

HIS 465 IMPERIALISM IN THE 19TH & 20TH CENTURIES

Kenneth J. Orosz

Fall 2023

Class Meetings:

TR 1:40-2:55 Bacon 214A

Office Hours: Wed. 10:00-12:00

And by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course surveys modern European imperialism in Asia and Africa from 1800 through decolonization. Although some attention will be paid to theories of imperialism, emphasis will be on the political and social history of European imperial expansion. This will include an exploration of the clash between European and native cultures as well as examining the effects of this conflict on the development of colonial rule.¹

OFFICE HOURS

While I will be available in my office for face to face meetings during office hours, I am also available for virtual meetings. To take advantage of virtual office hours click on the appropriate menu button in Brightspace to reveal the Zoom link. Contact me via email if you cannot make regularly attended office hours so that we can set up an appointment.

TUTORING SERVICES

Buffalo State offers a wide variety of free tutoring services, including a Writing Center. For more information go to the [tutoring website](#).

REQUIREMENTS:

Academic misconduct (including cheating, plagiarism, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to do your work for you) will not be tolerated. Buffalo State College policies on academic misconduct, including the possible use of textual similarity detection software, are outlined in the college catalog. **Please note that the minimum penalty for cases of academic misconduct will be an F on the assignment.**

Reading assignments are to be completed by the dates given. There will be a midterm and a final examination. Please note that in order to earn more than a B on the essay portion of the exams you must make use of the relevant assigned readings and historical documents. In addition students will write two 5 page analysis papers of assigned texts (Kneale and Orwell) and a 10-12 page paper on a topic of their choice. All topics for the research papers must be authorized by me and must conform to the geographic and temporal confines of this course. As part of this process students are required to submit their paper topics in the form of written proposals no later than **October 24**. Failure to submit a passing proposal means that your paper will not be accepted and you will earn an E for that portion of the course. All papers and reviews must conform to the [History Style Sheet](#). Detailed instructions on the writing assignments, including the style sheet, can be found in Brightspace or by clicking the syllabi and course materials links at <http://faculty.buffalostate.edu/oroszkj>. Help for Brightspace can be found at <https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/learners/learners.htm>.

¹ Learning Outcomes: Student demonstrates knowledge of a) a broad outline of world history or b) at least one other world civilization/multi-cultural region in one or more historical period, including cultures, geography, institutions, societies, politics and economies; analyzes ways of thought in one or more historical period including at least two foundational fields of thought; classifies an era in terms of historical periodization, continuities and discontinuities, in the development of a non-western civilization or multi-cultural region; identifies information and ideas from at least one other world civilization/multi-cultural region and applies them to other world civilizations/multi-cultural regions (critical thinking)

Please note that in order to pass this course you must make a good faith attempt to complete all components and requirements. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR ARRANGEMENT.** Incompletes will be granted at the sole discretion of the instructor and require a written application outlining the rationale for granting an incomplete, a list of outstanding assignments and a timetable for their completion. This application must be signed and, if granted, will constitute a formal contract for the completion of the course.

At the collegiate level grades are based on mastery of content, methodology, and presentation, regardless of how hard you feel you worked on an assignment. Grades will be computed as follows:

Grades will be computed as follows:

Midterm Exam	25%	Final Exam	25%
Kneale Analysis	15%	Research Paper	20%
Orwell Analysis	15%		

COURSE POLICIES

1. Students must complete all work on their own. There are no group projects.
2. **The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is strictly forbidden and will be considered cheating since it is a computer, rather than the student, completing assignments.** **As with other cases of academic misconduct, the minimum penalty will be an F on the assignment.**
3. Except for cases of documented emergencies, I do not accept late work without prior arrangement. It is your responsibility to keep track of what is due each week by checking the syllabus.

