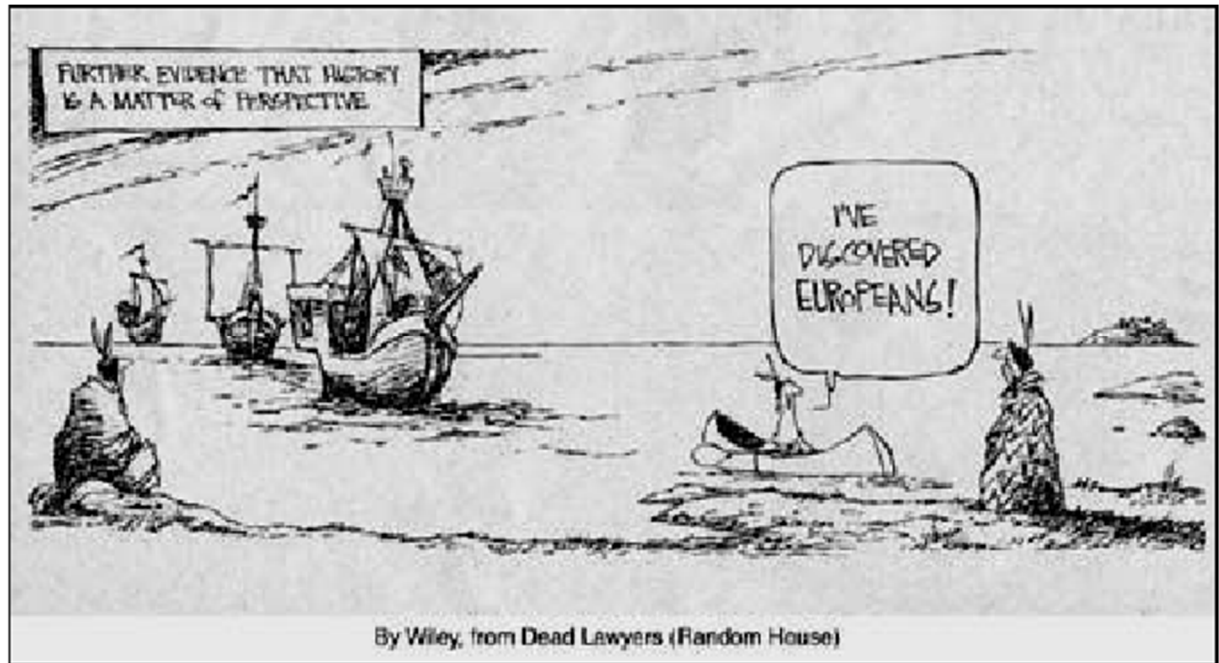


HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

LECTURER : ZEYNEP GULSAH CAPAN

TIME: MONDAYS 14-16



COURSE INTRODUCTION

The aim of the course is to introduce students to discussions about the history and historiography of international relations. The story of international relations is predominantly told as a European story that moves from the 'Age of Revolutions' to 1815 Concert of Europe and into the two World Wars and the Cold War. The aim of the course is to discuss the possibilities of different stories of the international that does not have Europe at its centre and focuses on the connections and internationals that have constituted the international.

REQUIREMENTS:

Students taking the course for 3 credits will be assessed based on participation and submission of worksheets that entail answers to the questions asked for each session. 6 have to be submitted for 3 credits.

Students taking the course for 6 credits will be assessed based on participation, the submission of 6 worksheets and book review comparing two books. The details of the book reviews are online.

ORGANIZATION OF COURSE

1. INTRODUCTION (4 May)

2. HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (11 May)

De Carvalho, B., Leira, H., & Hobson, J. M. (2011). The big bangs of IR: The myths that your teachers still tell you about 1648 and 1919. *Millennium*, 39(3), 735-758.

Rashomon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gq5OOan3-78>

Princess Bride : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiMOO1t0tZQ>

3. FACTORS (18 MAY)

What are different factors through which the development of international relations can be explained? How do they add/alter our understandings of international relations? What are other factors that might be important to think through historically that have been overlooked in explaining international relations?

