

**GEOG3429 Geographies of Transpacific Empire****TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT:** Annual; 2nd Semester**CREDITS:** 6**COURSE TEACHER:** Professor Wesley ATTEWELL**ASSESSMENT:**

EXAMINATION 50 %	COURSEWORK 50 %
• a two-hour exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short assignment</li> <li>• Midterm test</li> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course aims to help students arrive at a better understanding of how various forms of imperialism and (settler) colonialism have historically shaped and transformed everyday life in Pacific Rim cities such as Hong Kong, Vancouver, and Singapore, to name only a few examples. Students will be encouraged to think relationally across these various case studies of imperialism and colonialism in action.

**COURSE SYNOPSIS:**

This course offers an interdisciplinary and intersectional approach to the study of empire-building, colonialism, and settler militarism across the Pacific world. Through a close engagement with conventional academic readings, cultural production, and primary sources, we will explore how the everyday work of imperialism and colonialism across the region has always been grounded in the geographical management of racialized and gendered bodies, transnational circulations, and intimate encounters. Drawing inspiration from recent work in the fields of global Asian, inter-Asian, and Asian diaspora studies, we will pay special attention to the linkages between the various US, British, and Japanese imperial projects that shaped and transformed the geographies of everyday life across the Pacific. But we will also consider how the story of imperialism in the Pacific is not only a story of power and violence, but also one of revolution, liberation, and collective struggle.

**LECTURE TOPICS:**

- Introduction: Keywords in transpacific studies
- Tea wars
- The white man's burden in the Philippines
- Asia for Asians
- Settler Militarism in the Decolonizing Pacific
- Wartime detention and the Korean police action
- Counterinsurgency in Vietnam
- Refugee geographies
- Diasporas and the settler project
- The Belt and Road and the new geographies of empire
- Pop Empires
- Decolonization, Demilitarization, Abolition

**RECOMMENDED READING LIST:**

- Gregory, Derek. 2004. *The Colonial Present: Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq* (Cambridge: Blackwell, 2004).
- Jung, Moon-Ho. 2022. *Menace to Empire: Anticolonial Solidarities and the Transpacific Origins of the US Security State* (Berkeley: The University of California Press).
- Man, Simeon. 2019. *Soldiering Through Empire: Race and the Making of the Decolonizing Pacific* (Berkeley: The University of California Press).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs) <sup>*</sup>						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Explain key concepts, such as empire-building, settler colonialism, settler militarism, and the decolonizing Pacific	✓	✓	✓		✓		Short assignment, Midterm test. Essay & Exam
2	Understand the everyday geographies of empire-building and colonialism from an intersectional perspective	✓	✓					Short assignment, Midterm test. Essay & Exam
3	Describe how the afterlives of imperialism and colonialism continue to be felt by communities in the present	✓	✓				✓	Short assignment, Midterm test. Essay & Exam
4	Analyze the relevancy of geographical concepts such as space, place, and scale to the everyday work of imperialism and colonialism	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	Midterm test. Essay & Exam
5	Develop a transnational framework for holding the domestic and the foreign spheres in the same frame of analysis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Essay & Exam
6	Learn how to close read non-academic sources, such as cultural production and other kinds of primary sources.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Short assignment & Exam

### **\*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

**PLO1** critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

**PLO2** demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

**PLO3** identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

**PLO4** integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

**PLO5** participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

**PLO6** effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.