Course Description Form

Course number and section: CULT 340 Course Topic: Colonialism and Decolonization Credits: 3

Term: 1

Instructor: David Jefferess

Course Description:

This course examines the cultural project of European colonialism as well as resistance against colonialism. The course foregrounds the perspectives of activists, creative writers, and theorists from Africa, South Asia, West Asia (aka "the Middle East"), the Caribbean, and Indigenous nations of Turtle Island who are active in the project of social, economic, political, and cultural decolonization. Historical and contemporary arguments and examples (e.g. the white saviour complex, struggles for the return of land; exploitation of people/nature) are discussed in relation to one another in a way that highlights intersectionality of discourses of race, gender, and sexuality. The approach to the course emphasizes critical self-reflection and collaboration, and seeks to understand how the theories and concepts we study are relevant to our own lives. Note: Course texts include representations of violence and abuse.

Tentative Reading List:

Tsitsi Dangarembga, Nervous Conditions (Novel; Rhodesia/Zimbabwe)

Essays, short fiction, life writing, poetry, advertisements, etc., available online via Canvas.

Other: This course is cross-listed with ENGL 379 with a total enrolment cap of 40 students.