

## **History 334: Race and the British Empire**

Tuesday, Thursday 2:15 – 4:05pm

Mears Cottage, Rm. 217

Fall 2007

Diana Shull, Instructor

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Mears 214, x3304

Office Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 12:30-2:00; Wed. 11:00-12:00

Also by appointment.

This class will explore how ideologies of race and ethnicity affected the theories and practices of the British Empire. We will analyze the language, regulations, attitudes, and material products of those involved in consolidating, maintaining, and extending the Empire, both formally and informally. We will consider the beliefs and attitudes of various types of people, not only those “in charge” of the Empire, but also those “on the spot,” those living under colonial rule, and those persons living in Britain itself.

Key topics will be: 1) ideas of race, their change over time, and the different ways the British (such as colonial officials, white settlers, missionaries) deployed racial ideologies; 2) the rise of scientific and pseudo-scientific ideas about race during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries; 3) the visual images of empire; and, 4) the legacies of the British Empire both for Britain and its former colonies. We will discuss these topics with common readings of secondary sources in the first section of the course. These readings are designed as a starting point for further research on these topics.

In addition to reading and analyzing secondary sources, we will discuss how to find, use, and write about primary sources. You will complete a series of assignments that will help you discover a topic, find primary and secondary sources, and organize your argument and evidence. In the second half of the course, you will write a major research paper (20 pages) on a topic of their choosing—ideally drawing upon the knowledge gained in the first half of the semester.

### **Course Requirements**

If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, located on the third floor of the JRC (x3702).

#### Class Participation (20%):

You must read the course materials before coming to class and participate actively in the discussions. Your participation grade is primarily based on your willingness to engage in class discussion in a constructive and consistent manner. You are also required to help lead class discussion twice during the semester. Sign up for class sessions will be in the second class, 4 September. You cannot participate in class discussion if you do not attend class.

Topic and Preliminary Research Exercise (5%): 11 September

Primary Source Exercise (10%): 20 September

Paper Proposal (10%): 27 September

Annotated Bibliography and Outline (10%): 1 November

Advanced Draft (15%): 29 November

Final Copy of Research Paper (30%): 18 December by 5pm in my office.

**You must turn in a final draft of your paper in order to pass this class.**

## Schedule

### I. Intellectual Approaches to Studying Race and the British Empire

#### Week 1:

30 August: Introduction

- Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/Postcolonialism*, pp. 91-153. (Handout)
- Sollors, "Ethnicity and Race," in *A Companion to Racial and Ethnic Studies*, David Goldberg and John Solomos, eds., pp. 97-104. (Handout)
- Michael Omi and Howard Winant, "Racial Formation," in *Race Critical Theories: Text and Context*, Philomena Essed and David Goldberg, eds., pp. 123-145. (Handout)

#### Week 2:

4 September: The Debate over Said's *Orientalism* (**Sign up for leading discussion**)

- Edward Said, *Orientalism*, pp. 1-28. (R)
- Edward Said, "[Orientalism Reconsidered](#)" *Cultural Critique*, No. 1. (Autumn, 1985), pp. 89-107. (JSTOR)
- David Cannadine, *Ornamentalism: How the British Saw Their Empire*, pp. xiii-24, 121-135. (R)

6 September: **NO CLASS**

- If you can, please attend Robert Richards' talk, "Darwin's Evolutionary Theology," 4:15 to 6pm, JRC room 101.

## II. The Origins of the British Empire and Changing Discourses of Race

### Week 3:

#### 11 September: The “New” World (**Topic Exercise Due**)

- Nicholas Canny, “England’s New World and the Old, 1480s-1630s,” in Canny, ed., *The Oxford History of the British Empire, Volume I: The Origins of Empire* (Oxford: 1998), pp. 148-169. (R)
- P.J. Marshall and Glyndwr Williams, *The Great Map of Mankind: Perceptions of New Worlds in the Age of Enlightenment*, (Cambridge, MA: 1982), Chapter 7, “Savages Noble and Ignoble,” pp. 187-226. (R)
- Philip Morgan, “The Caribbean Islands in Atlantic Context, circa 1500-1800,” in Felicity Nussbaum, ed., *The Global Eighteenth Century*, pp. 52-64. (R)
- Nicholas Rogers, “Archipelagic Encounters: War, Race, and Labor in American Caribbean Waters,” in Felicity Nussbaum, ed., *The Global Eighteenth Century*, pp. 211-225. (R)

#### 13 September: Ireland

- Jan Nederveen Pieterse, “Europe and Its Others,” in *A Companion to Racial and Ethnic Studies*, David Goldberg and John Solomos, eds., pp. 17-24 (R)
- Jane Ohlmeyer, “‘Civilizing of those Rude Partes:’ Colonization within Britain and Ireland, 1580s-1640s,” in Nicholas Canny, ed., *The Oxford History of the British Empire, Volume I: The Origins of Empire* (Oxford: 1998), pp. 124-147 (R)
- Margaret Hunt, “[Racism, Imperialism, and the Traveler's Gaze in Eighteenth-Century England](#),” *The Journal of British Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 4, (Oct., 1993), pp. 333-357. (JSTOR)

