

# COURSE DETAIL

## THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF EMPIRE

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

King's College London

**Program(s)**

King's College London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science International Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

156

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF EMPIRE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

THEORY&PRACT EMPIRE

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This course investigates the meaning of “empire” and “imperialism” in three phases. First, the course examines how empire has been imagined according to different schools of thought, resulting in very different versions of imperialism. Second, the course traces how the concept of “empire” emerged in medieval European political philosophy as a specific theory of the West's self-anointed right and responsibility to shape the world in its own image. Third, the course examines how this theory was used to justify imperialism from the Columbian Epoch onwards, examining how imperialist political activity resulted in political philosophies that were very different, but which all resulted in European dominance of the world. The course examines how historical understandings and manifestations of empire have underpinned the global order of the early 21st century, and how “empire” may have returned in the form of the EU.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

6AAOB323

## Host Institution Course Title

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF EMPIRE

## Host Institution Campus

King's College London

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

European and International Studies

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