Description: How did the United Nations grow from 51 to 183 member states between 1945 and 1994? Largely through epochal decolonization: the end of direct European control over vast areas of the earth. The worlds of cultural and political analysis have both contributed and responded to this shift, producing a forceful body of writings named colonial and postcolonial critique. This course examines key documents, questions, and themes in that vast body of writing. Then, we will meaningfully add to it.

Course Recommended For: juniors (and very strong sophomores) and above who have already begun serious work in any discipline (political science, literature, history, anthropology, etc.) in which colonial, post-colonial, or first/third world encounters are assessed.

Content: The course begins with classic statements by Fanon, Césaire, Ngugi and Walcott, on psychology, mimicry, and resistance. The mid-point pivot is Edward Said’s *Orientalism*. From there we cover diverse postcolonial topics such as anthropology, gender, Native America, development, the institutionalization of post-colonial studies, and more. Two works of fiction and memoir richly explore course themes. We will not attempt full geographic, regional, or thematic coverage.

Course Conduct: The class will be run as a seminar – a joint exploration. Close reading and discussion of texts will be mixed with presentations by class members and the instructor.

Evaluation:

- Preliminary paper: absolute requirement
- Roundtable attendance: strongly recommended
- Postcolonial geo-historical quiz (minimum grade of B): 7%
- A compact oral presentation of a postcolonial-studies book: 8%
- Two mid-length (6-7 page) papers: 15 + 15 = 30%
- Active and insightful class participation: 20%
- A longer (12-15 page) final theory or research paper: 35%

Notes: Timely class attendance is integral to the course and its grade. Inform me in advance of conflict with any religious holidays, and/or any relevant disabilities; we’ll arrange acceptable alternatives and/or accommodations, and your grades will be unaffected.

Paper format: See my full PDF roster of format requirements and writing advice on my I.S. faculty page. You are responsible for all format requirements. (They include, but are not limited to, double-spacing, numbered pages, 1” margins all around, 12-point font, un-numbered title page with a good title, generous acknowledgements of all helpers and works used at the paper’s end.) Physical papers are due under my office door by the day and time noted, and drop 1/2 grade per day from that point.
Schedule:
The date of the Monday class is listed for each week. All reading should be completed by the start of Monday’s class unless otherwise specified.

I. Classic Statements:
1 S3 Wed: Introduction, housekeeping, aims and scope
   n.b.: preliminary paper, on Fanon’s “The Lived Experience of the Black (Man)” (a.k.a. “The Fact of Blackness”) due Thursday, Sept 4, by 1:00 pm under my office door; this is an absolute course requirement: no exceptions or late papers accepted.
   Fri: discussion of Fanon, and course administration.

2 S8 The Empire Writes Back
   M-W: Frantz Fanon, “The Fact of Blackness,” from Black Skin, White Masks, 1952
   M-W: Aimé Césaire, Discourse on Colonialism (including interview), 1955
   F: First chapter (“On Violence”) of Fanon’s The Wretched of the Earth

3 S15 Fanon [note no class on Wednesday this week]
   M, F: Frantz Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth, 1961 (read entire book except for the “Spontaneity” chapter and four case-studies)

4 S22 Questions of Mimicry
   Derek Walcott, “The Caribbean: Culture or Mimicry?” 1974
   Katherine Boo, “The Americanization of Chennai,” 2004
   Thomas Macaulay, “Minute on Indian Education,” 1835

5 S29 Literary Interlude – Weapons of the Weak?
   M, W: Ferdinand Oyono, Houseboy, 1956
   Fri: Oyono worldwide, and DCM Said lecture on post-structuralism and Foucault

II. Pivot:
6 O6 Said’s Orientalism
   Paper 1 due Thursday, October 9, at 1:00 p.m. under my office door

Note: the very rich and diverse Macalester International Roundtable, this year on human migration, is Wed-Sat, October 8-11. Attendance is strongly recommended.

7 O13 The Challenge of Orientalism
   M & W: Said, the 1994 Afterword to his Orientalism, pp. 329-352
   Richard G. Fox, “East of Said,” 1993
   Friday October 17th: postcolonial geo-historical quiz in class

III. Trajectories:
8 O20 Colonialism, Gender, and Race
   Ann Laura Stoler, Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power, rev. ed. 2010
   [Fall Break Th-Fri October 23-24: no Friday class this week]
The Question of Anthropology, and Self-Colonization
Friday: in-class writing workshop

Debates on Postcolonial Theory
Eduardo Galeano, Open Veins of Latin America, Introduction, 1971
Aijaz Ahmad, “Jameson’s Rhetoric of Otherness …,” 1987
Ella Shohat, “Notes on the “Post-Colonial”,” 1992
Aihwa Ong, “Maids, Neoslavery, and NGOs,” 2006

Paper 2 due Thursday, November 6, at 1:00 pm under my office door

Literary Interlude – African Memoir II
Noo Saro-Wiwa, Looking for Transwonderland, 2012

Nativeness, Indigeneity, and the United States

Workshop
M: workshop for final paper projects, based on pre-circulated prospecti
[Thanksgiving is Thurs November 27: no Wed or Fri class this week]

Development as (Post) Colonialism?
William Easterly, The Tyranny of Experts, 2014

Monday t.b.d.  Wednesday’s concluding class will focus on course evaluation


Final papers due Monday, December 15, by 2:00 pm under my office door.

Course Books (in order of reading; available at campus bookstore)
2. Fanon, Frantz. The Wretched of the Earth [1961]. The Constance Farrington or the Richard
the 1994 “Afterword” on pp 329-352
5. Stoler, Ann Laura. Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial
8. Easterly, William. The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of

Plus a rich roster of 17 individual articles — contents page follows.
Students encouraged to read Césaire, Fanon, Oyono and Galeano in their original.
Some alterations may be made during the course of the semester.
Essay Readings

I.S. /English 367, Postcolonial Theory, Fall 2014, David Chioni Moore


