

HTS 3063 -- OUTPOSTS OF EMPIRE: COMPARATIVE HISTORY OF BRITISH COLONIZATION

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Fall Semester 2011
M, W, F, 10:00 a.m.

Great Britain created one of the largest and most successful European colonial empires of the past five hundred years. In addition to establishing overseas trading centers and imposing British control over native populations in areas such as the Indian subcontinent and Africa, Britain also founded colonies where many people from the British Isles settled. The United States has the largest population and exercises the greatest influence of the countries that were heavily settled by people from the British Isles. Most Americans, however, know little about the other British-settled areas that have become modern nations--Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa.

This course will focus on four other British "outposts of empire" whose histories have both striking similarities with and differences from that of the United States. We shall focus especially on (1) the reasons for the initial settlement of each area; (2) how different patterns of race relations and ethnicity emerged; (3) the gradual development of a sense of autonomy and national identity; and (4) relations between the countries and the United States. Our larger goal will be to explore the interaction between cultural background and environmental factors in each area, as well as which aspects of these countries are similar to or different from each other. Learning more about these sister societies to the United States may help us better understand ourselves as well.

Evaluation in this course will be based on three mid-semester exams (indicated in the outline on the next page), on a book review or research paper, and on a final comprehensive exam. Other forms of evaluation may also be used. The exams will be based both on the required reading and on the class lecture/discussions.

Each of the required books provides an introduction to one of the countries we are studying. Please note that the books are available ONLY at the Engineer's Bookstore, not at the Georgia Tech Barnes & Noble bookstore.

Russel Ward, Australia: A Short History
Tom Brooking, Milestones: Turning Points in New Zealand History, 2d ed.
J. M. S. Careless, Canada: A Story of Challenge
Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa, 3d ed.

Class sessions will combine lectures, discussion, films, slides, and possible outside speakers. Since the required readings only provide a taste of the fascinating development of these countries, each student will be expected to write a 6-to-10-page book review dealing with a book about one or more of these countries or related topics. This special reading will allow students to

gain a deeper understanding of an area or topic of special interest to them and will encourage more lively and informed class discussion.

NOTE WELL: Students are expected to attend class regularly and to arrive on time by the scheduled beginning of class (no later than 10:05 a.m.), and be ready to participate in class discussions on the assigned readings.

More than six (6) unexcused absences from class (the equivalent of two full weeks of class) may be grounds for reduction in the student's overall course grade by one full level.

Throughout this course, all students are expected to follow the Georgia Tech Honor Code.

OUTLINE OF CLASS TOPICS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EXAMS:

I. Introduction to the Comparative Study of British Colonization

August 22, 24, 26, 29, 31; September 2

Readings: Articles to be supplied in class or by using on-line Library reserve

NO CLASS--September 5--Labor Day

I. Australia

September 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21

Reading: Russel Ward, Australia: A Short History (entire)

Film, slides, or speaker on Australia

EXAM #1--Friday, September 23 on Topics I and II

III. New Zealand

October 26, 28, 30, October 3, 5, 7, 10, 12

Reading: Tom Brooking, Milestones: Turning Points in New Zealand History (entire)

Film, slides, or speaker on New Zealand

EXAM #2--Friday, October 14 on Topic III

IV. Canada

October 19, 21, 24, 26, 28, 31; November 2, 4

Readings: J. M. S. Careless, Canada: A Story of Challenge (selections)

John Saywell, Canada: Past and Present (entire)

Film or speaker on Canada

NO CLASS--Monday, October 17--Georgia Tech holiday

EXAM #3--Monday, November 7 on Topic IV

V. South Africa

November 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 28, 30; December 1, 5, 7

Reading: Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa (entire)

Films or speaker on South Africa

BOOK REVIEWS due: Wednesday, November 16

NO CLASS--Friday, November 25--Happy Thanksgiving!

VI. Concluding Discussion of the Comparative Histories of British Settlement Colonies December 9

FINAL EXAM--Friday, December 16, 11:30 a.m.

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Lawrence Foster -- Fall Semester 2011
READING ASSIGNMENTS:

August 22--begin Thompson and Lamar, "Comparative Frontier History"
August 24--begin A. P. Thornton, "Fragments"
August 26/29--begin Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History"
August 31--begin Russel Ward, Australia: A Short History, chapter 1
September 2--begin Ward, chapter 2

NO CLASS -- September 5-- Labor Day

*September 5--begin Ward chapter 3
September 7--begin Ward, chapter 4
September 10--begin Ward, chapter 5
September 12--begin Ward, chapter 6
September 14--begin Ward, chapter 7
September 17--begin Ward, chapter 8
September 19--review for Exam #1

EXAM #1 -- Friday, September 23

*September 23--begin Brooking, Milestones: Turning Points in New Zealand History, pp. 1-24
September 26--begin Brooking, pp. 30-37
September 28--begin Brooking, pp. 38-55
September 30--begin Brooking, pp. 56-87
October 3--begin Brooking, pp. 88-107
October 5--begin Brooking, pp. 108-145
October 7--begin Brooking, pp. 146-176
October 10--begin Brooking, pp. 177-204
October 12--review for Exam #2

EXAM #2 -- Monday, October 14

NO CLASS -- Monday, October 17--Georgia Tech holiday

*October 14 --begin J. M. S. Careless, Canada: A Story of Challenge, chapters 1-2 (pp. 1-28)
October 19--begin John Saywell, Canada: Past and Present, pp. 1-42
October 21--begin Careless, chapters 3-5 (pp. 31-72)
October 24--begin Careless, chapters 6-7 (pp. 73-115)
October 26--begin Careless, chapters 8 and 10 (pp. 116-144, 164-187)
October 28--begin Careless, chapters 11 and 13-14 (pp. 188-206 and 230-275)
October 31--begin Saywell, pp. 42-71

November 2--begin Saywell, pp. 72-85

November 4--review for Exam #2

EXAM #3 -- Monday, November 7

*November 5--begin Thompson, History of South Africa, chapter 1

November 7--begin Thompson, chapter 2

November 11/ 14--work on Book Reviews

BOOK REVIEWS due -- Wednesday, November 16

November 18--begin Thompson, chapter 3

November 21--begin Thompson, chapter 4

November 23--begin Thompson, chapter 5

NO CLASS -- Friday, November 25--Happy Thanksgiving!

November 28--begin Thompson, chapter 6

November 30--begin Thompson, chapter 7

November 30--begin Thompson, chapter 8

December 5--begin Thompson, chapter 9

December 7/9--review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM -- Friday, December 16, 11:30 a.m.