



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

**ENGL515-S01 Topics in Theoretical and
Cultural Studies (Postcolonial Studies)**

Fall 2022

(Tuesday 9 AM - 11:45 AM, SS 1015)

Instructor	Dr. Clara A.B. Joseph
Email:	cjoseph@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L (access via MyUofC portal)
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 11:45 AM to 12:45 PM or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Postcolonial Studies is an interdisciplinary approach and a critical theory that examines the history, culture, literature, and discourse of imperial power. By studying a series of theoretical articles and a selection of literary narratives, students will explore how issues of colonial discourse and decolonization create rich and complex interdisciplinary conversations.

Thematically, the course will study travel literature on the search for “India.” These include the travel diary of Pedro Alvares Cabral, the travel writing of Vasco da Gama, the travel notes of Archbishop Alexis de Meneses, and the first modern travelogue of India. The several narratives border on fact and fiction and challenge mainstream conceptions of travel literature and colonialism.

The course will, importantly, provide critical frameworks for rethinking postcolonial studies. Students will approach the theoretical articles as well as the narratives through a framework derived from postcolonial studies. The framework can in turn shape and refine other major upper-level projects, as for example, on Africa, Asia, Canada, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, or South America, in the field of literary and cultural studies.

Instructor Email Policy	Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. I answer email during regular business hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response.
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COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. An advanced ability to analyze a text within its specific historical, political, and cultural contexts, including critical awareness of Eurocentrism and asymmetrical power relations
2. An advanced facility with theories and techniques
3. An advanced ability to frame a complex research question that builds on and responds to an ongoing critical discourse
4. An advanced ability to recognize and describe the development of a scholarly tradition surrounding individual periods, authors, issues or texts
5. An advanced ability to critique and review secondary sources within the context of their scholarly tradition.
6. An advanced ability to structure a complex and engaging argument
7. An advanced capacity to engage in class discussions and respond meaningfully to lecture material and peer discussion while using textual evidence as support
8. A mastery of the format and citation method of academic writing

LEARNING RESOURCES

Gouvea, Antonio de, et al. *The Jornada of Dom Alexis de Menezes*. Kochi: LRC Publications, 2003 [1603].

Paaremmakkal, Tommakattanaar et al. *The Varthamanappusthakam*. Pont. Institutum Orientalium Studiorum, 1971 [c. 1786].

Additional readings will be available via D2L (under “My Tools” select Leganto) or the TFDL website in open access editions. These include:

Bassnett, Susan and Harish Trivedi. “Introduction: Of colonies, cannibals and vernaculars.” *Post-Colonial Translation : Theory and Practice*. Routledge, 1999, pp. 1-18.

Bhabha, Homi K. “Of Mimicry and Man: The Ambivalence of Colonial Discourse.” *The Location of Culture*. Routledge, 1994, 121-131.

Foucault, M. “Orders of discourse.” *Social Science Information*, vol. 10, no. 2, 1971, pp. 7-30.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/053901847101000201>

Lazarus, Neil. “What Postcolonial Theory Doesn’t Say.” *Race & Class*, vol. 53, no. 1, 2011, pp. 3–27,

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0306396811406778>.

Parry, Benita. “What Is Left in Postcolonial Studies?” *New Literary History*, vol. 43, no. 2, 2012, pp. 341–58,

<https://doi.org/10.1353/nlh.2012.0019>.

Said, Edward. “Introduction.” *Culture and Imperialism*. 1st Vintage Books ed., Vintage Books, 1994, pp. xi-xxviii.

Young, Robert. “Postcolonial Remains.” *New Literary History*, vol. 43, no. 1, 2012, pp. 19–42,

<https://doi.org/10.1353/nlh.2012.0009>.

