



<b>Course Code &amp; Title</b>	<b>LISS343 The Colonial Question through Theory and Method</b>				
<b>Convenor(s)</b>	Dr Lisa Tilley, Queen Mary University of London				
<b>Institution</b>	QMUL & LISS DTP	<b>Department</b>	SPIR		
<b>Academic Year</b>	2018-19	<b>Term</b>	Summer		
<b>Number of sessions</b>	4	<b>Research Platform</b>	Social Theory	<b>Length of Session(s)</b>	2
<b>Day, Date</b>		<b>Start : End</b>	<b>Room Location</b>		
Thursday 2 May 2019 Thursday 9 May 2019 Thursday 16 May 2019 Thursday 23 May 2019		1100 : 1300	<a href="https://www.qmul.ac.uk/locations/bancroft-road">QMUL GC101 404 Bancroft Rd, Bethnal Green, London E1 4DH</a>		
<b>Enrolment Links:</b>	<a href="https://bit.ly/2GdU3fc">https://bit.ly/2GdU3fc</a> You may be prompted to log into SkillsForge Details on when courses open for booking can be found here: <a href="https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/our-training-programme/">https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/our-training-programme/</a>				

**Course Description:**

This course presents an expansive introduction to a range of foundational approaches to ‘the colonial question’ in theory and practice. The sessions will guide doctoral scholars through the landscape of thought from anticolonial critique, through the varied twists and turns in postcolonial theory, to the more recent developments around decolonial thought. Beyond this, we will work towards a practical and applicable understanding of post- and de-colonial methods which will be useful for scholars working with a range of critical theories and empirical approaches in their research. Across the four sessions, the course will draw on textual, audio, and film sources, and will engage interactive and experiential learning techniques to bring the material alive.

**Reading List:**

**Session One: Anticolonial critique - 2 May 2019**

This session surveys the work of both prominent (Fanon, Césaire) and lesser-studied (Tan Malaka, José Rizal) anticolonial scholars whose intellectual projects were bound up with political projects which actively imagined alternatives to colonial subjection.

Extracts from: Fanon, F. (1994). *A dying colonialism*. Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

Césaire, A. (2000). *Discourse on colonialism*. NYU Press.

**Session Two: Postcolonial theory from materialist beginnings to the textual turn – 9 May 2019**

This session will begin by familiarising doctoral scholars with the emergence of subaltern studies in South Asia, through an engagement with the work of its founding Marxist scholars. Following this, we will cover the foundational contribution of the Palestinian-American intellectual Edward Said, whose definitive works on



culture and literature deepened the concepts of Orientalism and imperialism. It then ends by way of an engagement with Spivak and Bhabha's textual work which deepened the poststructural strand of postcolonial critique.

Extracts from: Guha, R., & Spivak, G. C. (Eds.). (1988). *Selected subaltern studies*. Oxford University Press.

Spivak, G. C. (1988). Can the subaltern speak?. *Can the subaltern speak? Reflections on the history of an idea*, 21-78.

Extracts from: Said, E. (1979). *Orientalism*. 1978. New York: Vintage.

Extracts from: Bhabha, H. K. (2012). *The location of culture*. Routledge.

### **Session Three: Decolonial thought 16 May 2019**

In this session we familiarise ourselves with the emerging decolonial movements in both the intellectual and activist domains. We consider the influence of Anzaldúa's work on Mignolo and other decolonial scholars before reflecting on how Sylvia Wynter's engagements with Fanon, through the decolonial project, bring us full-circle back to the anticolonial moment.

Anzaldúa, G. (1987). *Borderlands: la frontera* (Vol. 3). San Francisco: Aunt Lute.

Cusicanqui, S. R. (2012). Ch'ixinakax utxiwa: A Reflection on the Practices and Discourses of Decolonization. *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 111(1), 95-109.

Wynter, S. (2003). Unsettling the coloniality of being/power/truth/freedom: Towards the human, after man, its overrepresentation--An argument. *CR: The new centennial review*, 3(3), 257-337.

### **Session Four: Post/decolonial methods café – 23 May 2019**

This final session will be an active and dynamic engagement with the kind of methods presupposed by the theories and ways of thinking covered in previous weeks. We will cover – and even invent – ways of realising self-reflective, participatory, and non-extractive methods in our research.

Donahue, A. K., & Kalyan, R. (2015). Introduction: On the Imperative, Challenges, and Prospects of Decolonizing Comparative Methodologies.

Smith, L. T. (2013). *Decolonizing methodologies: Research and indigenous peoples*. Zed Books Ltd.

Tilley, L. (2017). Resisting piratic method by doing research otherwise. *Sociology*, 51(1), 27- 42.

#### **Eligibility:**

For an introduction to global thinkers engaging with the colonial question from a range of perspectives and positions please visit: <http://globalsocialtheory.org/>

#### *Additional readings:*

Bhabra, G. K. (2014). *Connected sociologies*. Bloomsbury Publishing

Blaney, D. L., & Inayatullah, N. (2010). *Savage Economics: Wealth, poverty and the temporal walls of capitalism*. Routledge.



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- Césaire S (2012) *The Great Camouflage: Writings of Dissent (1941-45)*. D. Maximin (ed). Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press.
- Coulthard, G. S. (2014). *Red skin, white masks: Rejecting the colonial politics of recognition*. University of Minnesota Press.
- Davis, A. Y. (2011). *Women, race, & class*. Vintage.
- Fanon, F. (1963). *The wretched of the earth*. New York: Grove Press.
- Fanon, F. (1967). *Black skin, white masks [1952]*. New York.
- Lorde, A. (2012). *Sister outsider: Essays and speeches*. Crossing Press.
- Said, E. (1978). *Orientalism*. New York: Pantheon.
- Sajed, A. (2013). *Postcolonial encounters in International Relations: The politics of transgression in the Maghreb*. Routledge.
- Shilliam, R. (2015). *The black Pacific: Anti-colonial struggles and oceanic connections*. Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Simpson, L. (2011). *Dancing on our turtle's back: Stories of Nishnaabeg re-creation, resurgence and a new emergence*. Arbeiter Ring Pub.
- Smith, L. T. (2013). *Decolonizing methodologies: Research and indigenous peoples*. Zed Books Ltd.
- Spivak, G. C. (1988). Can the subaltern speak?. *Can the subaltern speak? Reflections on the history of an idea*, 21-78.
- Wekker, G. (2016). *White innocence: Paradoxes of colonialism and race*. Duke University Press.
- Wynter, S. (2003). Unsettling the coloniality of being/power/truth/freedom: Towards the human, after man, its overrepresentation--An argument. *CR: The new centennial review*, 3(3), 257-337.

### **Pre-course preparation:**

You must be a PhD student at either King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, or Imperial College London, using social science methodologies.

### **Number of students:**

20