RESEARCH PAPER PROPOSALS

Use of AI to write your paper is cheating and will be dealt with as such. All topics for the research papers must be authorized by me and must conform to the geographic and temporal confines of this course. Proposals must be submitted in writing and should consist of a sentence or two outlining your topic followed by a preliminary bibliography of 8-10 scholarly sources in which you provide complete publication information. The use of encyclopedias and websites beyond those already assigned are not allowed. Do not restrict yourself to what is present in our library, since our collection in African history is incomplete and often dated. To find books you will need to make use of the library's Worldcat Discovery database; if we do not own the text, you will then need to order it via interlibrary loan. You can find peer reviewed journal articles by using the library's JSTOR and Project Muse databases.

The bibliography of passed proposals can be amended via a simple email to your instructor. While proposals are due **October 5**, you can change your topic by submitting a new proposal for approval until the day the paper is due. This is the only assignment with this kind of flexibility. Please note that if I do not have a passed proposal on file when I begin grading, I will not read your paper and you will receive an F on the assignment. If you choose to gamble by turning in your revised proposal with your paper on **December 7** you run the risk that your proposal will fail and your paper will be rejected unread.

SUBMITTING PAPERS

Submitting papers requires a 3 part process:

1. You must pass a quiz confirming that you have read and followed the directions

before the Dropbox will appear. This quiz will become available the Course Activities tab 2 weeks before the assignment is due and can be retaken as needed.

2. If you have successfully completed the quiz, then the Dropbox will appear in the Assignments section of the Course Activities tab. You must upload your paper as a word document (.doc or .docx only) to the Turnitin dropbox by **3:00 PM** on the due date.
3. You must bring a printed and stapled copy and turn it in during class time on the due date. **I will not grade any papers that have not been submitted to the dropbox and for which I do not also have a paper copy.**

Note: You may submit revisions of your paper up until the due date. Among the things you should check is the Turnitin Originality Report to help guard against plagiarism. To see the report click on the colored rectangular icon next to your submission. If the icon is gray, your report is still being processed; check back within the next 24 hours.

BOOKS: The following books are required reading and are available in the Bookstore:

Lawrence James, <u>The Rise and Fall of the British Empire</u>	978-0-312-16985-5
Zareer Masani, <u>Indian Tales of the Raj</u>	978-0-520-07127-8
Margaret Strobel, <u>European Women & 2nd British Empire</u>	978-0-253-20631-2
Mike Vann, <u>The Great Hanoi Rat Hunt</u>	978-0-190-60269-7
Matthew Kneale, <u>English Passengers</u>	978-0-385-49744-2
George Orwell, <u>Burmese Days</u>	978-0-156-14850-4

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS:

Any reading listed on the syllabus that does not come from a required textbook is either a website or has been posted to Brightspace. To further help you identify them, supplemental readings are in italics. They can be accessed in one of 3 ways: 1) If it is a website, there will be a link to it from the electronic version of the syllabus available in Brightspace or on my web page at <http://faculty.buffalostate.edu/oroszki>. Please note that Alice Conklin's *European Imperialism* reader is available online from the Internet Archive Library; to read it, you must first create an account and then check out the book. 2) Materials highlighted in blue have been uploaded to weekly folders in the Supplemental Readings section of Brightspace. A) If the item is a PDF, simply click on it to open and read. B) If it is a PowerPoint, click the down arrow next to the file name and select download from the menu (files are large, so do on WiFi only). Navigate to your download folder and open the file. Follow the directions on the first slide to get it to play.

C. A. Bayly, "From Company to Crown" In: C. A. Bayly, The Raj: India and the British 1600-1947 (London: National Portrait Gallery, 1990), 130-140

Robert Bickers, "Chinese Burns: Britain in China 1842-1900" History Today 50, no.8 (August 2000): 10-17

Huw v. Bowen, "400 Years of the East India Company," History Today 50, no. 7 (July 2000): 47-53

Chandavarkar, "Strangers in the Land" In: Bayly, The Raj, 368-379

Joseph Coohill, "Indian Voices from the 1857 Rebellion" History Today 57, no. 5 (May 2007): 48-54

Alice Conklin and Ian Fletcher (eds), European Imperialism 1830-1930 (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999)

Peter Marshal, "The Making of the Hybrid Raj" *History Today* 47, no. 9 (September 1997): 4-9

