

ATA 59A

Global Dissemination of Modernity: Concepts and Approaches

Mehmet Yercil

Fall 2013

Wednesday 10:00-13:00

Office hours: TBA

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Course Description

This seminar will revolve around four key conceptual frameworks frequently used by historians, and which are interlinked: modernity, globalization, imperialism, and colonialism. We will aim at getting a firm grip of what is meant by these concepts, and the academic debates revolving around them. At the end of the course, the student should feel comfortable in defining, interlinking, and putting into conscious use not only the key concepts but also their derivatives such 'new imperialism', 'colonial modernity', 'informal imperialism', 'globalization as discourse' and many others. Throughout the course, there will be an emphasis in making cross-cutting connections, and relating themes and concepts discussed in the prior weeks with those most recently discussed in class.

Doctorate and masters students only. Students of history, political science/international relations, and sociology are encouraged to apply.

Grading

Class attendance and participation in discussions based on weekly readings: 20%

Take-home midterm exam: 30%

Take-home final: 50%

Course Requirements

This is a seminar with rather dense reading assignments. You should make time for a reading of roughly 100-120 pages each week. Meticulous attention will be paid to your active participation in the discussions in class.

You will present at least two of the thirteen weeks' readings critically in class, in not more than 20 minutes. If you miss a class, you will hand in a 1500-word synopsis of the readings of the week you missed, due the following week. You will participate in class discussions; expect to be interrogated if you habitually don't. Do not expect to get the top grade even if your exam results are excellent, unless you participate in the discussions or hand in the synopsis of the week you have missed on time.

Take-home exams will be distributed and collected in the respective dates given below in the schedule.

The readings will be made available under password protection.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (25 September): Modernity I– Introduction, and the “great divergence” debate

Van der Veer, Peter, “The Global History of ‘Modernity’”, *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, 41.3 (1998), 285-294

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-4995%281998%2941%3A3%3C285%3ATGHO%22%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S>

Washbrook, David, “The Global History of ‘Modernity’: A Response to a Reply”, *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, 41.3 (1998), 285-294

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-4995%281998%2941%3A3%3C295%3ATGHO%22A%3E2.0.CO%3B2-W>

Goldstone, Jack A., ‘A historical, not comparative method: breakthroughs and limitations in the theory and methodology of Michael Mann’s analysis of power’, in John A. Hall and Ralph Schroeder (eds.), *An anatomy of power: the social theory of Michael Mann* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), pp. 263-282.

Mann, Michael, ‘The sources of power revisited: a response to criticism’, in John A. Hall and Ralph Schroeder (eds.), *An anatomy of power: the social theory of Michael Mann* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), pp. 370-96.

(The last two readings have been assigned as they provide a good summary of the “great divergence” debate. Pay more attention to this than the intricacies of Michael Mann’s theory. It has implications for conceptualizations of modernity.)

Week 2 (2 October) : Modernity II – Interpretations and approaches

Cooper, Frederick, *Colonialism in Question* (Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London: University of California Press, 2005), 113-149 (Chapter 5: ‘Modernity’)

Dirlik, Arif, *Global modernity: modernity in the age of global capitalism* (Boulder and London: Paradigm, 2007), pp. 1-9 (‘Introduction: Global Modernity’), 62-88 (Chapter 3: ‘Conceptual fields of Globality’), 161-8 (‘Keywords from the text’)

Harootyan, Harry, *Overcome by Modernity* (New York: Princeton University Press, 2000) pp. ix-xxxii (Preface: ‘All the Names of History’)

Week 3 (9 October): Capitalism and modernity I

Bayly, Chris A., *The birth of the modern world 1780-1914* (Malden, Oxford, and Victoria: Blackwell, 2004), pp. 1-21 (‘Introduction’), 49-83 (Chapter 2: ‘Passages from the old regimes to modernity’)

Goody, Jack, *Capitalism and modernity: The great debate* (Cambridge: Polity, 2004), pp. 126-160 (‘The Growth and Interchange of Merchant Cultures’)

Week 4 (23 October): Capitalism and modernity II

Berman, Marshall, *All that is solid melts into air: The experience of modernity*, new ed. (London and New York: Verso, 2010 (first publ. 1982)) pp. 87-129 ('All that is solid melts into air')

Smith, Neil, *Uneven development: Nature, capital and the production of space*, third ed. (London and New York: Verso, 2010), pp. 132-174 ('Toward a Theory of Uneven Development I')

Week 5 (30 October): Modernity and the everyday

(Take-home questions for the midterm exam will be distributed)

Harootyan, Harry, *History's Disquiet: Modernity, Cultural Practice, and the Question of Everyday Life* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000), pp. 59-110 (from Chapter 2: 'The "Mystery of the Everyday"')

Griffin, Roger, *Modernism and Fascism: The Sence of a Beginning under Mussolini and Hitler* (Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave, 2007), pp.43-58 (from Chapter 2: 'Two modes of modernism' until the section on Nietzsche)

Week 6 (6November):Imperialism I: "Metropolitan" approaches

Webster, Anthony, *The Debate on the Rise of the British Empire* (Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 2006), pp. 40-67 ('Early twentieth-century economic explanations of Victorian British imperial expansion')

Porter, Andrew, *European imperialism, 1860-1914*, Studies in European History (Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 1994), pp.1-49

Cain, P.J., and A.G. Hopkins, *British Imperialism, 1688–2000*, 2nd edn. (Harlow: Pearson, 2002), pp.23-61 ('The problem and the context').

