



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Political Science and International Relations Programme

INTP249: Culture and International Relations

TRIMESTER 2 2011

11 July to 12 November 2011

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 11 July to 14 October 2011

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2011

Study week: 17–21 October 2011

Examination/Assessment period: 21 October to 12 November 2011

Note: students must be able to attend the examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

LECTURER: Dr Robert Deuchars
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LECTURE TIMES: Wed, Fri 11-12:50
VENUE Laby LT118

OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays, 11-12. You are also welcome to telephone or email.

Course delivery

The course is delivered through lectures and optional workshops. Students are expected to attend two one-hour lectures and participate in two one-hour optional workshops per week.

Communication of additional information

Information about any changes to the timetable or programme will be announced in lectures.

Course Prescription

This course will introduce students to the cultural dimension of world affairs. Its primary focus will be on Rationalism as the dominant ideology of western modernity, cast as a cultural and ongoing project. Within this cultural project and context, the course will cover theoretical and practical issues related to the way cultural practices affect a range of issues, from the constructed nature of the states-system itself, liberal capitalism and the individualist sense of self that modernity as a cultural project promotes. Students will also be exposed to counter-currents in modernity in the form of politico-cultural resistance to hegemonic forms of discourse and practices.

Course content

Outline of Lecture Topics and Readings

Introduction (Week 1: 13 July)

*Ernest Gellner (1992), *Reason and Culture: The Historic Role of Rationality and Rationalism*, Oxford, Blackwell, pp.1-29

What does culture have to do with International Relations? (Week 2: 20 July)

*Terry Eagleton (2000), *The Idea of Culture*, Ch 1, Oxford, Blackwell, pp.1-31.

*Gordon Matthews (2000), *Global Culture/Individual Identity*, Ch1, London, Routledge, pp.1-29.

Cultural Foundations of the Enlightenment (Week 3: 27 July)

*Terry Eagleton (1990), "The Kantian Imaginary", in *The Ideology of the Aesthetic*, Oxford, Blackwell, pp.70-101.

*Charles Darwin [1859] (1999), *The Origin of Species by means of natural Selection or The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*, Ch3, New York, Bantam, pp.52-67.

Culture and Contemporary International Relations (Week 4: 3 August)

*Yale Ferguson (1998) "Looking Backwards at Contemporary Politics", in Dominique Jacquin-Berdal et al, *Culture in World Politics*, London, Macmillan, pp.11-33.

*Edward W. Said (1994), *Culture and Imperialism*, Ch1, London, Vintage, pp.1-21.

Liberalism (Week 5: 10 August)

*Guy Debord (1983), *Society of the Spectacle*, Ch8, Detroit, Black and Red, (fragments), no.180-211.

*Alberto Melucci (1989) *Nomads of the Present: Social Movements and Individual Needs in Contemporary Society*, Ch5, London, Century Hutchinson, pp.103-118.

Marxism (Week 6: 17 August)

* Karl Marx (1961), "Existence and Consciousness", in *Selected Writings in Sociology and Social Philosophy*, Harmondsworth, Penguin, pp.82-101.

* Theodor Adorno (1981) "Freudian Theory and the Pattern of Fascist Propaganda", in *The Culture Industry*, London, Routledge, pp.132-157.

* Antonio Gramsci (1991), "Politics and Culture", in *Selections from Cultural Writings*, Cambridge, Mass., Harvard university Press, pp.16-51.

Nationalism (Week 7: 7 September)

* Johann Herder [1784-91] (1968), (extracts) *Reflections on the Philosophy of the History of Mankind*, Chicago, Chicago University Press.

* Benedict Anderson (1983), "Census, Map, Museum", in *Imagined Communities*, London, Verso, pp.163-185.

The Cultural Logic of Capitalism (Week 8: 14 September)

*Frederic Jameson (2003), *Postmodernism or the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism*, Ch8, Durham, Duke University Press, pp.260-278.

*Michael Parenti (2006) *The Culture Struggle*, Ch12, New York, Seven Stories Press, pp.111-143.

Cultural Debates - Indigeneity (Week 9: 21 September)

*Karena Shaw (2001), "Indigeneity and the International: Repoliticizing Decolonization", paper presented for ISA conference 20-24 Feb, Chicago.

*Nick Higgins (2005), "Lessons from the indigeneous: Zapatista poetics and a cultural humanism for the twenty first century, in Cathereine Eschele and Bice Maiguashca (eds.),

Critical Theories, International Relations and 'the Anti-Globalisation Movement', London, Routledge, pp.87-102.

Cultural Debates – Religion/Sacralism (Week 10: 28 September)

*Pascal Boyer (2002), *Religion Explained*, Ch8, London, Vintage, pp.303-340.

*Michael Scheuer (2004), "Bin Laden Views the World: Some Old, Some New and a Twist", in *Imperial Hubris: How the West is Losing the War on Terror*, pp.127-161.

Cultural Debates - Postmodernism and International Relations (Week 11: 5 October)

* Jean Baudrillard (2001), "Consumer Society", in *Jean Baudrillard Selected Writings*, 2nd ed., Stanford, Stanford university Press, pp.32-59.

* Umberto Eco (1986), "Reports from the Global Villlage", in *Travels in Hyper Reality*, San Diego, Harcourt Brace & Company, pp.151-172.

Overview (Week 12: 12 October) International Relations and "World" Culture?

Learning objectives

Students passing this course should be able to demonstrate a comprehensive introductory understanding of the interaction between culture and contemporary international Relations.

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty of Humanities and Social Science guidelines, the overall workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours spread over the entire trimester. This includes the time spent in lectures and tutorials, with the rest spent preparing assignments, reading the set text[s], and revising for tests and exams.

Readings

Student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 2011. After week two of the trimester all student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

Essays: Two essays each worth **25%** (Word limit not to exceed 2,500). Detail of essay topics will be given in lectures. The essays are for you to develop your analytical capabilities and

your research skills at greater length/time. A list of topics will be provided early in the course but you can also choose your own topics in consultation with the course co-ordinator. No late submissions will be accepted unless approved by the course co-ordinator. You are also required to attach the Programme's 'Assignment Cover Sheet' to your essays.

1st essay due **10th August**. 2nd essay due **21st September**.

Final examination (**50%**) (3 hours, closed book), The exam will be held during the exam period, 21 October to 12 November 2011. The exact date and location will be announced nearer the time.

An aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30% of the course assessment.

Return of assignments

Initially all assignments will be returned in lectures. Uncollected assignments will be available from the Programme office Monday - Friday **between 2-3pm**.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays – a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week and that person's name and contact details will be made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic.