Empires have been consistent – but ever changing – forms of rule in the modern world. This course explores how empires and imperialism have connected the world by forging new forms of politics and culture from 1850 to 2011. It examines key dimensions of imperialism such as nationalism, capitalism, racism, and fascism in Asia, Europe, Africa, and America. Based largely on primary sources – novels, memoirs, official documents, and visual arts, including photographs and film – the course presents imperialism both as experienced in different societies and also in its global interconnectedness.

Prerequisites
None

Requirements
1. Weekly postings, attendance, presentation, and participation 30%
2. Two response papers 20%
   • 3-4 pages
4. One film or book review 10%
3. Final exam 40%

1. Introduction (9/6; 9/8)

Required Reading:

2. Theories of Empire and Imperialism (9/13; 9/15)

Required Reading:
Kôtoku Shûsui, Imperialism: the Specter of the Twentieth Century (1901) (selections).

I. NINETEENTH-CENTURY IMPERIAL CIVILIZATIONS
3. Civilizing Missions: Britain and Japan (9/20; 9/22)

Required Reading:
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902)


Required Reading:

5. Bourgeois (In)sensibilities I: Race (10/4; 10/6)

Required Reading:
Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (selections)

6. Bourgeois (In)sensibilities II: Gender (10/11; 10/13)

Required Reading:

Film (required; to be screened outside of class)
*Indochine* (dir.: Régis Wargnier, 1992)

II. INTERWAR ANTI-IMPERIALISM

7. Patterns of Resistance I: Pan-Asianism (10/18; 10/20)

Required Reading
Lu Xun, “The True Real of Ah Q”, in *The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China: The Complete Fiction of Lu Xun*, 79-123.

8. Patterns of Resistance II: Anti-Colonial Nationalism (10/25; 10/27)

Required Reading:
Read at Least Two:
Lee, Duncan Cambell, *The Mandate for Mesopotamia and the Principle of Trusteeship in English Law* (1921)
[http://www.archive.org/stream/cu31924052878265#page/n0/mode/2up](http://www.archive.org/stream/cu31924052878265#page/n0/mode/2up)
Annual Report to the League of Nations on the Administration of the South Sea Islands Under Japanese Mandate (1925)
Memorandum presented by the Greek members of the Turkish parliament to the American commission on mandates over Turkey (1919)
[http://www.archive.org/stream/memorandumpresen00amer#page/n1/mode/2up](http://www.archive.org/stream/memorandumpresen00amer#page/n1/mode/2up)

Optional:

9. World War II and Independence Movements in Southeast Asia (11/1; 11/3)

Required Reading:
Pramoedya Ananta Toer, *The Fugitive* (1947)

III. THE POSTCOLONIAL WORLD

10. Decolonization (11/10)

Required Viewing:
*Africa Addio* (Dir: Gualtiero Jacopetti, 1966)


11. Homecomings (11/15; 11/17)

Required Reading (and for Review)

12. The US Imperium and the Cold War (11/22)

Required reading:

Film (required; to be screened outside of class)
The Manchurian Candidate (dir: John Frankenheimer, 1962).

IV. THE WORLD TODAY

13. Neo-Imperialism and Neo-Liberalism (11/29; 12/1)

Required Reading
Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations,” Foreign Affairs 72:3 22-49
George W. Bush: The State of the Union Address (January 29, 2002)
Patrick Cockburn, The Occupation: War and Resistance in Iraq, 2006 (selections)

Film (optional)
Avatar

14. Summary (12/6; 12/8)