

**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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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

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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.

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