

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 2) English

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Suliman-Jabary Salamanca, Omar PS05 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity	5	A
Master of Science in Conflict and Development	5	A
Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Empire, Settler Colonialism, Capitalism, Land, Primitive Accumulation, Genocide, Labor, Slavery, Whiteness, Race, Privilege, Class, Gender, Patriarchy, Modernity, Hegemony, Liberalism, Orientalism, Eurocentrism, Culture, Nationalism, Violence, Political Economy, Development, Third World, Liberation, Resistance, Solidarity, Abolition, Feminism, Sexual Politics, Intersectionality, Decolonization, Revolution

Position of the course

This seminar begins with a seemingly straightforward question: What is colonialism? And how, more specifically, is colonialism, in its various reiterations and forms, an active and destructive force in the present? Taking up various intellectual approaches – including indigenous, feminist, anti-capitalist and anti-racist knowledges—this seminar introduces key concepts and lines of inquiry pursued by anticolonial, postcolonial and decolonial studies, all with an eye to the political-theoretical stakes of these debates. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the course explores material and symbolic sites where colonialism, in its articulations with empire and capitalism, is practiced and experienced as oppressive social constructions of class, gender, race, and sexuality. Primacy is given to voices/ theories/methods that question the world as *we know it* and that are engaged in unsettling the post/colonial present, both in theory and practice

Contents

Drawing upon readings, film screenings, class discussions guest lectures, and fieldtrips, the seminar will study the ways colonialism invariably materializes as dispossession through economic, political, social and cultural processes in both the Global South and the Global North. The course will be divided into three parts. We begin by engaging key theoretical approaches to colonialism, including feminist, Indigenous, antiracist, and political economic approaches. Next, we consider a range of sites of colonial and imperial formation, including land, territory, nature, the body, sexuality, race, and gender. In the third part of the course we focus on forms of resistance, resurgence, and decolonization, as well as emerging scholarship that both questions the limits of past approaches to the study of colonialism and aims to conceptualize imperial, colonial, capitalist and decolonizing processes in new ways. (Please note that the program and suggested authors below are for reference only and thus subject to change)

Seminars

1. Locating Post/Colonialism (Bell Hooks, Augusto Boal, Decolonize All Things)
2. Imperial Histories and Geographies (Patrick Wolfe, Jody Byrd, Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Vladimir Lenin, Giovanni Arrighi...)

3. From Slavery to Mass Incarceration (W. E. B. Du Bois, Lisa Lowe, Angela Davis, Michelle Alexandre, Orlando Patterson...)
4. Colonialism from an anti-colonial perspective (Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, Audra Simpson, Mahmood Mamdani, Albert Memmi...)
5. Colonial Modernities (Dipesh Chakrabarty, Timothy Mitchell, Maria Lugones, Edward Said, Antonio Gramsci, Raymond Williams...)
6. White innocence and blackness (Frantz Fanon, Gloria Wecker, George Lipsitz, Hortense Spillers, Katherine McKittrick...)
7. Patriarchy, Primitive Accumulation and Feminist Critiques (Maria Mies, Silvia Federici, Silvia Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Sara Ahmed, Andrea Smith, ...)
8. The logics of Racial Capitalism (Cedric J. Robinson, Glen Sean Coulthard, Angela Davis, Himani Bannerji, Paula Chakravartty and Denise Ferreira Da Silva, Ikyo Day...)
9. Decolonization and liberation in practice (Eve Tuck and Yang K. Wayne, Ramón Grosfoguel, Silvia Rivera Cusicanqui, Maria Lugones, Gibson-Graham, Lauren Berlant, Robin D.G. Kelley, ...)

Fieldtrips

1. Memory and Colonial Amnesia at Home
2. Intersectionality and Social Justice: Activists Repertoires

Guest Lectures

To be confirmed

Initial competences

Academic level of thinking and working, as proven by the successful completion of a Master of Arts, demonstrating that the student has acquired a primary academic framework that enables him/her to study post/colonial studies in a thorough and scientifically sound manner.

Final competences

- 1 Understanding and ability to make a critical comparison of theoretical concepts and theories of post-colonial studies
- 2 Understanding of post/colonial material and discursive constructions and formations
- 3 Understanding of the dialectical relation between colonialism and capitalism
- 4 Ability to apply critical post/colonial insights and methods in the interpretation and understanding of contemporary social, political and cultural processes in the Global South and North
- 5 Understanding and ability to critically evaluate the role and political importance of categories such as class, gender, race and sexuality

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, fieldwork, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminars: various readings and material such as films will be used to introduce theoretical concepts, debates and methods in the study of the post/colonial. The seminars will be led by participants.

Guest Speakers: in function of availability, we will invite guest speakers –including academics, activists and/or artists—to complement and expand the core seminar themes.

Fieldworks: during the semester we will visit Brussels to explore post/colonial questions through the city and via discussions with academic, activists and/or artists engaged in decolonization

Learning materials and price

Syllabus (and all the necessary material will be made available) on Minerva

References

See authors suggestions in the Course Contents section

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive coaching through Minerva and consultation by personal appointment

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

- During the oral examination students will be tested on their knowledge and critical insights in postcolonial theories and methodologies that were presented during the lectures and were provided through the readings.
- Continuous assessment during the seminar discussions
- Assessment of the groups assignment presentations through which students demonstrate their knowledge of and ability to critically apply postcolonial theories, concepts and frameworks of analysis through a case study on the Global South..

Calculation of the examination mark

- 25%: Participation
- 25%: Group Presentation
- 25%: Reading Reflections
- 25%: Fieldtrip Essays

Facilities for Working Students

Possible alternative examination dates

Possible alternative timing of feedback