

HTS 3063 -- OUTPOSTS OF EMPIRE: COMPARATIVE  
HISTORY OF BRITISH COLONIZATION

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Fall Semester 2006  
M, W, F, 12:00 noon

Great Britain created one of the largest and most successful European colonial empires of the past five hundred years. In addition to establishing overseas trading centers and imposing British control over native populations in areas such as India and Africa, the British also founded colonies that were included many settlers from the mother country. The United States has the largest population and exercises the greatest influence of the nations that were settled by people from the British Isles. Most Americans, however, know little about the other British-settled regions that became modern nations--Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa.

This course will focus on these four other "outposts of empire," whose histories have striking similarities with and differences from that of the United States. We shall look in turn at the reasons for the initial settlement of each of these areas; differing patterns of race relations and ethnicity; the development of a sense of autonomy and national identity; and relations with the United States. Our larger goal will be to see which aspects of each of these societies are similar and which are different, and to assess the interactions between cultural background and environmental factors. Learning more about these sister societies to the United States may help us better to understand our own country as well.

Evaluation in this course will be based on three mid-semester exams (indicated in the outline on the next page), on a book review or research paper, and on a final comprehensive exam. Other forms of evaluation may also be used. The exams will be based both on the required reading and on the class lecture/discussions.

Each of the required books provides an introduction to one of the countries we are studying:

Stuart Macintyre, A Concise History of Australia, 2d ed.  
Tom Brooking, Milestones: Turning Points in New Zealand History, 2d ed.  
Roger Riendeau, A Brief History of Canada  
Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa, 3rd ed.

The class sessions will combine lecture and discussion, films, slides, and outside speakers. Since the required readings only provide a taste of the histories of these countries, each student will be expected to write either a book review or a research paper of 6 to 10 pages in length on a topic related to one or more of these countries. This special reading or research will allow students to gain a greater understanding of a particular area and will encourage more lively discussion.

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**PLEASE TAKE CAREFUL NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

*Students are expected to ATTEND CLASS REGULARLY, come ON TIME at the scheduled beginning of class (NO LATER THAN 12:05 p.m.), and be ready to PARTICIPATE IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS on the assigned readings.*

*More than SIX (6) unexcused absences from class (the equivalent of two full weeks of class) will be grounds for reduction in the student's overall course grade by a full level.*

*Throughout this course, all students are expected to follow the Georgia Tech Honor Code.*

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**OUTLINE OF CLASS TOPICS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EXAMS:**

*I. Introduction to the Comparative Study of British Colonization*

August 21, 23, 25, 28, 30; September 1

Readings: Articles to be supplied in class or by using on-line Library reserve

NO CLASS: Monday, September 4--Labor Day Holiday

*I. Australia*

September 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20

Reading: Stuart Macintyre, A Concise History of Australia, 2d ed.

Film, slides, or speaker on Australia

EXAM #1 on Topics I and II:--Friday, September 22

*III. New Zealand*

September 25, 27, 29; October 2, 4, 6, 9, 11

Reading: Tom Brooking, Milestones: Turning Points in New Zealand History, 2d ed.

Film, slides, or speaker on New Zealand

EXAM #2 on Topic III--Wednesday, March 2

*IV. Canada*

October 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, 30; November 1, 3  
 Readings: Roger Riendeau, A Brief History of Canada (selections)  
 John Saywell, Canada: Past and Present (entire)  
 Film or speaker on Canada

NO CLASS--Monday, October 16--School Holiday

EXAM #3 on Topics IV--Monday, November 6

*V. South Africa*

November 8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 27, 29; December 1, 4, 6  
 Reading: Leonard Thompson, A History of South Africa, rev. ed.  
 Films or speaker on South Africa

BOOK REVIEWS due--Monday, November 20

*VI. Concluding Discussion of the Comparative Histories of British Settlement Colonies*

December 8

FINAL EXAM--Friday, December 15, 8:00 a.m.