Francis Robinson, "The Raj and the Nationalist Movements 1911-1947" In: Bayly *The Raj*, 350-360

Keith Sinclair, "The Maoris in New Zealand History," *History Today* 30, no. 7 (July 1980): 39-44

A. J. Stockwell, "Malayan Raj" *History Today* 27, no. 5 (May 1977): 306-315

David Washbrook, "After the Mutiny" *History Today* 47, no. 9 (Sept. 1997): 10-15

John C. Weaver "Beyond the Fatal Shore: Pastoral Squatting and the Occupation of Australia 1826-1840" *American Historical Review* 101, no. 4 (October 1996): 980-1008.

Glyndwr Williams, "English & Aborigines" *History Today* 38, no. 1 (January 1988): 33-39

Henry S. Wilson *The Imperial Experience in Sub-Saharan Africa Since 1870*
Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1977.

CLASS SCHEDULE

August 29 **Introduction and Old vs. "New" Imperialism**

August 31 **The Foundation of British India**

Read: James pp. 122-138, 151-168; Bowen, "400 Years"
Marshall, "Making Hybrid Raj"

September 5 **British Expansion on the Subcontinent**

Read: James p. 169-199; [Indian vs European Wages](#); [Background to Mutiny](#)

September 7 **The Indian Mutiny**

Read: Bayly, "From Company to Crown,"
Coohill, "Indian Voices;" [Vengeance General Neill](#)

September 12 **Australia: From Penal Colony to Gold Rush** **No in person class**

Read: [Australia I: Botany Bay](#); [Australia II: Emigration and Self Government](#)
James pp. 139-150; Weaver, "Beyond the Fatal Shore;"
Kneale novel

September 14 **The Settlement of New Zealand** **No in person class**

Read: [New Zealand I: Treaty of Wataingi](#); [New Zealand II: Settlement, Growth & War](#)
James pp. 307-318; Sinclair, "Maoris in NZ History;"
Williams, "English and Aborigines;" [Treaty of Waitangi](#)

September 19 **The Opium Wars and the End of Imperial China**

Read: James pp. 235-250; Bickers, "Chinese Burns;" [Rules to Regulate Foreigners](#);
[Chinese Perspective on Trade](#); [Lin Tse-Hsu to Queen Victoria](#);
[Treaty of Nanking](#); [Self Strengthening Movement](#)

September 21 **The Japanese Exception**

Read: James pp. 217-235;

- September 26 **Indonesia and Malaysia**
 Read: [Stockwell, "Malayan Raj";](#) [Culture System](#)
 Kneale analysis due
- September 28 **First Footsteps in Africa**
 Read: [Conrad novella Ch 1-3](#)
- October 3 **The New Imperialism and the Territorial Scrambles**
 Read: [Conklin pp 1-54;](#) [European Racism;](#) [Justification for Conquest of Egypt;](#)
[White Man's Burden](#)
- October 5 **Britain in Africa**
 Read: James pp. 251-306; [Conklin pp 55-81;](#) [Why Whites Must Rule;](#) [Pride;](#)
[Lugard's Views;](#) [Blank Treaty;](#) [Rhodes and Lobengula;](#)
 Paper Topics Due
- October 10 **No Class**
- October 12 **La France Outre-Mer**
 Read: Vann pp. 132-140, 199-231; [Vietnamese Edict;](#) [Ferry's Defense of Imperialism;](#)
[Colonial Phnom Penh](#)
- October 17 **Other Colonial Powers**
 Read: [Wilson, Imperial Experience;](#) [Congo Atrocities;](#) [Casement Report;](#)
[Missionary Report on Congo](#)
- October 19 **Midterm**
- October 24 **Colonial Systems in Operation**
 Read: Masani pp. 1-50; [Running your Empire;](#) [Malcolm Darling's First Case;](#)
[Law vs Custom;](#)
- October 26 **Colonial Systems in Operation II**
 Read: [Conklin pp 81-95, 117-124;](#) Vann Part I and pp. 166-167, 173-177, 184-189
- October 31 **Colonial Culture and Society**
 Read: [Life in Shanghai](#) [Life in the Bungalows;](#) [Colonial Crimes: Human Zoos](#)
[Imperial Diversions;](#) Interviews part [One;](#) part [Two;](#) [Conklin pp 139-165](#)
- November 2 **Groups on the Margins I: Indigenous Peoples**
 Read: Masani, pp. 51-80; [Conklin pp 97-110;](#) [Chandavarkar, "Strangers in the Land;"](#)
[Never the Twain?](#)
- November 7 **Groups on the Margins II: Women and Imperialism**
 Read: Strobel; [Civilization Through the Bed;](#) [Conklin pp 111-117, 124-138](#)
- November 9 **Australia and New Zealand: Gold Rush to Dominion Status**
 Read: James pp. 319-333; Orwell novel

