prior knowledge of British history is assumed, though I will assume a basic knowledge of world history (i.e., I will assume that you know that there was a Second World War and have a rough idea of when it occurred). If I appear in class to be assuming knowledge that you do not possess, please raise your hand and ask me to provide some background, which I will be happy to do.

This course fulfills three credits of the Social Science General Education requirement.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Paper 1	20%
Paper 2	20%
Class Participation	20%

Midterm and final: The exams are intended to ensure that you have an understanding of the course material and are able to synthesize the information presented in class and in the readings. They will consist of essay questions.

Papers: The two papers will each a minimum of five pages in length. They will require you to analyze material from outside the material assigned for the class discussions. The first paper will focus a novel, to be selected from a list provided by the instructor. The second paper will focus on a film, also to be selected from a list provided by the instructor.

Class Participation: This class will be run as a seminar, and participation is required. This means that I will expect you to come to class prepared and to engage in our discussions. Your grade will be assigned not only according to the amount of your participation, but according to the quality of that participation as well.

As you are all honors students, I am assuming that you are all intellectually curious types and that there is no need for me to “force” you to do the readings by quizzing you on them. If my assumption proves incorrect (I’m sure it won’t!), I reserve the right to insert quizzes into the course requirements. In the unlikely event that this occurs, the quizzes will be worth 10% of your final grade, and the class participation component will drop to 10%.

Please bring your laptops to class, as we will be using them as part of our discussions.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class, and you may be absent no more than four times without penalty. After the fifth absence, every additional absence will result in a deduction of one-third of a grade off your final grade. **All absences, no matter what the reason, count against the total.** (That means there is no distinction between an “excused” and an “unexcused” absence.) If you arrive late for class, after the roll has been called, it is your responsibility to make sure that you are counted as being present. You are responsible for making up any material that you miss, including obtaining notes from the discussions or viewing films that we watch in class.

Attendance for all exams is mandatory, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. If you miss a test due to illness or for other reasons, you must make prompt arrangements to make it up. **YOU MUST CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR WITHIN 24 HOURS OF MISSING A TEST OR QUIZ IN ORDER TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO MAKE IT UP OR ELSE YOU WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO.**

### **DROP DATE**

The final date to drop a class for this semester is October 9. If you decide to drop the class, it is your responsibility to take care of it. Please **DO NOT** assume that simply because you haven't been attending, the instructor will drop you.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

There are two main purposes to this course. The first one is to generate a discussion and provide an understanding of the complexities of national and cultural identities in British imperial context. The second purpose is to assist you in improving your analytical, interpretive and writing skills.

## READINGS

The following books are required for purchase from the Clemson University Bookstore or the usual online sources:

Richard Bean, *England People Very Nice*  
Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*  
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*  
Edgar Rice Burroughs, *Tarzan: Lord of the Apes*  
Tarquin Hall, *Salaam Brick Lane*

The remainder of the required readings are available on Blackboard.

### READING AND CLASS TOPIC SCHEDULE

8/20	Thur	Introduction
8/25	Tues	History of the British Empire I Reading: Paul Monod, <i>Imperial Island: A History of Britain and Its Empire</i> , pp. 78-95, 191-204, 222-40, 283-300 BLACKBOARD: "Monod Imperial Island"
8/27	Thur	History of the British Empire II Reading Philippa Levine, <i>The British Empire: Sunrise to Sunset</i> , pp. 82-102, 166-209 BLACKBOARD: "Levine"
9/1	Tues	Edward Said and <i>Orientalism</i> Reading: Edward Said, "Arabs, Islam and the Dogmas of the West," "My Thesis," "On Flaubert" and "Latent and Manifest Orientalism," from <i>Orientalism: A Reader</i> , ed. A.L. Macfie, pp. 104-14 BLACKBOARD: "Said"
9/3	Thur	Said's Critics Reading: Michael Richardson, "Enough Said"; sadik Jala al-'Azm, "Orientalism and Orientalism in Reverse"; Bernard Lewis, "The Question of Orientalism"; and John MacKenzie, "History, Theory and the Arts," from <i>Orientalism: A Reader</i> , ed. A.L. Macfie, pp. 209-38, 249-70, 326-32 BLACKBOARD: "Said Critics"
9/8	Tues	Homi Bhabha and Hybridity Reading: Homi Bhabha, "The Other Question," from <i>Contemporary Postcolonial Theory: A Reader</i> , ed. Padmini Mongia, pp. 37-54 BLACKBOARD: "Bhabha"
9/10	Thur	Difference and Hybridity: An Overview Reading: Ania Loomba, from <i>Colonialism/Postcolonialism</i> , pp. 104-183 BLACKBOARD: "Loomba"
9/15	Tues	Difference vs. Hybridity: Some Perspectives from Fiction Reading: Herman Charles Bosman, "Unto Dust," Nadine Gordimer, "A Chip of Glass Ruby," Ahmed Essop, "The Hajji," Zoe Wicomb, "Another

