

HIS: 208-01 "Peoples of Empire"

HIS 208-01 – Wednesday, 6:00-8:50, MHRA 1215

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Office hours: 5:00-6:00 on Wednesday, or by appointment



This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence."

Abigail Adams

"The truth is rarely pure and never simple."

Oscar Wilde

"The historian makes histories. Histories do not exist as preformed narratives awaiting discovery."

Raymond D. Fogelson

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

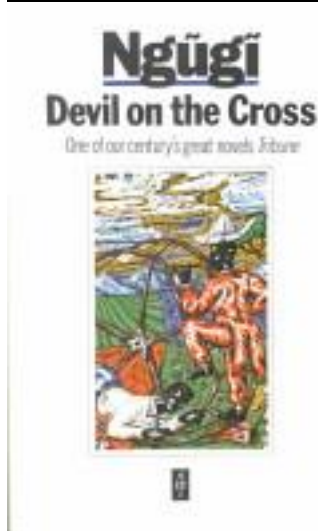
At its height, the British Empire covered most of the globe and held sway over a majority of the world's population. Despite the geographic reach of this empire, imperial subjects residing on the British Isles were a minority. This course will focus on the non-British, *indigenous* peoples that made up a majority of Britain's imperial population. Students will be introduced to the perspectives, voices, and actions of the indigenous peoples in this empire through a series of case studies that will focus on particular native peoples in different locales throughout the world. This perspective will encourage students to think less about specific individuals and events in terms of "conquest," and instead will introduce them to broader analytical frameworks, such as, cultural diversity, historical memory, agency, and change over time.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- Articulate a definition of "indigenous person."
- Demonstrate in written form an understanding of colonialism from the indigenous perspective.
- Source and contextualize primary sources.
- Evaluate historical arguments in secondary sources.
- Evaluate and select reputable Internet websites for research purposes.
- Discuss the use of a novel as a historical source.

REQUIRED BOOK:



Devil on the Cross by Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o

IF YOU HAVE ISSUES ACQUIRING THE BOOK PLEASE LET ME KNOW. IT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO CONTACT ME THE WEEK BEFORE OUR DISCUSSION TO TELL ME THAT YOU COULD NOT LOCATE THE BOOK! THIS NOVEL IS VERY INEXPENSIVE AND CAN ALSO BE CHECKED OUT OF UNIVERSITY AND LOCAL LIBRARIES.

ADDITIONAL READINGS WILL BE POSTED TO BLACKBOARD.

COURSE POLICIES:

Course Structure:

This course is designed to hone your critical thinking and communication skills through learning and practicing a historical skill set. Rather than require you to memorize various facts, figures, and other data, this course will teach you how to employ the skills of a historian to read, analyze, and interpret historical documents and arguments. This class is divided into a series of case studies. Each case study will introduce you to a new historical skill, as well as a different group of indigenous people. I will discuss this more in class, but the point here is that you acquire and practice historical skills while learning about different cultures and early-modern and modern imperial interactions.

Unplugged:

This class will be a technology free zone. Laptops and other smart devices such as tablets are not permitted. Cell phones must be turned off or placed on vibrate. **STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WILL BE EXCUSED FROM CLASS.**

Respect:

Your active participation in this course is necessary to ensure the success of the class and your grade. During a discussion thoughtful comments and questions are encouraged and expected; however, it is also imperative that mutual respect be maintained at all times. Students will treat their peers and instructor with respect at all times. **STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WILL BE EXCUSED FROM CLASS.**

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. UNCG considers academic dishonesty to be a serious offense. Dishonest behavior in any form, including cheating, plagiarism, deception of effort, and unauthorized assistance, may result in such sanctions as a failing grade on an assignment or failure in the course depending on the nature of the offense. It is your responsibility to avoid even the appearance of dishonesty regarding your work. UNCG's Academic Integrity policy is available online: <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

Many students innocently commit plagiarism because they do not understand the writing and citation process. *To ensure that everyone understands plagiarism, you are each responsible for completing the UNCG library tutorial:*

<http://library.uncg.edu/tutorials/index.aspx?m=8>

Electronic Communication:

Students are responsible for checking their UNCG iSpartan email on a regular basis. Students are encouraged to utilize email to contact the instructor (j_mize@uncg.edu). **All emails must be professional including a professional greeting, complete sentences, and a salutation. I will not respond to emails that fail to follow these instructions or that contain informal language such as Yo!, Hey!, or any text language deemed inappropriate for professional correspondence.** Please be aware that an email response will not be immediate. Please allow for a 24-hour (48 hours on the weekend) response time. If you fail to receive an email response after 24 hours (48 on the weekend) please contact me again.