- November 14 **The Raj at its Zenith**
 Read: James pp. 200-216; [Washbrook, "After the Mutiny;"](#) [Benefits of British Rule](#)
- November 16 **The Great War**
 Read: James pp. 334-370; [Extra European Theaters of War](#); [Conklin pp 165-180](#)
- November 21 **Inter-war Colonialism**
 Read: James pp. 428-481; [British policy in Kenya](#); [French Repression in Vietnam](#);
 Orwell analysis due
- November 23 **No Class**
- November 28 **The Rise of Colonial Nationalism**
 Read: James pp. 386-427; Masani pp. 81-119; [General Dyer's Testimony](#);
[Robinson, "The Raj and Nationalist Movements"](#)
- November 30 **World War II**
 Read: James pp. 482-521; Masani pp. 120-130; [WW II in Asia](#); [Conklin pp 181-189](#)
- December 5 **Decolonization I**
 Read: James pp. 525-572; Masani pp. 130-164; [Brazzaville Conference](#);
[Gandhi & Non-violence](#); [Conklin pp 189-220](#)
- December 7 **Decolonization II**
 Read: James pp. 573-630; [Mau Mau Terror](#); [Fallacies Imperialism](#)
 Research Papers Due
- December 14 **Final Exam 1:40-3:30**

Instructions for Writing Assignments

Students in this course are required to do their own original work, hence **the use of artificial intelligence (AI) constitutes cheating and is strictly forbidden** because it is a computer, rather than the student, doing the assignment. **The minimum penalty for violating this policy is an F for the assignment, but in most cases students will also receive a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Academic Misconduct Committee for possible additional penalties.**

While your papers will be graded primarily on content and the strength of your arguments, grammatical accuracy, style, presentation and organization will also be taken into account. As with a medical diagnosis, your arguments will be stronger if you can offer second opinions, hence your papers should, wherever possible, include supporting evidence drawn from more than one source. All papers are required to adhere to the History Style Sheet which is available in Blackboard and on my web site. Failure to follow the style sheet will result in significant penalties; these consist of at least the loss of a full letter grade for each category of violation (i.e. use of contractions will cost you a letter grade, reducing an A paper to a B). This includes paper length, non-standard fonts, margins and line spacing. Please note that a short paper is not necessarily a bad paper; I am primarily interested in what you have to say, how well you say it and if you have developed your thesis and argument sufficiently.

As you write your papers feel free to paraphrase or quote suitable passages that illustrate your points. However, if you quote or paraphrase, you must cite the relevant passage. You must also cite detailed information (i.e. statistics or items that are not common knowledge). Proper citation formats

can be found in the History Style Sheet. Please note that in addition to enforcing Buffalo State College's policies on academic misconduct, including the possible use of textual similarity detection software, **the minimum penalty for plagiarism is an F on the assignment.**² For more information on plagiarism, how to footnote, or how to write a research paper consult the relevant sections of Benjamin's *A Student's Guide to History*. If you are still unclear about when or how to cite please come see me during my office hours. That is why I am there.

