



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

4KP400 Imperialismen och den moderna världens framväxt, 7,5 högskolepoäng

4KP400 Imperialism and the Making of the Modern World, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

History, Colonial and postcolonial studies

Subject Group

Cultural Studies

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2019-09-18

Revised 2022-06-08 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2022

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for studies at the second level and 90 credits in the humanities or social sciences (including an independent project of at least 15 credits). English B/English 6 or the equivalent

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- describe the history of the main trends in imperialism from the mid-15th century and some major historiographical trends until today,
- critically evaluate the main conditions, causes and motives of colonialism and imperialism in various historical contexts,
- identify and explain strengths and weaknesses in some theories on imperialism and colonialism and discuss these in relation to their historiographic contexts,
- assess academic and other accounts of imperialism in relation to relevant theories, historic empirical material and contemporary sources.

Content

In this course students develop an understanding of the causes and consequences of imperialism and colonialism from the mid-15th century until today, focusing on the period of increasing imperialist expansion ca 1750–1914. The course specifically analyses the roles of imperial dominance and opposition in the making of the modern world, as well as its influence on contemporary society. Alternative views on the causes and effects of imperialism and colonialism are investigated from long-term historical, global and comparative perspectives. Some themes are discussed, including different types of dominance, inequality, violence, boundaries, gender, race and civilisation. The course explores contemporary conflicts on imperial and colonial heritage, and current research debates.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures and seminars.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The course is examined continuously through written assignments and oral presentations in seminars and a final paper. If a student misses or fails a seminar, the examiner may allow the student to supplement this through a written assignment. The grade A is the highest grade and the grade E is the lowest grade for passing the course. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as failed. Assessment criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the students in a separate document. The students are informed about the assessment criteria when the course starts, at the latest.

If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Burbank, J. & Cooper, F. (latest edition). *Empires in world history: power and the politics of difference*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press (460 p.).

Majumdar, Rochona. (latest edition). *Writing postcolonial history*. London: Bloomsbury Academic (179 p.).

Smith, Bonnie G. (senaste upplaga). *Modern empires: a reader*. New York: Oxford University Press. (ca. 150 p.).

Additional literature in accordance with instructions from the teacher (ca 400 p.).

One individually chosen book, to be chosen in dialogue with the teacher (ca 300 p.).
Total ca 1500 p.

Recommended literature

Conklin, A. L. & Fletcher, I. C. (eds) (latest edition). *European imperialism, 1830-*

1930: climax and contradiction. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Cooper, F. (latest edition). *Colonialism in question: theory, knowledge, history*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Howe, S. (red.) (latest edition). *The new imperial histories reader*. London: Routledge.

Mommsen, Wolfgang J. (latest edition), *Theories of Imperialism*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Mundy, B.E. (2015) *The Death of Aztec Tenochtitlan, the Life of Mexico City Mundy*. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2015).

Said, E.W. (latest edition). *Culture and imperialism*. London: Vintage.

Stoler, A.L. (latest edition), *Duress: Imperial Durabilities in Our Times*. Durham: Duke University Press