

Dr P Gopal
MPhil in English Studies: Criticism and Culture
Empire and Resistance

(Unless otherwise stated, all readings will be available on Moodle or in electronic form)

This course will look at the question of resistance to various aspects of empire, imperialism and colonial authority, examining themes such as agency, violence, humanism, anti-humanism, universalism, affect, and voice. We will read classics delineating the contours of imperial ideologies—Césaire, Fanon, Trouillot, James —alongside contemporary takes on resistance— Said and Buck-Morss, among other questions: what is the relationship between political resistance/organization and cultural critique/theory? While empire and colonialism will be starting points for discussion, we will range further afield.

Aimé Césaire Discourse on Colonialism

Fratz Fanon, 'Medicine and Colonialism' from *A Dying Colonialism*

Susan Buck-Morss 'Hegel and Haiti,' *Critical Inquiry* Vol. 26, No. 4 (Summer, 2000), pp. 821-865

Edward Said 'Humanism's Sphere' from *Humanism and Democratic Criticism*

Michel-Rolph Trouillot 'The Power in the Story' and 'An Unthinkable History' from *Silencing the Past*

C.L.R James: 'Appendix' to *The Black Jacobins*

Leela Gandhi, 'Introduction: Affective Communities' from *Affective Communities*

Lisa Lowe, 'The Intimacies of Four Continents' from *The Intimacies of Four Continents*

Walter D. Mignolo 'DELINKING: The rhetoric of modernity, the logic of coloniality and the grammar of de-coloniality' in *Cultural Studies*, 21:2, 449 - 514. URL:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09502380601162647>