

Fall 2019

HIST 585-2: Special Topics in History:

Topic: Colonialism & Decolonization

Instructor	Day(s)	Time(s)	Maximum Enrollment
Crais	M	1:00 – 4:00 pm	12

Semester Description:

Today, there are more than 190 nation-states. Many of these had been part of an empire, whether British or Soviet. The ending of formal colonial systems in the period especially after 1945 is one of the most momentous periods in modern history. And among the most debated and least well understood. Recently, conventional wisdoms about this era have been substantially complicated, and in some instances overturned. More generally, how we think about colonialism and decolonization shapes how we understand the contemporary world. The purpose of this course is to critically examine late colonialism and decolonization, to explore the debates that have unfolded over the past half-century, the stories people have told and continue to tell about the past and present, and to consider some of the fundamental historical processes that have created the world today. We will explore issues such as empire, violence, nationalism, gender through thematic readings as well as case studies across Africa, Asia, and Europe.

Required Textbooks, Articles, and Resources:

TBA

Grading:

Requirements involve very brief weekly papers and a short essay.