

HIS 589 Peripheries of Empire: Ireland and India

Mondays: 3:30-6:20, MHRA 1210

PROFESSOR: Dr. Jill Bender

OFFICE: MHRA 2116

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays, 1:00-2:00pm; Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00pm; and by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

India is nearly fifty times the size of Ireland. And, its population is more than 1 billion people. Ireland, on the other hand, has a population of less than 5 million. Despite the obvious differences between contemporary Ireland and India, the two countries also share a history shaped by British imperial rule. As such, scholars have begun to examine the histories of Ireland and India within one analytical framework.

This course will explore the shared colonial experiences of India and Ireland from the mid-nineteenth century to the late-twentieth century. Particular themes will include: famine, nationalism, military involvement, violence, and partition. The course will not only reveal the complexity and multi-faceted nature of imperialism, but also will permit students to examine historical questions in two different regions.

Student Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in modern Ireland and India.
 - Compare broad historical themes across national boundaries
 - Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view.
 - Use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting a written argument.
 - Interpret the historical roots of significant debates in today's world.
 - Evaluate historiographical debates within the field of imperial history.
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EVALUATION AND GRADING:

Undergraduate Requirements

Response Papers (together, worth 40%): Students must write 3 short response papers over the course of the semester. Each of these papers should be based on the readings for one of the course themes: Famine, Nationalism, Military Involvement, Violence, and Partition. Students should draw from and cite at least 2 of the assigned readings in each paper. (See below for due dates – all papers are due at the start of class. I will not accept late or emailed papers – please

plan ahead!) Papers should be 2-3 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font, standard margins).

Final Paper 40%: Each student will produce an 8-10 page historiographical essay that addresses one of the debates/themes covered in the course. This paper will require reading in addition to the assigned readings. You will need to submit a proposed bibliography in advance (due November 5th). The final paper will be due on the final day of class, December 3rd. In addition, please be prepared to present a short summary of your final essay to the class on December 3rd.

Participation 20%: Class participation and attendance is essential. Each week you need to come to class ready to participate – in other words, you need to have completed **all** of the assigned readings, taken notes, and prepared questions and/or comments. Please bring a copy of the assigned readings to class. Any unexcused absences will result in a 0 for participation.

Graduate Requirements

Response Papers 40% (10% each): Graduate students must write 4 short response papers over the course of the semester. Each of these papers should be based on the readings for one of the course themes: Famine, Nationalism, Military Involvement, Violence, and Partition. (See below for due dates – all papers are due at the start of class. I will not accept late or emailed papers – please plan ahead!) Papers should be 2-3 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font, standard margins). These papers should both summarize the argument of the various readings and place the readings within historiographical context.

Final Paper 30%: 15-20 page historiographical essay on one of the course themes. Please meet with me in advance to create a reading list. This paper will be due on the final day of class, December 3rd.

Class Presentation 10%: Each graduate student must lead class discussion once over the course of the semester.

Participation 20%: Class participation and attendance is essential. Each week you need to come to class prepared to participate – in other words, you need to have completed **all** of the assigned readings, taken notes, and prepared questions and/or comments. Please bring a copy of the assigned readings to class. Any unexcused absences will result in a 0 for participation.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

I have placed copies of the following books on reserve at Jackson Library. In addition, copies are available for purchase at the university bookstore. All other readings will be provided via Blackboard.

G. K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule*
Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*

Please note that there is no central text for this course. Should you have additional questions regarding the general histories of India and Ireland, I recommend the following books:

Thomas Bartlett, *Ireland: A History* (Cambridge: CUP, 2010).

Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, *Modern South Asia* (London and New York: Routledge, 1997).

Senia Pešeta, *Modern Ireland: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford; New York: University Press, 2003).

SETTING THE STAGE: INDIA AND IRELAND

Aug 20: Introduction to the Course

No reading assignment

Aug 27: Ireland and India in the British Empire

David Fitzpatrick, "Ireland and the Empire," *The Oxford History of the British Empire*, vol. III, *The Nineteenth Century*, ed. Andrew Porter (Oxford; New York: OUP, 1999): 495-521.

Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, "The First Century of British Rule, 1757 to 1857: State and Economy," *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy* (London and New York: Routledge, 1998), 67-75.

Robin J. Moore, "Imperial India, 1858-1914," *The Oxford History of the British Empire*, vol. III, *The Nineteenth Century*, ed. Andrew Porter (Oxford; New York: OUP, 1999): 422-446.

Graduate Students, please also read the following:

Alan Lester, "Imperial Circuits and Networks: Geographies of the British Empire," *History Compass* 4, 1 (2006): 124-141.

Sept 3: No Classes

Sept 10: Ireland and India – Imperial Affinities

C.A. Bayly, "Ireland, India and empire, 1780-1914," *Trans. Royal Hist. Soc.* 6th ser., 10 (2000), 377-397.