### Week 4:

#### 18 September: Africa

- Philip Curtin, *The Image of Africa: British Ideas and Action, 1780-1850*, (Madison: 1964), pp. 28-57, 227-286. (R)
- P.J. Marshall and Glyndwr Williams, *The Great Map of Mankind: Perceptions of New Worlds in the Age of Enlightenment*, (Cambridge, MA: 1982), Chapter 8, “‘One Rude Chaos,’” pp. 227-257. (R)
- Kim Hall, *Things of Darkness: Economies of Race and Gender in Early Modern England*, (Ithaca: 1995), Introduction and Chapter 1, pp. 1-61. (R)

#### 20 September: Empire in the Metropole (**Primary Source Exercise Due**)

- Felicity Nussbaum, “The Theater of Empire: Racial Counterfeit, Racial Realism,” in Kathleen Wilson, ed., *A New Imperial History: Culture, Identity and Modernity in Britain and the Empire, 1660-1840*, pp. 71-90. (R)
- Michael Fisher, “Asians in Britain: Negotiations of Identity through Self-representation,” in Kathleen Wilson, ed., *A New Imperial History: Culture, Identity and Modernity in Britain and the Empire, 1660-1840*, pp. 91-112. (R)

### III. Scientific and Pseudo-Scientific Ideas about Race in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries

#### Week 5:

25 September: The Enlightenment through the Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

-Hannah Augstein, *Race: The Origins of an Idea, 1760-1850*, (Bristol: 1996), pp. ix-xxxiii. (R)

-Londa Schiebinger, "[The Anatomy of Difference: Race and Sex in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Science](#)," *Eighteenth Century Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 4. (Summer, 1990), pp. 387-405. (JSTOR)

-Seymour Drescher, "[The Ending of the Slave Trade and the Evolution of European Scientific Racism](#)," *Social Science History*, Vol. 14, No. 3. (Autumn, 1990), pp. 415-450. (JSTOR)

27 September: The Second Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (**Paper Proposal Due**)

-David Arnold, "'An Ancient Race Outworn,' Malaria and Race in Colonial India, 1860-1930," in Waltraud Ernst and Bernard Harris, eds., *Race, Science, and Medicine, 1700-1960*, (London: 1999), pp. 123-143. (Either on Blackboard or on Reserve at Burling)

### IV. Visual Representations of Race and Empire

#### Week 6:

2 October: Cartoons and Advertising

-Perry Curtis, *Apes and Angles: The Irishman in Victorian Caricature (Revised Edition)* (Washington: 1997), pp. ix-57, 89-147. (R)

-Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Imperial Contest*, (London: 1995), Chapter 5, "Soft-Soaping Empire," pp. 207-231. (R)

4 October: Film

-Lola Young, "Imperial Culture: The Primitive, the Savage, and White Civilization," in Les Black and John Solomos, eds., *Theories of Race and Racism: A Reader*, (London: 2000), pp. 267-286. (R)

-We will watch *Sanders of the River* (1935) in class.

### V. The "New Imperialism" of the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century

#### Week 7:

9 October: India

-Thomas Metcalf, *Ideologies of the Raj*, (Cambridge: 1995), Chapters 3 and 4, pp. 66-159. (R)

11 October: Africa

-Frederick Cooper, "African Workers and Imperial Designs," in Philip Morgan and Sean Hawkins, eds., *Oxford History of the British Empire Companion Series: Black Experience and the Empire*, (Oxford, 2004), pp. 286-316. (R)

-Anne McClintock, "The White Family of Man: Colonial Discourse and the Reinvention of Patriarchy," in Les Black and John Solomos, eds., *Theories of Race and Racism: A Reader*, (London: 2000), pp. 287-301. (R)

## **VI. Race at the End of Empire and Beyond**

### Week 8:

16 October:

-Jonathon Glassman, "[Slower than a Massacre: the Multiple Sources of Racial Thought in Colonial Africa](#)." *The American Historical Review*, 109:3 (June 2004), pp. 720-54.  
(historycooperative.org)

-Kwame Anthony Appiah, "Language, Race, and the Legacies of the British Empire," in Philip Morgan and Sean Hawkins, eds., *Oxford History of the British Empire Companion Series: Black Experience and the Empire*, (Oxford, 2004), pp. 387-407. (R)

-Aram Yengoyan, "Essentialisms of Aboriginality: Blood/Race, History, and the State in Australia," in André Burguiere and Raymond Grew, eds., (Ann Arbor: 2001), pp. 269-287. (R)

Weeks 8.5-15: Research, Writing, and Independent meetings

1 November: **Annotated Bibliography and Outline Due.**

We will meet as a class during the regular time and discuss your research progress.

29 November: **Advanced Draft Due by 5pm in my office.**

18 December: **Final Draft Due by 5pm in my office.**