

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
CENTRE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

CGS 1021G: INTRODUCTION TO PROBLEMS IN KNOWING THE WORLD

Course Outline Winter 2014

Tuesdays 11:30a.m.-1:30p.m. / Thursdays 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m.
W12

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

How do we, as scholars of global studies, study and engage with a globalized world? What are our responsibilities as we acquire knowledge in this subject area? This course critically explores the ways in which the educational legacy of imperialism has impacted (and continues to impact) our understanding of the international political, spatial, legal and social world order. This course also acknowledges the importance of history: thus we analyze how colonial ideologies have shaped the origins of ideas that are central to our conceptualization of globality such as nation, territorial integrity, cultural achievement and freedom. Elements that seem central to the production of our global world views, such as state borders and boundaries, are revealed to be socially constructed.

The course begins with an exploration of the media coverage of human rights violations around the globe. We will ask how the coverage impacts our views of various regions and global institutions (like the UN). Next, we will study relations between bodies, spaces, and cultures by reading an account of locative mobile media that explores embodiment through and within mobile interfaces. Then, particular attention will be paid to the role of English language and literature in justifying or challenging aspects of European colonialist enterprises, and it is in this light that we will study the cultural significance of Shakespeare and a film adaptation of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*. Attempts to "know the world" are bound up with problems of mapping, narration and cultural interpretation. Here, Thomas King's "Borders," Lawrence Hill's *Book of Negroes* and John Jeffcoat's film *Outsourced* provide apt accompaniments to our study of these themes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- This course aims to give students an understanding of imperialism's educational dynamic and the workings of the colonial imaginary.
- Students will develop a critical awareness of the geopolitical, journalistic, and economic factors that influence the production of media narratives on global events.
- Students will undertake significant research and writing assignments that will enhance their ability to communicate effectively in written formats.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Borer, Tristan Anne. *Media, Mobilization and Human Rights: Mediating Suffering*. London: Zed Books, 2012.
- Farman, Jason. *Mobile Interface Theory: Embodied Space and Locative Media*. NY: Routledge, 2011.
- Hill, Lawrence. *The Book of Negroes*. Toronto: HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., 2007.
- Jeffcoat, John, Dir., *Outsourced*. ShadowCatcher Entertainment. 2007.
- King, Thomas. "Borders." *One Good Story, That One*. Toronto: HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., 1999.
- Willinsky, John. *Learning to Divide the World: Education at Empire's End*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1998.

Copies of *Media, Mobilization and Human Rights*, *The Book of Negroes*, *Learning to Divide the World*, and *Mobile Interface Theory* are on sale at the UWO bookstore. The Instructor will provide students with a copy of Thomas King's short story "Borders." The films on the course syllabus, *Mansfield Park* and *Outsourced* will be screened in class.

The UWO Bookstore has also ordered a limited number of copies of the hardback Illustrated Edition of *The Book of Negroes*. Students may choose to buy the paperback version or the Illustrated Edition. (The Illustrated Edition is especially interesting for the wealth of archival material it contains that relates directly to the course themes of mapping and narration. Students who buy the paperback edition may wish to consult the Illustrated Edition in Huron's Library when writing their essays on Hill's book.)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Media Critique	20%	Due Feb. 4
Midterm Test	20%	In -class Mar. 4
Essay #1 on <i>Book of Negroes</i>	30%	Due no later than Apr. 1
Final Exam	30%	Scheduled by the Registrar's Office

All assignments are due in class on the day indicated. Assignments that are not handed in to the instructor in class are considered to be late. Under no circumstances should essays be slipped under the instructor's office door. The electronic submission of written assignments will not be accepted. Detailed instructions on how to write each assignment will be given in class. No extensions will be granted for Essay #1. Students who do not show up to write the Midterm Test will receive a grade of zero. No make-up tests will be scheduled by the instructor.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be penalized by 5% per day, including Saturdays and Sundays. Late days will be counted based on the stamped date on the paper and not the date of submission to the drop-box. Assignments that are more than 7 days late will receive a grade of 0%. No comments will be given on late assignments. A late

submission will be accepted without penalty only when the student has made an official request for academic accommodation and it has been granted. For the policy on how to seek academic accommodation, please see the policies on “Academic Accommodation” attached to this course outline.

FORMAT OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

All written assignments, except the final examination, must be written and formatted in accordance with MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines or in accordance with the *Chicago Manual of Style*. The Library at Huron has copies of both the *MLA Guide for Writers of Research Papers* and *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Information on *Chicago Style* can be found at: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

Students in this course will be expected to express their ideas clearly and use proper grammar. Serious grammatical errors such as sentence fragments, comma splices, improper paragraphing and errors of agreement obscure the meaning of written work. Papers will be graded according to form and content; therefore, students should proofread their work in order to ensure that it is free from grammatical errors. Any student who submits a written assignment that is very difficult to comprehend because of grammatical or stylistic errors will earn a failing grade on that assignment. If you are concerned about the quality of your writing, please visit the Writing Skills Centre at Huron. The workshops and consultation sessions that they run can be very helpful.

All assignments (except the final exam) must be typed with one-inch margins on each side. Please do not use a font smaller than 12-point. The lines of the main text should be double-spaced, but lines in block quotations (which should also be indented), endnotes/ footnotes, and bibliographies should all be single-spaced. Pages must be numbered consecutively (exclusive of the title page). Please include your name and ID number on your essay, along with the course number and instructor’s name. All references (bibliographies/works cited pages) must be written in either *MLA* or *Chicago Style* format.