Professional Email Example:

Dear Ms. Mize,

I am having difficulty understanding the instructions for Assignment #2. Could you please clarify part “x” of the instructions? Thank you.

J. Roddy Walston

Unacceptable Email Example:

Hey, im confused i need 2 speak to you 2day.

Blackboard:

It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that they are able to logon to Blackboard. As you will see, most of your readings will be located on Blackboard; therefore, it is imperative that you be able to access Blackboard to complete your assignments. If you are having issues accessing Blackboard please note that I am not a technician and cannot assist you in resolving these issues. If you are having difficulty logging into Blackboard, first contact 6-Tech Online at:

https://6-tech.uncg.edu/ra/login_raremedy.jsp?lang=en. If you continue to have logon issues, contact the Registrar’s Office.

Late Assignment Policy:

Due to the fact that this course only meets once a week, deadlines are crucial. Missing one assignment could prove detrimental to your ability to succeed in this course; therefore, **late work will not be accepted.**

CLASS FORMAT:

Lecture:

This class will not rely heavily on a lecture format. I do not wish to talk at you for three hours, and I am quite sure you would not want to listen to me that long either. As mentioned earlier, this course will focus more on the activities of historians. To this end, most of the class will be devoted to discussing and analyzing historical sources and arguments; however, I will provide you (via lecture) with necessary information—some days I will talk more than others.

Teams:

You will be divided into teams that you will work with for the entire semester. You will analyze primary sources together, as well as complete any other group assignments during class time. In addition to your in-class assignments, teams will also be responsible for five Internet information activities during the semester. The details for this activity will be provided separately.

Discussion:

A large part of class time will be devoted to discussing your weekly readings in conjunction with the other information provided to you in class. Due to the fact that this class meets once a week it is imperative that you complete your readings before class. Additionally, because discussion is such a large part of this course YOU MUST BRING YOUR READINGS WITH YOU TO CLASS. STUDENTS WITHOUT THEIR READINGS WILL NOT RECEIVE PARTICIPATION CREDIT FOR THAT DAY. This means that you will need to print your readings out, and bring them to class.

Writing:

Regardless of your major or your future occupation, the ability to write clearly will be a great benefit to you. Each week we will work on an aspect of writing. Your efforts will culminate in a final paper due at the end of the semester (the details of which are listed below).

ASSESSMENT:**Quizzes:**

Students will complete 9 quizzes located on Blackboard covering the week's readings. **Quizzes will close at 5:00 pm, Wednesday before class!**

Team Internet Activities:

In their teams, students will complete 5 Internet assignments throughout the semester (one for each case study). The details of this activity will be given separately.

Participation:

Students are expected to participate in discussions and other in-class activities and will receive a grade for participation every week.

Unit Assessments:

There will be two assessments throughout this course. These assessments are take-home exams. I will give you the assessment the class period before it is due—IF YOU ARE NOT IN CLASS YOU WILL NOT GET THE ASSESSMENT—you are expected to return your completed assessment the following week. **THIS IS NOT A GROUP ACTIVITY AND LATE ASSESSMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Final Exam:

Your final exam will also be a take-home assignment in which you will incorporate all the skills you have learned throughout the course. Each student will create a textbook chapter on colonialism and the indigenous society of their choice (one of the case studies). Students are expected to author this chapter from the perspective of the indigenous society. Graphics and maps are encouraged. More details regarding this project will be provided to you separately at a later date.

Paper:

You will write a 6-8 page paper in this class that addresses the following prompt:
Who is an indigenous person, and what historical events have shaped this/their identity?
This is a big question, but do not panic—we will work on this together throughout the semester.

EVALUATION:

This course is based upon 620 points and will use the point range scale below.

