

Cultures of Colonialism

Alan Lester

This course examines colonial practices, discourses and cultures across the nineteenth century British Empire. It examines European metropolises and their settler colonies in particular within a single analytical framework, tracking the exchange of people, ideas and objects along the networks that connected them.



Content

The first part of the course examines the main approaches to the study of British colonialism: traditional imperial history, postcolonialism, 'new' imperial history and historical geographies of empire. Student-led presentations then investigate colonial practices, discourses and cultures at specific sites across the empire including the West Indies, India, southern Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Britain itself.



Teaching Style

Weeks 1-4: Introductory lectures

Weeks 5-11: Student-led seminar presentations followed by dissection and discussion

Assessment:

2,000 word coursework chosen from 4-5 titles (40%)

3,000 word essay (60%)

Some Reading

