



ICP
INSTITUT
CATHOLIQUE
DE PARIS

L'esprit grand ouvert sur le monde

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY HISTORY OF THE ANGLOSPHERE

Bachelor in English and American Language, Literature and History
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 3 24 HOURS
Fall Semester 5 ECTS
Lectures (CM)
Professor: Robert Ivermee, PhD. University of Kent
Course Code: FDL_AN_L3_S5_CM_CIVI

Course description

Decolonisation of the British Empire and the postcolonial period

This course focuses on the collapse of the British Empire in the twentieth century and the emergence of the modern nation states that replaced it in Asia, Africa and elsewhere. During the first half of the semester, we will consider the development of anticolonial and nationalist opposition to British rule among different colonised peoples, and the processes of decolonisation that resulted. The second part of the module will then focus on the postcolonial period, examining how different countries - for example India, South Africa and Australia - have developed since independence. Emphasis will be placed on how each country has sought to define itself, through processes of nation-building and the construction of new identities, as it has emerged from the shadow of colonial rule.

Indicative topics

Part 1: Empire and decolonisation

The British Empire in 1900

The First World War

The formation of the Commonwealth

The Second World War

The Partition of India

Decolonisation in Africa and the Caribbean

Part 2: The postcolonial period

Australia: land and rights

South Africa: Apartheid and after

India since independence

Pakistan: nation and state

The Caribbean: memory and forgetting

The future of the Commonwealth

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand key events and processes in the decolonisation of the British Empire
- Show awareness of the history of diverse English-speaking countries during the postcolonial period
- Examine continuities and ruptures between the colonial and postcolonial periods
- Understand and reflect on the history of the Commonwealth of Nations
- Write short written responses in English related to the topics studied in class

Course Prerequisites

Minimum level of English B1

Methods of Instruction

A 2-hour weekly lecture. 12 weeks of teaching in total. Interaction and discussion are encouraged.

Assessment and Final grade

Two written assignments completed outside of class: a short analysis (40%) and essay (60%)

Course Requirements

Material to help prepare each lecture is made available on the learning platform. Students are expected to spend 1-2 hours per week preparing for the lecture. The written assignments require additional time for research and writing.