COURSE DETAIL

THE POLITICS OF EMPIRE
Country Australia
Host Institution Australian National University
Program(s) Australian National University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science
UCEAP Course Number 140
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE POLITICS OF EMPIRE
UCEAP Transcript Title POLITICS OF EMPIRE
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

Recent events in global politics have forced the memory of empire into the public domain. Equally, changes in the international system have prompted analysts of various stripes in the public domain to refer to the US, China, Europe or Russia as ‘empire’. These changes have been reflected in political science with American Empire Debate, a turn toward history and critical voices calling for the decolonization of the discipline and a call for a recognition of the importance of empire in shaping global politics. A sub-discipline of comparative empire studies has emerged that overlaps history with IR and calls for ‘epistemic decolonization’ have arisen alongside scholarship which offers colonization as a viable policy option. With the disciplines of the social sciences being largely oriented around the state, this course takes as its focus empire as its referent object and asks: why has political science paid it so little attention? What is an empire and how do we theorize it and study it? What does the introduction of empire as a field of study mean for political science and how we understand the international system? This course takes empire as its object of inquiry and provides students with an interdisciplinary map for the various ways it has been theorized and understood. The aim of the course is to examine and assess in comparative frame the different kinds of analytical tools and methodological problems that might be applied to the study of empire. It will pose the theorization of empire as a problem which will be explored conceptually, methodologically and empirically. Finally, we explore what empire as a political form or category of analysis contributes to our understanding of global politics

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
POLS3032

Host Institution Course Title
THE POLITICS OF EMPIRE

Host Institution Course Details

https://programsandcourses.anu.edu.au/course/POLS3032/Second%20Semester/9084

Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

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