

Temporalities of Empire, Nation and Postcoloniality
SHUM 4509; AAS 4509; ANTHR 4109
Spring 2016
Tues: 2:30-4:25 A D White 110

Viranjini Munasinghe

vpm1@cornell.edu

Office Hours: Wed: 2:30-4:30 309 A D White

[Sign-up sheets are on office door]

Course Description

How do racialization projects constitutive of modern European empire figure in the making of nation states? How did anticipation of rights bearing European publics, enshrined in post Enlightenment values, disturb the linear narrative of nation states emerging from the ruins of empire? What are the logics and ambivalences of racialization when time of empire demanding difference is also the time of nation, demanding sameness? The goal of this comparative course is to bring together related but distinct scholarship on empire and nation, which complicate temporalities associated with both types of polity. Scholars of empire have demonstrated the integral role of colonies in the making of European nations—establishing difference in the colonies went hand in hand with establishing sameness in the metropolis. Here Nation Time is also Empire Time. Scholars of postcolonial nationalisms, however, posit a break between the two as postcolonial nations faced with the task of transforming rules of difference, the inheritance of empire, into the rule of sameness as rights bearing subjects of a later moment. What are the implications of such entanglements of empire and nation for postcolonial nations? How do inherited racializations limit and also enable postcolonial aspirations.

Concepts: Empire/State/Imperial/Nation/Rule of Sameness/Rule of Difference/Colony/Metropole/Colonizer/Colonized/Indigeneity/Native/Other/

Course Requirements:

1. A response paper each week critically engaging issues raised in readings--not a summary of readings. (max 2 pages) The papers will be collected at the end of each class.
2. A final 20page research paper.

Readings:

See Bibliography. All books should be available in the Book Store and Library Reserve. **Many of the books are also available on line.** Articles and short excerpts from books will be posted on Blackboard.

NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES PERMITTED IN CLASS

Course Schedule

Week 1:Feb 2 *Introduction*

Week 2:Feb 9 *Time and Discovery*

1. Fabian 2002 preface and chapter 1
2. Trouillot 2003 North Atlantic Fictions: Global Transformations, 1492-1945
3. Green 2004 State Formation
4. Trouillot, MR 2003 Anthropology and the Savage Slot

Week 3:Feb 16 Break

Week 4:Feb 23 *History and Nation Time*

1. Anderson, B 1995 Preface and Chapters 1-3
2. Duara, P 1997 Rescuing History from the Nation: Questioning Narratives of Modern China

Week 5:Mar 1 *Imperial Formations/ Untimely Entanglements*

1. Lowe, L 2015 The Intimacies of Four Continents (chapters 1 and 4)
2. Trouillot, MR 1995 The Unthinkable History

Week 6:Mar 8

1. Stoler and McGranahan 2007 Introduction: Refiguring Imperial Terrains
2. Cooper, F 2005 Introduction: Colonial Questions, Historical Trajectories
3. Cooper, F 2005 States, Empires and Political Imagination

Week 7:Mar 15

1. Makdisi, U 2007 Bringing America Back into the Middle East
2. Burbank, J 2007 The Rights of Difference: Law and Citizenship in the Russian Empire
3. Coronil, F 2007 After Empire: Reflection of Imperialism from the Americas

Week 8: Mar 22 *Exceptions and Colonial Ambivalence*

1. Anderson, B 1995 Chapter 5: Creole Pioneers
2. Duara, P 2007 The Imperialism of Free Nations: Japan, Manchukuo, and the History of the Present

3. Tierney, R 2010 Introduction in Tropics of Savagery
4. Tierney, R 2010 From Taming Savages to Going Native

Week 9: Mar 29 Break

Week 10: April 5

1. Jackson, P 2010 The Ambiguities of Semicolonial Power in Thailand
2. Thongchai, W 2010 Coming to Terms with the West
3. Pattana, K 2010 An Ambiguous Intimacy
4. Loos, T 2010 Competitive Colonialisms

Week 11: April 12 **Postcolonial Temporalities**

1. Wilder, G 2005 The French Imperial Nation-State

Week 12: April 19

1. Mishra, P 2012 Prologue to "From the Ruins of Empire"
2. Ray, C Decrying White Peril
3. Jun, H 2011 Race For Citizenship (parts 1 and 2)

Week 13: April 26

Week 14: May 3 Presentation

Bibliography

Anderson, Ben. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism*. New York: Verso, 1995.

