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

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[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 online. 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
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
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
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
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 Temporailities
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


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

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

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