T. G. Fraser, "Ireland and India," in K. Jeffrey (ed.) *An Irish Empire?* (1996), 77-93.

FAMINE

Sept 17: The Great Famine

Peter Gray, *The Irish Famine* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1995), 31-63.

James S. Donnelly, Jr., "Introduction," *The Great Irish Potato Famine*, (2002).

Sept 24: Famines in India

*****FAMINE PAPERS DUE*****

Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*, 25-59.

Jill Bender, "The Imperial Politics of Famine: The 1873-74 Bengal Famine and Irish Parliamentary Nationalism," *Éire-Ireland* 42: 1&2 (Spring/Summer 2007): 132-156.

Peter Gray, "Famine and Land in Ireland and India, 1845-1880: James Caird and the Political Economy of Hunger," *The Historical Journal* 49, 1 (March 2006): 193-215.

NATIONALISM

Oct 1: Nationalism in Ireland and India

Senia Pešeta, "National Questions," *Modern Ireland: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford; New York: University Press, 2003), 48-63.

Dennis Dworkin, ed. "New Departures," *Ireland and Britain, 1798-1922: An Anthology of Sources* (Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, 2012), 112-170.

Oct 8: Nationalist Collaboration

*****NATIONALISM PAPERS DUE*****

Mary Cumpston, "Some Early Indian Nationalists and their Allies in the British Empire," *The English Historical Review* 76:299 (April 1961): 279-297.

Howard Brasted, "Indian Nationalist Development and the Influence of Irish Home Rule, 1870-1886," *Modern Asian Studies* 14:1 (1980): 37-63.

Jennifer Regan-Lefebvre, "'I stand beside you as a comrade': Irish and Indian Political Collaboration," in *Cosmopolitan Nationalism in the Victorian Empire: Ireland, India and the Politics of Alfred Webb* (Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), 128-153. (plus notes, 198-203)

PART FOUR: MILITARY INVOLVEMENT

Oct 15: No classes

Begin Kipling, *Kim*

Oct 22: Military Opportunities – The Irish in India

Rudyard Kipling, *Kim* (1901)

Kevin Kenny, "The Irish in the Empire," *Ireland and the British Empire*, (2004), 90-122.

**Oct 29: Military Opportunities – Irish and Indian Mutinies
PAPERS DUE*****

*****MILITARY**

Michael Silvestri, "'The Remains Ireland's Loneliest Martyr': The Commemoration of the Connaught Rangers Mutiny," *Ireland and India: Nationalism, Empire and Memory*.

Jill Bender, "Mutiny or freedom fight?: The 1857 Indian Mutiny and the Irish press," *Newspapers and Empire in Ireland and Britain, c. 1857-1921* (2004), 92-108.

Brian Padraic O'Shasnain, "Shane O'Neill discovers India," *The Independent Hindustan* 1:3 (November 1920), 53-58, 70.

<http://www.saadigitalarchive.org/item/20120111-576>

Thomas Bartlett, "The Connaught Rangers Mutiny India, July 1920," *History Ireland* 6:1 (Spring 1998), 5-7.

THE QUESTION OF VIOLENCE

Nov 5: The Easter Rising and Civil War

BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

We will watch the following film in class: *Michael Collins*

Please look at the National Library of Ireland's online exhibition on the 1916 Rising, which can be found at http://www.nli.ie/1916/1916_main.html

Charles Townshend, "The Irish Republican Army and the Development of Guerrilla Warfare, 1916-1921" *The English Historical Review* vol. 92, no. 371 (April 1979), 318-345.

Nov 12: Gandhi and Civil Disobedience

VIOLENCE PAPERS DUE

M. K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule*

Michael Silvestri, "The 'Sinn Fein of India': Irish Nationalism and the Policing of Revolutionary Terrorism in Bengal, 1905-1939," *Journal of British Studies* (October, 2000): 454-486.

Sarmila Bose and Eilís Ward, "'India's cause is Ireland's cause': elite links and nationalist politics," in *Ireland and India: Connections, Comparisons, Contrasts*, eds. Michael Holmes and Denis Holmes (Dublin: Folens, 1997), 52-73.

DECOLONIZATION AND PARTITION

Nov 19: Partition in Theory

John Coakley, "Ethnic Conflict and the Two-State Solution: The Irish Experience of Partition" *Mapping Frontiers, Plotting Pathways Ancillary Papers* No. 3 (2004).

Nicholas Mansergh, "The Prelude to Partition: Concepts and Aims in Ireland and India" *Nationalism and Independence: Selected Irish Papers by Nicholas Mansergh*, ed. Diana Mansergh (Cork: Cork University Press, 1997): 32-63.

Nov 26: Partition in Practice

*****PARTITION PAPERS DUE*****

We will watch the following film in class: *Divisions of Heart*

Urvashi Butalia, *The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India* (Duke University Press, 2000): 3-20.

Select Documents on Partition

Dec 3: Conclusion – Imperial Legacies

*****FINAL PAPERS DUE*****