Story,” Deena Padayachee, “The Finishing Touch,” from *Omnibus of a Century of South African Short Stories*, pp. 213-15, 262-9, 595-605, 697-706, 801-809; Apirana Taylor, “Carving up the Cross,” from *The Faber Book of Contemporary South Pacific Stories*, pp. 241-7; Shauna Singh Baldwin, “Montreal 1962” and Devika,” from *English Lessons and Other Stories*, pp. 15-18, 169-90; Rohinton Mistry, “Lend Me Your Light,” from *Swimming Lessons and Other Stories from Firozsha Baag*, pp. 173-93; Austin C. Clarke, “Griff!” from *The New Oxford Book of Canadian Short Stories*, pp. 156-70

BLACKBOARD: “South Africa,” “South Pacific,” “English Lessons,” “Swimming Lessons” and “Canadian”

- 9/17 Thur British Identities: An Historical Perspective  
Reading: William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, Act I  
BLACKBOARD: “Shakespeare”
- 9/22 Tues British Identities: An Historical Perspective  
Reading: Richard Bean, *England People Very Nice* PURCHASE
- 9/24 Thur British Identities: An Historical Perspective  
Reading, Linda Colley, *Britons: Forging a Nation 1707-1837*, pp. 1-54, 101-45  
BLACKBOARD: “Colley”
- 9/29 Tues The Victorian View of Difference  
Reading: Arthur Conan Doyle, “The Sign of the Four”  
BLACKBOARD: “Conan Doyle”
- 10/1 Thur Hybridity in the Raj  
Reading: William Dalrymple, *White Mughals*, pp. 3-54; Maya Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, pp. 45-114  
BLACKBOARD: “Dalrymple” and “Jasanoff”
- 10/6 Tues MIDTERM EXAM
- 10/8 Thur Hybridity in the Raj  
Reading: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, Chapters 1-5  
PURCHASE
- 10/13 Tues FALL BREAK
- 10/15 Thurs Hybridity in the Raj  
Reading: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, Chapters 6-10  
PURCHASE
- 10/20 Tues Hybridity in the Raj  
Reading: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, Chapters 11-15  
PURCHASE
- 10/22 Thur The Victorians: Difference or Hybridity?  
Reading: Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*  
PURCHASE
- 10/27 Tues Cultural Hybridity  
Film Excerpts: *Shakespeare Wallah*, *Omkara*, *Bride and Prejudice*
- 10/29 Thur War and Imperial Identities  
Reading: Pierre Berton, *Vimy*, pp. 14-21, 25-66, 290-308; L.A. Carlyon, *Gallipoli*, pp. 13-23

- Film Excerpts: *Gallipoli*, *Breaker Morant*  
 BLACKBOARD: “Berton” and “Carlyon”
- 11/3 Tues Hybrid Heroes: Grey Owl  
 Reading: Lovat Dickson, *Wilderness Man: The Strange Story of Grey Owl*, pp. 1-11, 25-43, 256-65  
 Film Excerpts; *Grey Owl*  
 BLACKBOARD: “Dickson”
- 11/5 Thur Hybrid Heroes: Richard Burton  
 Reading: Edward Rice, *Captain Sir Richard Francis Burton*, pp. 9-16, 129-61, 231-54, 263-89; Dane Kennedy, *The Highly Civilized Man: Richard Burton and the Victorian World*, pp. 27-92, 131-63  
 BLACKBOARD: “Rice” and “Kennedy”  
 Film Excerpts: *Mountains of the Moon*
- 11/10 Tues Hybrid Heroes: Lawrence of Arabia  
 Reading: TBA  
 Film Excerpts: *Lawrence of Arabia*
- 11/12 Thur Hybrid Heroes: Tarzan  
 Reading: Edgar Rice Burroughs, *Tarzan: Lord of the Apes*  
 PURCHASE
- 11/17 Tues The Legacy of Empire: Multicultural Britain Today  
 Reading: Tarquin Hall, *Salaam Brick Lane*, Chapters 1-6  
 PURCHASE
- 11/19 Thurs The Legacy of Empire: Multicultural Britain Today  
 Reading: Tarquin Hall, *Salaam Brick Lane*, Chapters 7-Epilogue  
 PURCHASE
- 11/24 Tues NO CLASS: Work on Paper #2
- 11/26 Thur THANKSGIVING
- 12/1 Tues The Legacy of Empire: Multicultural Britain Today  
 Film: *Bend It Like Beckham*
- 12/3 Thur The Legacy of Empire: Multicultural Britain Today  
 Film: *Bend It Like Beckham*

