

Postcolonial Theologies

Wed. 9:30-12:00

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Postcolonialism has emerged as one of the major critical discourses in academia since its development in the 1980s. Defining *postcolonialism* is, however, not easy simply due to its complexity and variety of the implication. Some scholars emphasize the historical, chronological aspect of postcolonial discourse, whereas others the *transhistoricality* of postcolonial discourse. Postcolonialism primarily claims that all people on this earth deserve the right to the same material, cultural, institutional equality and well-being. In this course, we will explore postcolonial discourse both as a *historical* and a *transhistorical* discourse in the sense that one can apply its analytical insights to various socio-politico-cultural and theological contexts of power, domination, and subjugation that run not only through a specific historical time and space but also through human daily reality in various time and spaces. The *transhistoricality* of postcolonial discourse is, however, definitely far from being *a-historical*.

This course is to develop the intellectual and historical background of postcolonial discourse and to examine the ways in which theologians address issues of postcolonialism and the theological issues in their thinking. By the end of this course, the students will normally understand different approaches to issues of postcolonialism, be able to investigate conceptions of theological issues in postcolonialism, and understand how religion and its theological discourse are implicated in geopolitical and cultural strategies of postcolonialism.

COURSE PROCEDURES

In-class presentations, lectures and in-depth discussion of the issues

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

My Lexicon:	20 points
Concept Exam:	20 points
Presentation:	20 points
Qualifying Exam Paper:	40 points

- 4,000~5,000 words for M.Div/ MTS ; 5,000~6,000 words for Th.M/D.Min/Ph.D
- *This requirement is subject to change depending on the size and pedagogical need of the class.*

COURSE TEXTS

Childs, Peter and R. J. Patrick Williams, An Introduction to Post-Colonial

Theory. New York: Routledge, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0132329194. \$32.94.

Gandhi, Leela. Postcolonial Theory: A Critical Introduction. New York: Columbia

University Press, 1998. ISBN: 0231112734. USD 27.00 (used 2011Spring)

Keller, Catherine, et al, eds. Postcolonial Theologies: Divinity and Empire.
Chalice, 2004. ISBN-13: 978-0827230019. \$28.99
Quayson, Ato. Postcolonialism: Theory, Practice or Process? Cambridge, UK:
Polity Press, 2000. ISBN-13: 978-0745617138 \$21.24