

LOCALISM, GLOBALISM AND POSTCOLONIAL DISCOURSE

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Graduate Seminar

Course description

The aim of the course is to introduce approaches of coloniality and postcoloniality into the study of contemporary collisions of local and global. We will consider state, social and cultural transformations through a postcolonial perspective, focusing on three aspects – identity, citizenship and ideology. The key binary categories in postcolonial theorisation, such as hegemony and resistance, and state versus civil society, will be examined along with localised strategies of adaptation, accommodation and collaboration.

Students will be asked to reach conclusions about what modifications of cultural identity, citizenship and ideology, if any, are called for in a globalised world by postcolonial discourse and practice. In the course of doing so, they will have to become aware of the different trends in postcoloniality as well as applications of postcolonial theories and critiques, as well as transnational perspectives on race, ethnicity and culture.

Required texts

Gramsci, Antonio, *Prison Notebooks*. Columbia University Press, 1996

Chakrabarty, Dipesh. *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*. Princeton. 2001

Said, Edward. *Orientalism*. Vintage Books, 1979

Identities. Ed. Laura Garcia-Moreno and Peter C. Pfeiffer. Columbia, SC : Camden House, c1996

Citizenship and National Identity from Colonialism to Globalism. 1997

David A. Hollinger. *Cosmopolitanism and Solidarity. Studies in Ethnoracial, Religious, and Professional Affiliation in the United States*. 2006

Kymlicka, Will. *Multicultural Citizenship*. Oxford, 1995

Course prerequisites

The course is geared for graduate students who have had courses in political science, social philosophy. English is required.

Course requirements

Attendance of all classes is required, because of their interactive character. You can be absent no more than three class periods.

Participation in Class (10%) is required. Your active participation in all class discussions reflects your understanding of the problems discussed.

Essays (3*15%): After each set of the problems discussed you will be required to write 4-5 pages essay in order to demonstrate your understanding of the topic, ability to explain the basic theories and their applications to the historical reality as well as your analytical thinking beyond the required readings.

Article analysis (10%): during the classes you will be asked to find, locate and analyze an article of regional media production concerning problems discussed (cultural identity, solidarity formation, multicultural policy etc.).

Presentation (15%): In small groups, you will prepare a short presentation of the case of a chosen state model to illustrate the basic concepts and theories at work..

Final paper (20%): by the end of the classes you will be asked to write 12-15 pages essay in order to summarize the key points of the class sets, analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the basic theoretical constructions and their applications to different historical and state models.

Content

1. Introducing Postcoloniality: Concepts and Categories

We begin the course with an overview of the concepts, notions and transformations of postcolonial studies. As soon as postcoloniality is linked with the historical period of imperialism and colonial development, first we describe historical issues of Modern Europe and discuss some basic notions such as Empire, Colony, Imperialism. Then we continue with postcolonial transformations after WWII, trying to find out the European and Subaltern roots of the contemporary Postcolonial intellectual discourse. Finally, we discuss transformations of this discourse by the end of 20th century.

Week 1: Empires and colonies: notions, concepts and practices

Reading:

Cooper, Frederick. *Tensions of empire: colonial cultures in a bourgeois world*. 1997

Noiriel, Gerard. *The French Melting Pot...*1996

Goran Therborn. *European Modernity and Beyond*. Routledge, London, 1995

Suggested reading: *Citizenship and National Identity from Colonialism to Globalism*. 1997

Said, Edward. *Culture and Imperialism*. 1993

Week 2. What is Postcolonialism?...as historical epoch/condition, epistemology, literary genre

Reading:

Postcolonial Studies and Beyond/ Ed. Ania Loomba ets. Duke Un. Press. 2006

Fanon, Frantz. *Black Skin, White Masks*. Pluto Press, 1986

Said, Edward. *Orientalism*. Vintage Books, 1979

Suggested reading: Young, Robert. *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Blackwell, 2001

Week 3: Dominance and Resistance: Subaltern Studies

Reading:

Gramsci, Antonio, *Prison Notebooks*. Columbia University Press, 1996

Guha, Ranajit. "Preface" & "On Some Aspects of the Historiography of Colonial India."// Selected Subaltern Studies. Ed. Ranjit Guha & G. C. Spivak. New York: OUP, 1988

Week 4: Postcolonialism Reconsidered

Reading:

Chakrabarty, Dipesh. *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*. Princeton. 2001

Appiah, Kwame Anthony. "Is the Post in Postmodernism the Post- in Postcolonial?" // *Critical Inquiry* 17 (Winter 1991): 336-57.

Dirlik, Arif. "The Postcolonial Aura: Third World Criticism in the Age of Global Capitalism." // *Critical Inquiry* 20 (Winter 1994): 328-56.

- 2. Set One - Cultural Identity in Postcolonial Perspective** - examines a range of transformations which are described by authors as hybridization, including special representation, autonomy and cosmopolitanism

The first set of the problems concerns transformations of cultural identity. We pay attention to the theoretical question of cultural identity formation and its connection with the problem of “glocalisation”, meant global-local collisions. Then we take a look onto the identity transformations of the former colonies, including processes of enclavisation, diasporisation and hybridization. As well as these procedures have dual character, we demonstrate what the reaction of Europe is (“provincialization”, nationalism movements etc.)