Week 7 (13 November): Imperialism: "Peripheral" approaches

(Take-home exams will be collected)

Webster, Anthony, *The Debate on the Rise of the British Empire* (Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 2006), pp. 68-92 ('The Gallagher and Robinson controversy').

Porter, Andrew, *European imperialism, 1860-1914*, Studies in European History (Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 1994), pp. 50-8.

Robinson, Ronald, 'The excentric idea of imperialism, with or without empire', in Wolfgang J. Mommsen and Jürgen Osterhammel (eds.), *Imperialism and after: continuities and discontinuities* (London: Allen &Unwin, 1986), pp. 267-89

Week 8 (20 November):Imperialism: Global approaches and beyond

Cooper, Frederick and Ann Laura Stoler, "Between Metropole and Colony: Rethinking a research agenda" in *Tensions of Empire: Colonial Cultures in a Bourgeois World* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997), pp. 1-56.

Bayly, Chris A., *The birth of the modern world 1780-1914* (Malden, Oxford, and Victoria: Blackwell, 2004), pp. 199-243 ('Nation, Empire, and Ethnicity, c. 1860-1900')

Week 9 (27 November): Globalization – Introductory Texts

Osterhammel, Jürgen, and Niels P. Petersson, *Globalization: a short history*, trans. by Dona Geyer (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2005), pp.1-111.

Bayly, Chris A., *The birth of the modern world 1780-1914* (Malden, Oxford, and Victoria: Blackwell, 2004), pp. 27-48 ('Old Regimes and "Archaic Globalization"'), 451-87 ('Conclusion: The Great Acceleration, c.1890-1914')

Week 10 (4December): Globalization – The debate

Dirlik, Arif, *Global modernity: modernity in the age of global capitalism* (Boulder and London: Paradigm, 2007), pp. 10-61 (Chapter 2: 'Thinking Globalization Historically')

Hopkins, A.G., 'Introduction: globalization – an agenda for historians', in A.G. Hopkins (ed.), *Globalization in world history* (London: Pimlico, 2002), pp. 1-10

—, 'The history of globalization – and the globalization of history?' in A.G. Hopkins (ed.), *Globalization in world history* (London: Pimlico, 2002), pp. 11-46

Week 11 (11 December):Colonialism - Introduction

Osterhammel, Jürgen, *Colonialism: a theoretical overview*, trans. by Shelley L. Frisch (Princeton: Markus Wiener, 2002), pp. 1-38

Burbank, Jane and Frederick Cooper, *Empires in World History: Power and the Politics of Difference* (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2010), pp. 287-329 ('Imperial Repertoires and Myths of Modern Colonialism')

Von Strandmann, HarmutPogge, "The Purpose of German Colonialism, or the Long Shadow of Bismarck's Colonial Policy," in Volker Langbehn and Mohammad Salama, eds., *German Colonialism: Race, the Holocaust, and Postwar Germany* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2011),pp. 193-214.

Week 12 (18 December):Colonialism and modernity

Dirlik, Arif, *Global modernity: modernity in the age of global capitalism* (Boulder and London: Paradigm, 2007), pp. 89-132 (Chapter 4: 'Legacies: The Global and the Colonial')

Maier, Chares S., 'Transformations of territoriality', in GunillaBudde, Sebastian Conrad, and Oliver Janz (eds.), *Transnationale Geschichte: Themen, Tendenzen und Theorien* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck&Ruprecht, 2006), pp. 32-55

Moses, A. Dirk, "Empire, Colony, Genocide: Keywords and the Philosophy of History," in *Empire, Colony, Genocide: Conquest, Occupation, and Subaltern Resistance in World History* (New York and Oxford: Berghahn, 2008), pp. 3-54.

Week 13 (25 December):Recent approaches: Globalization applied to national histories; empire as state independent of modernity

(Take-home final exam questions will be distributed)

Conrad, Sebastian, *Globalisation and the Nation in Imperial Germany* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 27-76

Burbank, Jane and Frederick Cooper, *Empires in World History: Power and the Politics of Difference* (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2010), 1-22 ('Imperial Trajectories')

TAKE-HOME FINALS DUE: Tuesday, 21 JANUARY, 12:00 noon.