

British Political Culture in the World: postcolonial narratives from the history of the British Empire

Course Syllabus

1. Definitions of postcolonial narrative, the subject-matters of postcolonial criticism
 - a) Colonial literature;
 - b) Contemporary critique (1890s to 1940s)
 - c) Exploring the postcolonial political and collective psychological landscape; postcolonial theory

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (1978); meaning, method, interpretation, outcome

2. Rudyard Kipling, *The White Man's Burden* ([1897?] 1899)
Michael Howard, 'Empire, Race and War in pre-1914 Britain', *The Lessons of History*, New Heaven: Yale University Press, 1991 (Oxford Paperbacks, 1993, pp. 63-80.)

3. Andrea Levy, *Small Island* (2004), *The Long Song* (2010) Enoch Powell, *Rivers of Blood* (1968)

4. India 1

The Raj

- a) British East India Company 1600 – role in Qing China
- b) Robert Clive (Governor 1757-60) and British supremacy in Bengal (Chaudhuri's 1975 biography)
- c) Warren Hastings (Governor 1772-74, Governor-General 1782-85) and the General Presidency of Fort William, Calcutta, Bengal (built 1696-1702)
- d) Regulating Act of 1773;
- e) William Pitt's East India Company Act, 1784 (Board of Control);
- f) Charter Act (1833)
- g) Indian Rebellion of 1857 (Sepoy Mutiny, First War of Independence)
- h) Government of India Act 1858
- i) Partition and Independence, 1947 – Lord Mountbatten – Jawaharlal Nehru and Mohammad Ali Jinnah

Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, 1901.

Herbert Paul, 'The Indian Mutiny' in *A History of Modern England*, 5 vols, Volume 2, London: Macmillan & Co., 1904, pp. 91-126.

E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, 1924.

5. India 2

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*, 1981.

Nirad C. Chaudhuri, *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian*, 1951

Rajiv Mehrotra, director, *Nirad C. Chaudhuri, A portrait at 95*, a film portrait, 1992.

6. India 3

The Black Hole of the Mind (The Black Hole of Calcutta, 1756)

Jan Dalley, *The Black Hole: Money, Myth and Empire*, London: Penguin (Fig Tree), 2006.

Paul Scott, *The Raj Quartet*, 1965-75 (perhaps the ‘most important landmark’ in post-war British fiction, *The Times*)

7. David Livingstone (1813-1873), Cecil Rhodes (1853-1902) and the scramble for Africa.
Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness* (1899); *Victory* (1915).

Sven Lindquist, “Exterminate All the Brutes”: *One Man’s Odyssey into the Heart of Darkness and the Origins of European Genocide*, New York, London: The New Press, 1992.

8. Postcolonial mind and heritage within the British Isles 1

Living with the Empire: Empire of the Seas, BBC Radio 4, 10 October 2018 (Bristol)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0000nfd>

Living with the Empire: Empire of Stone, BBC Radio 4, 17 October 2018 (London, The Great Exhibition (1851), Sir Edwin Lutyens) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0000qlb>

9. Postcolonial mind and heritage within the British Isles 2

Wales: the legacy of Owain Glyndwr (1359-1415) *In Our Time*, January 2019

Scotland: Bannockburn (1314), Flodden (1513), The Glencoe Massacre, 1692 (*In Our Time*, January 2010) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b00pxrr7>

Ireland, BBC Radio 4, *Analysis: Irish Questions*, 25 February 2019

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0002rks>

10. Eastern and Central Europe and ‘the Balkans’

Postcolonial societies and polities in the European Union?

11. Brexit 1

The political and sociological background

Enoch Powell resurrected?

12. Brexit 2

Brexit as a post-imperial project

Danny Dorling & Sally Tomlinson, *Brexit and the End of Empire: Rule Britannia*, London: Biteback Publishing, 2019.