Week 5. Narratives and Memory: Constructing Cultural Identity.

Reading:

Identities. Ed. Laura Garcia-Moreno and Peter C. Pfeiffer. Columbia, SC : Camden House, c1996.
Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities*. Verso, 2000

Bhabha, Homi K. "Introduction: Narrating the Nation." & "DissemiNation." // *Nation and Narration*. London: Routledge, 1990. 1-7; 291-322

Week 6. Do Subalterns speak?

Reading:

Identities. Ed. Laura Garcia-Moreno and Peter C. Pfeiffer. Columbia, SC : Camden House, c1996.

Chakrabarty, Dipesh. *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*. Princeton. 2001

Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty. "Can the Subaltern Speak?" // *Marxism and the interpretation of Culture*. Ed. Cary Nelson and Larry Grossberg. Chicago: Uni of Illinois P, 1988): 271-313

Week 7. Identity Reconsidered

Reading:

Chatterjee, Partha. *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World*. London, UN Books, 1986

Keith Robbins. *Great Britain. Identities, Institutions and the Idea of Britishness*. Longman, London, 1998

Postcolonial Wales/ed. by Jane Aaron and Chris Williams. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2005

3. **Set Two - Erosion of Citizenship** - considered as the relationship of developers and to-be-developed, hybridized forms of knowledge as a reason of transformation of citizenship, that is transnational social relations.

First, we look at the basic theories of citizenship in order to find out the most important concepts included. Then we should discuss the problem of erosion of this phenomenon, such as flexibility, mutations, situational erosion as the results of the new imperialism and colonialism.

Week 8. Citizenship and Belonging

Reading:

Citizenship and National Identity from Colonialism to Globalism. 1997

Jobu Lie. *Modern peoplehood. 2004*

David A. Hollinger. *Cosmopolitanism and Solidarity. Studies in Ethnoracial, Religious, and Professional Affiliation in the United States. 2006*

Weeks 9 & 10. Erosions of Citizenship

Reading:

Ong, Aihwa. *Flexible Citizenship. Duke University Press, 1999*

Balibar, Etienne. "Ambiguous Universality." // *Differences: a Journal of Feminist Studies* 7.1 (1995): 48-74.

Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty. "Transnationality and Multiculturalist Ideology." // *Between the Lines: South Asians and Postcoloniality. Philadelphia: Temple UP, 1996. 64-89.*

Aihwa Ong. *Mutations of Citizenship // Theory Culture and Society. Special Issue on problematizing Global Knowledge. V. 23, 2-3, March-May 2006, pp. 499-505*

4. **Set Three - problems of cultural imperialism** - defines the most important source of the intercultural communications in Europe as well as multicultural tendencies as European expansion of the world. This Set is used to pull together the first and second sets of topics respectively by looking at group rights and multicultural models in policy.

We begin with the historical introduction to the Multiculturalism, trying to look at this concept as connected with the main characteristics of the process of globalisation (celebration of cultural diversity values, ideological ground of the new policy standard on the one side, and new imperial movement on the other).

Week 11. History of Multiculturalism

Reading:

David Bennet. *Multicultural States. Rethinking Difference and Identity*. London: Routledge, 1998

John W. Berry. *Sociopsychological Costs and Benefits of Multiculturalism*. Economic Council of Canada, 1991

Kymlicka, Will. *Multicultural Citizenship*. Oxford, 1995

Taylor, Charles. *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*. Princeton, 1994

Tully, James. *Strange Multiplicity: Constitutionalism in an Age of Diversity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995

Week 12. Multiculturalism and New Imperialism.

Reading:

Kant, Immanuel. *Perpetual Peace*. Hackett Publishing House, 1983

Nussbaum, Martha C. "Kant and Cosmopolitanism." // *Perpetual Peace: Essays on Kant's Cosmopolitan Ideal*, ed. James Bohman and Matthias Lutz-Bachmann, 25-57. Cambridge: MIT, 1997

Eagleton, Terry. *Ideology. An Introduction*. Verso, 2007

Appiah, Kwame. *Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a world of strangers*. 2006

Young, Robert. "Hybridity and Diaspora." // *Colonial Desire : Hybridity in Theory, Culture and Race*. London: Routledge, 1995. 1-28; 183-7

Week 13. Cosmopolitan Locations.

Reading:

Barry, Brian. *Culture and Equality: An Egalitarian Critique of Multiculturalism*. Harvard, 2001.

David Bennet. *Multicultural States. Rethinking Difference and Identity*. London: Routledge, 1998

Parekh, Bhikhu. *Rethinking Multiculturalism: Cultural Diversity and Political Theory*. Harvard, 2002.

Mike Featherstone (ed.), *Global Culture: Nationalism, Globalization and Modernity (a Theory, Culture & Society Special Issue)*. London: Sage Publications. 1994