Cooper, Frederick. *Colonialism in Question: Theory, Knowledge, Hisotry*. Berkeley, California: University of California Press, 2005.

—. *Colonialism in Question: Theory, Knowledge, History*. Berkeley, California: University of California Press, 2005.

<https://redblackwritings.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/cooper-f-colonialism-in-question-theory-knowledge-history.pdf>

Cooper, Frederick. "Provincializing France." In *Imperial Formations*, edited by Laura Ann Stoler and and Peter Perdue Carole McGranahan, 341-378. Santa Fe, Arizona: School for Advanced Research Press, 2007.

<http://anthropology.colorado.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/ImperialFormationsIntroduction.pdf>

Coronil, Fernando. "After Empire: Reflectons of Imperialism from the Americas." In *Imperial Formations*, edited by Ann Stoler, Carol McGranahan and Peter Perdue, 241-274. Santa Fe, Arizona: School for Advanced Research Press, 2007.

Duara, Prasenjit. *Rescuing History from the Nation: Questioning Narratives of Modern China*. Chicago, Illinois: University of Chicago Press, 1997.

Duara, Prasenjit. *Rescuing History from the Nation: Questioning Narratives of Modern China*. Chicago, IL, USA: University of Chicago Press, 1997. ProQuest ebrary. Web. 1 February 2016.

Duara, Prasenjit. "The Imperialism of "Free Nations": Japan, Manchukuo, and the History of the Present." Edited by Laura Ann Stoler, Carol McGranahan and Perdue, 211-240. Santa Fe, Arizona: School for Advanced Research, 2007.

Fabian, Johannes. *time and the Other: how anthropology makes its object*. New York, New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.

Green, Jack. "Introduction: State Formation, Resistance, and the Creation of Revolutionary Traditions in the Early Modern Era." In *Revolutionary Currents: Nation Building in the Transatlantic World*, edited by Michael Morrison and Melinda Zook, 1-34. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004.

Jun, Helen Heran. *Race for Citizenship: Black Orientalism and Asian Uplift fro Pre-Emancipation to Neoliberal Reform*. New York, New York: New York University Press, 2011.

<https://muse.jhu.edu/books/9780814743324>

Loos, Tamara. "Competitive Colonialism: Siam and the Malay Muslim South." In *Ambigious Allure of the West: Traces of the Colonial in Thailand*, by Peter Jackon and Rachel Harrison, 75-92. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2010.

<http://muse.jhu.edu/books/9781938645259>

Lowe, Lisa. *The Intimacies of Four Continents*. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2015.

<http://read.dukeupress.edu.proxy.library.cornell.edu/content/the-intimacies-of-four-continents.tab-info>

Pattana, Kitiarsa. "An Ambiguous Intimacy: Farang as Siamese Occidentalism." In *The Ambiguous Allure of the West: Traces of the Colonial in Thailand*, edited by Peter Jackson and Rachel Harrison, 57-74. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press , 2010.

Ray, Carina. "Decrying White Peril." *American Historical Review*, February 2014: 78-110.

Stoler, Ann Laura. "Tense and Tender Ties: The Politics of Comparison in North American History and (Post) Colonial Studies." *Journal of American History* 88, no. 3 (December 2001): 829-837.

Stoler, Ann Laura, Carol McGranahan, and Peter Perdue. *Imperial Formations*. Edited by Ann Laura Stoler and Carol Perdue, Peter McGranahan. Santa Fe, New Mexico: School for Advanced Research Press, 2007.

Thongchai, Winichakul. "Coming to Terms with the West: Intellectual Strategies of Bifurcation and Post-Westernism in Siam." In *Ambiguous Allure of the West: Traces of the Colonial in Thailand*, edited by Peter Jackson and Rachel Harrison, 135-152. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2010.

Tierney, Robert Thomas. *The Tropics of Savagery: The Culture of Japanese Empire in Comparative Frame*. Berkeley and Los Angeles, California: University of California Press, 2010.

Trouillot, Michel-Rolph. "Anthropology and the Savage Slot: The Poetics and Politics of Otherness." In *Global Transformations: Anthropology and the Modern World*, by

Trouillot, Michel-Rolph. "North Atlantic Fictions: Global Transformations, 1492-1945." In *Global Transformations: Anthropology and the Modern World*, by Michel-Rolph Trouillot, 29-46. New York, New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2003.

Wilder, Gary. *The Imperial Nation-State: Negritude and Colonial Humanism between the Two World Wars*. Chicago, Illinois: University of Chicago Press, 2005.