Recommended: *MLA Handbook*. 9th ed., Modern Language Association of America, 2021.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

- 1) The student will take part in weekly Seminar discussions (20%)
- 2) Once in the term the student will lead Seminar discussion of weekly assigned readings (20%)
- 3) The student will write a Research Essay of 1,800 words on a particular figure or issue on a given topic. The essay should argue a strong thesis, consult scholarly books and journal articles, and incorporate primary source evidence. (25%)
- 4) The student will write a Research Essay of 2,500 words on a particular figure or issue on a given topic. The essay should argue a strong thesis, consult scholarly books and journal articles, and incorporate primary source evidence. (35%)

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

This course provides opportunities for class participation. If you don't believe you have contributed sufficiently in class discussions, you can complement with D2L discussions. Marks will be awarded for the following:

1. Evidence of a deep understanding of assigned readings.
2. Taking intelligible notes during Seminar discussions.
3. Regular and quality submission of in-class assignments.
4. Active and quality participation in discussions and group activities.
5. Ability to interact with the class in a professional and positive manner.

Self-Directed Study

The student is responsible for independent learning from the assigned readings. The student is expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading.

Notes

- There is no registrar-scheduled examination for this course.
- There are no extra-credit or make-up assignments for this course.
- All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.
- Assignments must be submitted as a Word document in Dropbox on D2L before 11:00 PM of the due date. The file name must be according to the following format: for example, LastnameFirstname_ENGL607EssayOne_Oct23-2020. Students should save a copy of the submission until final results are received from the registrar's office.
- Late assignments will be penalized one third of a letter grade for each business day late (e.g. A+ becomes an A).

CONDUCT

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

POLICY ON USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The use of laptop and mobile devices in class is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's [Internet and email use policy](#). Electronic devices are not permitted during the Final Examination.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca). Students will need to have access to a laptop computer or smartphone in class time.

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking this course are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Use of Internet and Electronic Communication Devices In Class

Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>

Grading system:

Grades are calculated according to the 4 point scale used in the *Graduate Calendar*:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-h-1.html>

GRADUATE GRADING SYSTEM FOR COURSE FINAL GRADES

Grade	Grade Point Value	Graduate Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding
A	4.00	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.
A-	3.70	Very good performance
B+	3.30	Good performance
B	3.00	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.
C	2.00	
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	
F	0.00	
I	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation or cannot be adequately assessed; or the final exam has not been submitted.
CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted as "Not Included in GPA" in the calendar descriptions of applicable courses.

Please note: A B- is considered a minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-h-2.html>

- Actual numerical grades obtained, not their letter grade or percentage equivalent, will be used in calculating the final grade. Letter grades for assignments will be converted into numerical values using the scale below (at the instructor's discretion) to calculate the final course grade.

90 + %	A+	4.0	67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
85 – 89 %	A	4.0	64 – 66 %	C	2.0
80 – 84 %	A-	3.7	60 – 63 %	C-	1.7
77 – 79 %	B+	3.3	55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0	50 – 54 %	D	1.0
70 – 73 %	B-	2.7	0 – 49 %	F	0

- In calculating final grades, students must have surpassed the minimum grade threshold to qualify for any letter grade — that is, grades will never be rounded up into the nearest grade category even if very close to that minimum threshold.
- Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the 4-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

Plagiarism:

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <http://english.ucalgary.ca/graduate>. Please note that the course outlines posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

Writing support:

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Library and Research Support:

Melanie Boyd Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: maboyd@ucalgary.ca.

Find The English Pages research guide here: https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject_id=52619

Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:



Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the Department of English's graduate website for courses, departmental deadlines, and other related program information at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/english>. Consult the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar for university and faculty regulations, dates, deadline, fees, and schedules, student, faculty

and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar is <http://grad.ucalgary.ca>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact the Graduate Office at 403 220 5484 or visit us in Social Sciences Tower 1148 in the first instance.

For program planning and advice, contact the Graduate Program Administrator at enggrad@ucalgary.ca to make an appointment with Dr. Suzette Mayr, Graduate Program Director.

Grade appeals:

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

Deferral of term work and final examinations:

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>,

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

Student Accommodations:

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

***RESEARCH ETHICS (if applicable)**

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

***INSTRUCTOR'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

***FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

***COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

***MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

***Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

***Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

***Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

***OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success

- Student Ombuds Office
 - Student Union (SU) Information
 - Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
 - Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
 - Safewalk
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Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys."

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University Calendar, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html> "The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community". The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a "positive and productive learning and working environment." This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that "seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff". Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.