

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

School:	CASS
Programme:	MA International Development
Level:	7
Course Title:	Imperialism and Post-Colonial Theory
Course Code:	DEV 7403
Course Leader:	Dr. Paul Rekret
Student Engagement Hours:	200
Lectures:	
Seminar / Tutorials:	45
Independent / Guided Learning:	155
Semester:	FALL and/or SPRING
Credits:	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

This course seeks to examine key arguments by theorists of postcolonialism and their implications for development studies. Postcolonial theory has offered some of the most profound critiques of Western modernity's self-representations and claims to truth and progress. Such critiques have significant potential to reconstruct dominant understandings of development, gender, social change and emancipation. Thinkers studied might include Edward Said, Gayatri Spivak, Frantz Fanon, Aimé Césaire, Aijaz Ahmad and Leopold Senghor. Themes studied might include empire, gender and sexual politics, representation, minorities in Europe and diaspora, decolonisation, resistance and liberation.

Pre-requisites: MA International Relations and MA International Development students only

Aims and Objectives:

- To extend the understanding of development students with regard to the theoretical and practical implications of postcolonial critiques of progress, truth, equality and imperialism.
- Understanding different approaches to culture, nationalism, multiculturalism, migration, gender and race in the context of post-colonial societies.

- To critically examine the assumptions, theories and practices that have defined traditional studies of relations between developed and underdeveloped states, and the alternative conceptualisation provided by concepts such as identity, culture, power, resistance and revolution
- To assess the significance of alternative epistemological positions that provide the context for theory construction, research design and the selection of appropriate analytical techniques.

Programme Outcomes:

Level 7 A, B, D, F, G

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the major thinkers and intellectual paradigms in post-colonial theory and their relevance to development studies
- Demonstrate the ability to develop critical responses to, and a systematic and historical understanding of, post-colonial theory in the context of development studies
- Design and undertake substantial investigations addressing key theories in International Development.
- Demonstrate the ability to exercise initiative in organising and pursuing projects and assignments in regard to the study of imperialism and post-colonial theory.
- Demonstrate the ability to gather, organise and effectively communicate complex and abstract ideas and diverse information in the context of global governance

Indicative Content:

- Theories of post-development
- Examination of nationalism in anti-colonial thought and movements
- Analysis of concepts of subjectivity; orientalism, diaspora and subalternity
- Examination of postcolonial criticisms of Western self-representations
- Key critics of postcolonial theory
- Postcolonial criticisms of development studies

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx>

Teaching Methodology:

