Objectives: This course introduces a number of theoretical approaches to the study of non-western histories, cultures, institutions, etc. There are two primary objectives: to prepare students to read and analyze contemporary scholarly theory and practice; and to examine the goals and histories of various disciplines in constructing their object of study. The aim is not merely to present some of the critical impasses of various disciplinary approaches, but more importantly to discuss alternatives.

Methodology: We will discuss the reading or readings indicated in the schedule on that date, with an emphasis on analyzing these texts in terms of their aims/hypotheses, assumptions/conclusions, and modes of analysis. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings. The readings are organized around a certain problematic. At the end of each unit, a response on that unit will be due, as marked on the schedule. In general, the response will comprise five pages: one page of critical summary for each of four different readings from that unit (which will be announced), with a fifth page presenting a more general response. There will be, in total, four of these five-page responses. Students are encouraged to use the fifth page to relate the readings to a specific research project, such that, in the course the term, student can develop a critical perspective for that project. Students are welcome to write a short paper based on that project instead of the fourth response paper.

Readings: Copies will be available.

Evaluation:
20% Participation
80% 4 responses, 20@% @

Finally, McGill requires syllabi to include these statements:

In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.
READING SCHEDULE

Sept. 5    Introduction

Orientalism and After


Sept. 12  Guest Lecture: Rey Chow
—Rey Chow, “Foucault, Race, and Racism,” in After Foucault, ed. Lisa Downing (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)
   Recommended:


Sept. 26    —Michel Foucault, “The Subject and Power,” Afterword to Michel Foucault: Beyond Structuralism and Hermeneutics (University of Chicago Press, 1982).

Postcolonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms


Oct. 3    Guest speaker: TBA
Response 1

Oct. 5  

Oct. 10  

Oct. 12  

Oct. 17  

Oct. 19  

Nationalisms and Sovereignty

Oct. 24  
**Guest Speaker:** Rosiland Hampton

Response 2 due

Oct. 26  

Oct 31  

Nov. 2  


Decolonizing Media Studies

Nov. 16 Guest Speaker: Thomas Looser
   Recommended:

   **Response 3 due**


Dec. 11 **Response 4 due**