CIEE Lisbon, Portugal

Course title: The Portuguese Colonial Experience (16th-19th centuries)
Course code: HIST 3005 LILC
Programs offering course: Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

Lectures cover the history of the Portuguese colonial empire from the sixteenth to the early nineteenth century. The course aims at providing the students with a specific, ample, detailed and up-to-date knowledge of the several periods of Portuguese overseas rule between ca. 1450 and 1822, as well as the ability to compare it with other colonial empires.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Evaluate the importance of the history of Portuguese colonial rule in nowadays Portugal;
- Critically examine processes of social change across the Portuguese empire and relate them to current issues;
- Argue about the several dimensions of the Portuguese colonial empire between the sixteenth and the early-nineteenth centuries;
- Research and interpret a range of sources in the development of assessed work on the Portuguese colonial domination in a historical perspective;
- Distinguish the various historiographical trends in the study of early-modern Portuguese overseas expansion;
- Develop critical thinking skills about the history of empires and their role in the making of the modern world.

Course Prerequisites
Methods of Instruction

- The class schedule will consist of two two-hour sessions each week. The first part of each session is allotted to lectures by the professor, while the second part is devoted to an oral presentation by students, followed by a discussion.
- Lectures supplement and complement reading assignments, and introduce problems to be brought up in the discussion period.
- Discussions cover the reading assignment for each topic, and their aim is to make students investigate problems, analyze interpretations of subjects in the readings and/or lectures.
- Outlines of lectures, maps and other supplementary material will be distributed to students on canvas.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm Exam 25%
2. Oral Presentation 15%
3. Midterm Quiz 15%
4. Final Paper 20%
5. Final Quiz 15%
6. Class Participation 10%

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam

The Midterm exam will focus on the topics covered in the lectures, as well as on the first half of the required readings. The exam is comprised by two essay-questions. When preparing themselves to the exams, students are expected to consult books and articles outside of those used in class with the goal of exploring in depth the major themes of the class.

Oral Presentation
Each student must present orally, to the class, one of the requested readings. The presentation is expected to highlight the main ideas conveyed by the author of the requested reading, and include a comparison of the different approaches to the historical questions addressed by the reading. The course’s oral presentations are designed to help develop skills to present ideas clearly and effectively in oral form.

Midterm Quiz

All students must take a quiz and a Midterm examination. Quizzes will focus on the topics covered in the lectures.

Final Paper

Each student will write a 2000 word paper to submit in class as a hard copy (font size: 12; line spacing: 1.5). The Final Paper will be based on the oral presentation.

Final Quiz

Quizzes will focus on the topics covered in the lectures

Class Participation

Active participation in class is of fundamental importance. Students should therefore complete the required reading before each class, attend every week, and be active participants in discussion. Student’s participation will be evaluated on the basis of its quality and thoughtfulness, not on its quantity.

Attendance

CIEE students are required to attend all classes. Absences are not allowed. If a student is sick, she/he must inform the instructor and provide a doctor’s note to the Resident Director. Half a point will be subtracted to the student’s final grade if she/he misses 5 hours of classes. A point will be subtracted to the final grade if a student misses 6 hours of classes. Two points will be subtracted to the student’s final grade if she/he missed 7 hours of classes. The student who misses more than 7 hours of classes will fail the course.
N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Class:  1.1  .


Class:  1.2  .


Week 2
Class:  2.1  .


Class:  2.2  .


Week 3
Class:  3.1  .

Developing a European-type administration in Asia, America, and Africa. Required reading: SUBRAHMANYAM, 1993, pp. 55-79.

Class:  3.2  .
Field trip to the Belém area (4:00 pm)

Class: 3.3

The Portuguese vice-royalty in India.

MIDTERM QUIZ.


Week 4
Class: 4.1


Class: 4.2


Week 5
Class: 5.1

Environment and Colonial Rule (by Professor Cristina Brito, FCSH-UNL) Required reading: WARSH, 2014, pp. 517-548

Class: 5.2

Midterm Exam

Week 6
Class: 6.1

Class: 6.2


Week 7
Class: 7.1


Week 8
Class: 8.1


Class: 8.2


Week 9
Class: 9.1


Class: 9.2
Women, gender and colonial rule across the Portuguese empire.
Discussion of the film Vazante, directed by Daniela Thomas, 2017 (Brazil). Required reading: COATES, 2001, pp. 120-140.

Week 10
Class: 10.1.

Colonial experience and scientific practices across the Atlantic world: production and circulation of knowledge. Required reading: NIETO OLARTE, 2013, pp. 141-158

Class: 10.2.

Resistance against the colonial rule in eighteenth century Brazil. Required reading: HERZOG, 2015, pp. 70-133.

Week 11
Class: 11.1.


Class: 11.2.


Week 12
Class: 12.1.

The independence of Brazil and the Second Portuguese Empire

FINAL QUIZ

Required reading: SCHULZ, 2013, pp. 98-117.