Since much of what is out on the internet is of dubious quality, **the use of web pages as source material is strictly forbidden** unless authorized by me in writing. The only exceptions to this rule are the individual web sites that I have assigned as required reading material. On a similar note, **the use of encyclopedias is also forbidden**. While they may be useful reference tools or for providing an overview of a particular topic, encyclopedias have no place in college level work. Articles in historical encyclopedias (i.e. *The Encyclopedia of European Social History*) may be acceptable, but must first be cleared by me in writing.

I am obviously a firm believer in written assignments since they help develop organizational, analytical and communication skills, all of which are things you will need in the workplace. Consequently, I expect you to treat all graded assignments (in this or any other class) as preparations for your future career. Turning in business reports that are filled with grammatical errors, failures in logic, poor argumentation and lack of evidence portrays a degree of incompetence, even if it is undeserved, and will probably get you fired. Get in the habit now of proofreading your work to catch typos, misspellings and nonsensical statements. Read your papers aloud to see how they sound. Better still, have a friend or roommate read your work since they are more likely to notice any problems. Most of you will be writing your papers on wordprocessors. No matter what program you use, they all have spell checkers. It is silly and self-defeating not to make use of them.

While I do not allow rewrites once papers have been graded, I will read and comment on rough drafts if I am given enough time. Alternatively, you may want to consult either the campus writing center or some of the history tutors for help or advice. Keep your notes and copies of your paper to facilitate rewrites and to safeguard against loss, computer errors, random destruction by pets and similar catastrophes. Finally, and most importantly, if you are having any problems in this course come see me.

Book Analysis Papers

All students will write 2 five page (1500 word) analyses of Kneale's *English Passengers* and Orwell's *Burmese Days*. Since these are analyses and not "book reports" I am not interested in plot summaries. Similarly, I am not interested in whether you liked the book or found it interesting. Your review should analyze and critique the author's portrayal of some of the historical events or themes covered in this course. Use the following questions as a guide when reading and thinking about the review; they are, however, by no means all inclusive, nor do you need to answer each one. How does the novel portray historical events or themes covered in class? For example, how do they depict the impact of European colonial rule on indigenous societies? What insights do the novels provide on historical issues like the role of women or missionaries, the rise of colonial nationalism or the onset of the world wars? How accurate are these depictions? Have they added to your understanding of European imperialism? You will need to be selective in choosing which elements to include in your papers since both works are very complex and illustrate many historical trends.

²Buffalo State College, *Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023*, [Academic Misconduct](#).

As you will discover, 5 pages provides barely enough room to introduce a topic, let alone go into much detail. Hence, your papers should have a narrowly defined thesis and must be very selective in both their use and presentation of supporting evidence or examples. Since these papers are so short keep quotations to a minimum so that you will have more room to develop your own thoughts and arguments. Your analysis must draw upon and cite specific examples from the novel as well as corroborating historical evidence drawn from other class materials in order to support your points. Use of multiple corroborating sources will produce a stronger paper. **There is ample material on which to base your book analyses papers in assigned course materials (lectures and readings); if you wish to use outside materials, you must first obtain permission from me in writing.**

Research Paper

In addition to the book analyses, all students will write a 10-12 page (3000-3600 word) paper on a topic of their own choice. While the actual topics for your papers are up to you, they must remain within the geographical and temporal confines of this course. The paper should analyze some facet of 19th and 20th century European imperialism in Africa or Asia in detail. To that end, and to help you identify sources, all paper topics must be cleared with me first in the form of a written paper proposal due no later than **October 5**. Complete proposals will outline your topic, the specific issues you intend to address, and must include a bibliography. If, after you have begun researching and writing your paper, you choose to use additional sources, you must submit an amended bibliography to me in writing. **Papers that use unauthorized materials will not be accepted. Similarly, papers that deviate significantly from your research proposal will also not be accepted.** This does not mean, however, that you are permanently locked in to a particular paper topic; if you change your mind and opt to pursue some other topic you must submit a new paper proposal which may or may not be accepted at my discretion. Completed papers are due in class on **December 7**.

Some possible paper topics include:

Opium and the Development of British India
Education in the French Colonial Empire
Decolonization and Post-colonial Problems

The New Zealand Wars
The Indian Mutiny
Native Policy in Belgian Africa