A = 620-558
B = 557-496
C = 495-434
D = 433-372
F = 371 and below

ASSIGNMENT GRADES:

ASSESSMENTS = 80 points
Unit One = 25 points
Unit Two = 55 points

FINAL EXAM = 100 points → Rubric to be provided by instructor.

PAPER = 200 points → Rubric to be provided by instructor.
Thesis = 5 points
Thesis Review = 5 points
Introductory Paragraph = 10 points
Outline = 10 points
Evidence Paragraph = 10 points
Draft = 50 points
Peer Review = 10 points
Final Draft = 100 points

PARTICIPATION = 140 points
14 classes/10 points

QUIZZES = 50 points
8 quizzes/5 points
Final quiz/10 points

TEAM INTERNET ACTIVITIES = 50 points
5 case studies/10 points

COURSE SCHEDULE:

AUGUST 20TH

Introduction

AUGUST 27TH

Indigenous

- Ken S. Coates, *A Global History of Indigenous Peoples* pgs. 1-24.
- Quiz.
- **Thesis example!**

SEPTEMBER 3RD

Indigenous

- Internet Detective activity located at:
<http://www.vtstutorials.ac.uk/detective/index.html>.
- Quiz.
- **Thesis Due!**

SEPTEMBER 10TH

Ireland

- David McCullough, *Wars of the Irish Kings* pgs. xvii-xxviii.
- Quiz.
- Team Internet Activity—Ireland.
- **Reviewed Theses Due!**

SEPTEMBER 17TH

Ireland

- David McCullough, *Wars of the Irish Kings* pgs. 279-285 & 315-319
- Quiz.
- **Introductory Paragraphs Due!**

SEPTEMBER 24TH

Native North America

- Charles Hudson, *The Southeastern Indians* pgs. 3-5.
- Theda Perdue, *Mixed Blood Indians* pgs. 16-17; 24-25; 29; 31-32.
- Quiz.
- Team Internet Activity—Southeastern American Indians.
- **Outlines Due!**

OCTOBER 1ST

Native North America

- William McLoughlin, *The Cherokees and Christianity* pgs. 9-27.
- Quiz.
- Group Evaluations.

OCTOBER 8TH

Maori

- **Unit One Assessment Due at the Beginning of Class!**
- Watch a series of videos located at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEOx3QyJxIs&list=PL0602D9E70C3737C6>
This is a seven part series. Students will watch parts I, III, V, and VII. Take notes as you watch the video for your reference.
- Team Internet Activity—Maori.
- Mid-Term Evaluations.

OCTOBER 15TH

Maori

- Angela Wanhalla, *Matters of the Heart* pgs. 46-68.
- Quiz.

OCTOBER 22ND

India

- David Omissi, *Indian Voices of the Great War* Introduction and selected letters.
- Quiz.
- Team Internet Activity—3 Major Indian Religions.
- **Evidence Paragraph Due!**

OCTOBER 29TH

India

- Watch the documentary *The Day India Burned* located at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZS40U5yFpc>

NOVEMBER 5TH

Kikuyu

- **Paper Draft Due! (Bring 2 copies to class.)**
- Team Internet Activity—Kikuyu

NOVEMBER 12TH

Kikuyu

- **Unit Two Assessment Due at the Beginning of Class!**
- Read a brief article on the background of the Mau Mau Rebellion or Mau Mau War located at:
<http://www.historyinanhour.com/2012/10/06/the-mau-mau-uprising-summary/>
- Please listen to the following lectures provided by Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/yearofkenya/>
 - **October 26, 2006 - Settler Colonialism in Kenya: The Origins of Mau Mau**
John Lonsdale, Professor of History, University of Cambridge **[Part 1](#)** &
 - **November 2, 2006 - Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya**
Caroline Elkins, Associate Professor of African Studies, Harvard University
[Part 1](#)
- Begin our discussion of the novel—time permitting.

NOVEMBER 19TH

Kenya & Indigenous Revisited

- **Final Paper Due at the Beginning of Class!**
- Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, *Devil on the Cross*. **I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU BEGIN THIS NOVEL A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE THIS DUE DATE.**
- Quiz.

DECEMBER 10TH

FINAL EXAM DUE AT 10:00 PM—LATE EXAMS NOT BE ACCEPTED! Please email your completed work to the instructor at j_mize@uncg.edu.