“Things seen are things as seen.”
Wallace Stevens

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

NB: All readings marked with one asterisk (*) are available via Electronic Reserve from the Hesburgh Library and those marked by a double asterisk (**) will be distributed as handouts. Lastly, those marked with a diamond (__) are available online via a dedicated search by title.

PART I: TERRITORY

Week One Getting Oriented: Nomadic and Sedentary

*Ernest Gellner, Plough, Sword and Book: The Structure of Human History, 11-20.


Bruce Chatwin, The Songlines, 1-19.


⇒ Webwork: explore Wikipedia texts on “other” and “alterity”

Week Two Territory and “Metageography”


_Rudyard Kipling, “The Ballad of East and West” (1889)
http://www.bartleby.com/246/1129.html


⇒ First Blog Commentary: What is Civilization?

Week Three Pacing the Territory of the Encounter

Conrad, Secret Sharer, 50-49.


⇒ Film: *Cabeza de Vaca*, Nicholás Echevarria, dir.

**PART II: MAP**

**Week Four**  Concept and Coercion


⇒First Paper Due (950 words): *Considering Power and Coercion*

**Week Five**  The Emergent Other and the Encounter


⇒Second Blog Commentary: *Identity and Difference*
Week Six  Theoretical Curiosity and the Gaze


Marco Polo, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, xvi-xx, 3-18, 60-95.


⇒ Team Webwork: *The Flowering of Marco Polo’s Imagination*: Did he travel to China? Does it matter?

Week Seven  Reprise of Key Themes: Self, Others, World


⇒ Film: *Walkabout*, Nicholas Roeg, dir.

Week Eight  Map Confronts Territory: Civilizing Mission I

*Eric R. Wolf, Europe and the People without History* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1982), 4-11, 24-54.


⇒ Third Blog Commentary: How is Civilization Coercive? Why does Exploration Accelerate in the 15th and 16th centuries?
Week Nine: Map Confronts Territory: Civilizing Mission II


Sahlins, *Islands of History*, 75-103.

*Wolf, Europe and the People without History*, 54-65.


⇒ Film: *Apocalypse Now Redux*, Francis Ford Coppola, dir.

PART III: CONCEPTUAL TERRITORY

Week Ten: Consequences of the Confrontation


⇒ Second Paper Due (1500 words): Interpreting the ‘Other’: Cinematically, Narratively

Week Eleven: Modernity and the Challenge of Representation


Week Twelve: Mode of Apprehension: Conflict or Confluence


**Determination of Final Paper Topic**

Film: *Black and White in Color (Noirs et blancs en couleur)*, Jean-Jacques Annaud, dir.

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**Week Thirteen**

**Representing Self through the Other**


Gellner, *Plough, Sword and Book*, 113-144.


Sahlins, *Islands of History*, 143-156.

**Group Blog Post: A History of the Present?: Theoretical Curiosity and the Enlightenment Project**

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**Week Fourteen**

**Misunderstanding and Mutual Entailment**


Film: *The Last Wave*, Peter Weir, dir.

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**Week Fifteen**

**The Return of the Nomad: Inhabiting the World**


**Final Paper Due (2500 words) Friday, December 14**

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