

HIS 201Q Gender and Comparative Colonialism
CCWgH Seminar, Spring 2007
Thur 6:10-9:00, Soc Sci 2202

Dr. Lisa Materson

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Course Description: This year's Cross Cultural Women's and gender History seminar will examine the gendered history of colonialism and empire. Students in this course will examine the diverse ways that gender has intervened in colonial projects undertaken in North America, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Through this lens of gender and colonialism, readings will examine topics such as the relationship between knowledge and power, the politics of representation, class and racial formation, sexuality, masculinity, nation-building, citizenship, and nationalism.

Required Texts:

- *Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism* (Verso, 1983).
- *Laura Briggs, *Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science and US Imperialism in Puerto Rico* (California, 2002).
- Antoinette Burton, *Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865-1915* (UNC, 1994).
- *Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*. (New York, 1995).
- Mary A Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism* (UNC, 2001).
- *Edward Said, *Orientalism* (Vintage, 1978).
- Irene Silverblatt, *Moon, Sun, and Witches: Gender Ideologies and Class in Inca and Colonial Peru*.
- **Recasting Women: Essays in Indian History*, ed. K. Sangari and S. Vaid (Kali for Women, 1989).
- Lynn M. Thomas, *Politics of the Womb: Women, Reproduction, and the State in Kenya* (California, 2003).
- *Elizabeth Thompson, *Colonial Citizens: Republican Rights, Paternal Privilege, and Gender in French Syria and Lebanon* (Columbia, 2000).
- Course Reader (*Indicates items contained in course reader)

Books with an * are available at the UCD bookstore in the Memorial Union. Please look into purchasing the other books over the internet. The course reader is available at Navin's Copyshop, 231 3rd St.

Course Requirements and Grading: Grading will be based on class participation (50%) and written work (50%)

- Discussion is a major component of the class. Students are expected to come to class having prepared the assigned readings and ready to discuss them.
- Each student will lead two discussion meetings. At the beginning of class, the designated leader(s) will distribute a write-up of the key themes and questions that will guide the discussion.
- Each student will prepare brief 1-2 pages precis critiquing the readings for three different class meetings. The precis are due at the beginning of each respective class and should not correspond with weeks that a student is leading class discussion.
- For the final assignment, each student will submit a 15-20 page paper on a topic related to the course. During the last two classes, students will give presentations on their final essays. Papers are due on June 8 by 4 pm.

Course Outline

March 29 Introduction

April 5 Knowledge and Power

Edward Said, *Orientalism*.

*Ann Laura Stoler, "Rethinking Colonial Categories: European Communities and the Boundaries of Rule," in *Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power* (California, 2002), 41-78.

April 12 Communities and Nationalism

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*.

Partha Chatterjee, "The Nationalist Resolution of the Women's Questions," in *Recasting Women: Essays in Indian History*, eds. K. Sangari and S. Vaid (Kali for Women, 1989), pp. 233-253.

April 19 Domesticity, Sexuality, and Violence

Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*, 1-289.

*Chunghee Sarah Soh, "Aspiring to Craft Modern Gendered Selves: 'Comfort Women' and Chongsindae in Late Colonial Korea," *Critical Asian Studies* 36.2 (2004): 175-98.

- April 26 Suffrage
- Antoinette Burton, *Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865-1915*.
- *Mina Roces, "Is the Suffragist an American Colonial Construct: Defining 'the Filipino Woman' in Colonial Philippines," in *Women's Suffrage in Asia*, eds. Louise Edwards and Mina Roces (Routledge, 2004).
- May 3 Masculinity
- Mary A. Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism*.
- May 10 Citizenship (Guest of Seminar)
- Elizabeth Thompson, *Colonial Citizens: Republican Rights, Paternal Privilege, and Gender in French Syria and Lebanon*.
- May 17 Modernity and Tradition
- Lynn M. Thomas, *Politics of the Womb: Women, Reproduction, and the State in Kenya*.
- Lata Mani, "Contentious Traditions: The Debate on Sati in Colonial India" in *Recasting Women: Essays in Indian History*, eds. K. Sangari and S. Vaid (Kali for Women, 1989), pp. 88-126.
- May 24 Reproduction
- Laura Briggs, *Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science and US Imperialism in Puerto Rico*.
- May 31 Looking Backward Chronologically
- Irene Silverblatt, *Moon, Sun, and Witches: Gender Ideologies and Class in Inca and Colonial Peru*.
- *Beverly Bossler, "Gender and Empire: A View from Yuan China." *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 34.1 (Winter, 2004): 197-223.