Mintz, Sidney W. 1986. *Sweetness and power: The place of sugar in modern history*. New York: Penguin, Intro, Chapter 1 and 2

Timothy Mitchell, *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), ‘**Can the Mosquito Speak?**’, 19-53!

1918 Spanish Flu : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDY5COg2P2c>

4. CONCEPTS AND CATEGORIES (25 MAY)

What concepts and categories are seen as essential to understanding international relations? What are the spatio-temporal hierarchies inherent in these concepts and categories and how can we rethink them when writing history?

David Sneath (2007) *The Headless State*. Columbia University Press, **Introduction**.

Bernard Cohn (1996) *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge*. Princeton University Press, **Chapter 2**

Mahmood Mamdani, *State Formation and Conflict*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgB01or6dQg>

1 June Whit Monday No Classes

5. INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM (8 JUNE)

How is our understanding of international order shaped? How do we think of it spatially and temporally? How can it be rethought in different spatial and temporal terms and how would just a rethinking influence our narratives of international relations?

Abu-Lughod, Janet (1991) *Before European Hegemony: the world system A.D. 1250-1350*. Oxford University Press, Introduction

Michael Gomez (2018) *African Dominion: A New History of Empire and Medieval West Africa* Princeton University Press. Chap. 1 and 2

Michael Gomez, *West Africa in the Age of Ascent*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tcmwua6wkPw>

Sher Banu Khan, *Sovereign Women in a Muslim Kingdom*,
<https://podcasts.apple.com/de/podcast/new-books-in-history/id276412994?l=en&i=1000466942608>

6. MYTH OF ORIGINS (15 JUNE)

How does the myth of origins influence the narrative of international relations? Can origins be traced? What are the politics involved in tracing origins? What are the different 'origin' stories in international relations? What are their function in terms of structuring the narrative?

Bernal, Martin. 1987. *Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization. The Fabrication of Ancient Greece, 1785-1985. Volume I*. London: Vintage, Introduction,

Lefkowitz, Mary R. 'Ancient history, modern myths' in: Mary R. Lefkowitz and Guy McLean Rogers (eds.) *Black Athena revisited*, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 3-23.

America Before Columbus:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whP9RL5huhE&t=84s>

7. LINEARITY (22 JUNE)

How does our understanding of empires, nation-states and international system alter when the linearity of a change is problematized? What are the different trajectories imagined, conceptualized and negotiated? How does forgetting these imaginations, conceptualizations and negotiations work to narrate the international system in a specific manner.

Meredith Terretta (2010) 'Cameroonian Nationalists Go Global: From Forest Maquis to a Pan-African Accra', *The Journal of African History*, 51(2): 189-212.

Cooper, Frederick (2014) *Citizenship between Empire and Nation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1-25

8. PERIODIZATIONS (29 JUNE)

How do periodizations influence the narrative of events? What is the function of the periodizations being discussed in these articles? What do they enable – make natural – in the understanding of international relations? What do they silence in the understanding of international relations?

Shilliam, R. (2014). "Open the Gates Mek We Repatriate": Caribbean slavery, constructivism, and hermeneutic tensions. *International Theory*, 6(2), 349-372.

Kathleen Davis (2017) *Periodization and Sovereignty*. University of Pennsylvania Press, Introduction

Mexico: The Frozen Revolution (1973) :
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCs1dTNjzi0>

9. EVENTS (6 JULY)

Which events become known and considered as events? How does that influence the structure of the story of the international? Which events are 'remembered' as influential and how are they remembered? How does the forgetting/rememberance influence the understanding of international relations?

Buck-Morss, Susan. 2000. 'Hegel and Haiti.' *Critical inquiry*, 26(4), 821-865.

Robert Vitalis, 'The Midnight Ride of Kwame Nkrumah and Other Fables of Bandung (Ban-doong)', *Humanity*, iv (2013),

Racing the International : 'From Bandung to Durban':
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBJhEU1M6xk>

Bandung Conference: <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199796953/obo-9780199796953-0150.xml>

Haitian Revolution: <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199766581/obo-9780199766581-0030.xml?rskey=Qwd59H&result=1&q=haitian+revolution#firstMatch>

10. CONCLUSION (13 JULY)