Please ensure that you keep a copy of all submitted work. In case of lost essays, you are responsible for providing a replacement.

MARKING / GRADE POINT SCALE

All grades achieved in the course assignments are given in numerical form with respect to the following grading system:

90-100	(A+) work of excellence; one could expect little more from a student at this level
80-89	(A) superior work, exhibiting well-developed critical skills, and a sophisticated approach
70-79	(B) good to very good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
60-69	(C) competent work, meeting basic requirements
50-59	(D) fair work, minimally acceptable
0-49	(F) failure; unsatisfactory work, not meeting basic requirements

CLASS CANCELLATIONS

If the instructor needs to cancel a class, notice of the cancellation will be posted on the course OWL course page and the Accessibility link of the Huron website.

ATTENDANCE

This course encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning; therefore, the instructor will not provide lecture notes for students who miss class. Students must make arrangements with another student to obtain notes. The instructor does not post lecture notes on the OWL course page, and she will not answer emails asking what was covered in class on any particular day. Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class will be reported to the Dean of FASS at Huron (after due warning has been given). The consequences for frequent absence from class are outlined in the following section of the Appendix to this outline: see "Attendance Regulations for Exams", paragraph 2. Attendance in class is crucial for success in the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule may be altered depending on the length of class discussions. Students must read the assigned material before coming to class. Please note that lectures on *The Book of Negroes* will include references to material in many chapters. The entire novel should be read by March 20.

Tues. Jan. 7 Introduction to course

Thurs. Jan. 9 Global events in the news

Tues. Jan. 14 Writing: Instructions for Media Critique Assignment; and
Media, Mobilization and Human Rights: "Introduction"

Thurs. Jan. 16 *Media, Mobilization and Human Rights:*
Chpt. 5 "'Fresh, Wet Tears': Shock Media and Human Rights Awareness Campaigns" and
Chpt. 6 "Celebrity Diplomats as Mobilizers? Celebrities and Activism in A Hypermediated Time"

Tues. Jan. 21 *Media, Mobilization and Human Rights:*
Chpt. 7 "Amplifying Individual Impact: Social Media's Emerging Role in Activism" and
Chpt. 2 "Framing a Rights Ethos: Artistic Media and the Dream of a Culture Without Borders"

Thurs. Jan. 23 Willinsky, Introduction and Chapter 1

Tues. Jan. 28 Film Screening and Discussion: *Outsourced*

Thurs. Jan. 30 Thomas King's "Borders"; Writing for Global Studies

- Tues. Feb. 4** **Media Critique Due;** “Borders” con’t.; Willinsky, Chapter 2
Thurs. Feb. 6 *Mobile Interface Theory*: Introduction and Chapter 1
- Tues. Feb. 11** Willinsky, Chapter 3
Thurs. Feb. 13 *Mobile Interface Theory*: Chapter 2; Willinsky Chapter 4
- Tues. Feb. 18** **Reading Week – No Class**
Thurs. Feb. 20 **Reading Week – No Class**
- Tues. Feb. 25** Mapping; Willinsky Chapters 5 & 6
Thurs. Feb. 27 Writing Instructions for Essay #1 on *The Book of Negroes*
- Tues. Mar. 4** **Midterm Test** (not on the *Book of Negroes*)
Thurs. Mar. 6 Shakespeare and Colonialism; Orientalism
- Tues. Mar. 11** Film Screening and Discussion: *Mansfield Park*
Thurs. Mar.13 *Mobile Interface Theory*: Chapter 3
- Tues. Mar. 18** Introduction to *The Book of Negroes*; Willinsky, Chapter 7
Thurs. Mar.20 *The Book of Negroes*
- Tues. Mar. 25** *The Book of Negroes*; Willinsky, Chapter 8
Thurs. Mar.27 *The Book of Negroes*
- Tues. Apr. 1** **Essay #1 Due;** *The Book of Negroes*
Thurs. Apr. 3 *The Book of Negroes*
- Tues. Apr. 8** Conclusions; Tips for the Final Exam

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULING

Please note that the instructor has no control over when the final exam for the course is scheduled. This is a matter for the Registrar. The instructor will not respond to requests to write the final exam on a different date than that scheduled by the Registrar’s Office.

Appendix to Course Outlines

Prerequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/StudentDiscipline>

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> under the Medical Documentation heading]

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

For non-medical grounds or for medical grounds when work represents less than 10% of the overall grade for the course, students seeking academic accommodation must apply to the

Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Statement on Academic Integrity

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining

integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred

from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo> (“Class Cancellations”).

Accessibility

Huron University College strives at all times to provide its goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our goods and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place as, and in a similar way to, other customers. We welcome your feedback about accessibility at Huron. Information about how to provide feedback is available at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo>

Mental Health @ Western

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Program and Academic Counselling

Centre for Global Studies students registered at Huron who require advice about modules and courses in Global Studies should contact Dr. Mark Franke, Director of the Centre for Global Studies, mfranke@huron.uwo.ca, 519-438-7224 ext. 242. Students should contact Academic Counselling on other academic matters. See the Academic Counselling website for information on services offered.

<http://huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/CounselorsCounselingServices>