ANALYTICAL ISSUES IN THE HISTORY OF IMPERIALISM:
THE NEW IMPERIAL HISTORY

His 381: Unique 39955
Instructor: A. G. Hopkins. Office 3.310; Office Hours Wed. 1.30-3.30

The formal requirements for this course are: a) a summary of a detailed article or chapter every week, and b) one essay. Each of the short pieces should not exceed 500 words and should be submitted (and circulated) during the week before the discussion. The essay should be between 3,000 and 3,500 words (excluding notes and bibliography), be presented in hard copy in double-spaced type, and be submitted to the secretary in the History Office by 5.00pm on Friday 6 May. Grades will use plus and minus signs, be strongly weighted towards the long essay, but take account of work during the semester as a whole.

Students should pay close attention to their writing skills. William Strunk and E. B. White, The Elements of Style (4th ed. 2000) is a short book that should be bought and referred to every time you produce written work. Jenny L. Presnell, The Information-Literate Historian (2007) is a good guide to research material and includes internet sources.

The reading that follows should be regarded as a guide and not as a complete statement. You are encouraged to read as widely as possible, using the further references given in the following sources as well as in the material listed below. Historical Abstracts is an invaluable guide to journal articles on specific subjects, has an excellent index, and links to JSTOR. The Royal Historical Society’s comprehensive Bibliography of Imperial, Colonial and Commonwealth History can be found at: http://www.rhs.ac.uk/bibwel.asp. WorldCat is the most comprehensive source for locating printed materials around the world. This can be used with RLCP (Research Libraries’ Cooperative Program), which allows UT students access to the libraries at Stanford and UC Berkeley, and has advantages over the general inter-library loan system. Google Books and Google Scholar also provide ways of accessing material on specific subjects.

A word of warning: there is no harm in referring to Wikipedia in the first instance to acquaint yourself with the elements of a subject but do not rely on it beyond this point because the entries vary considerably in quality.
Encyclopaedia Britannica is more reliable but not always up to date. Do not use JSTOR as a form of lucky dip because you may be unlucky. Go first to one of the main search engines or abstracting journals such as Historical Abstracts.

1. INTRODUCTION (19 January)

Students who are wholly unfamiliar with the subject should consult Stephen Howe, Empire: A Very Short Introduction (2002).

2-3. NEW IMPERIAL HISTORY? (26 January & 2 Feb.)


4-5. ORIENTALISM & ORNAMENTALISM (9 & 16 February)


6-7. GENDER (23 February & 2 March)


8. SEMESTER ESSAY (9 March)
Presentation of one page of notes and ideas about the term paper; group discussion.

SPRING BREAK (16 March)

9-10. ENVIRONMENT (23 March & 30 March)


11-12. GENTLEMANLY CAPITALISM (6 & 13 April)


13-14. EMPIRES AND GLOBALIZATION (20 & 27 April)


**15. Finale (4 May)**

Discussion of long essays.

AGH, January 2011