

## Draft Syllabus

### **Intellectual History of Empire: The End of *Pax Americana*?**

Naoki Sakai

Spring 2017, April 14-June 30

Friday 1:20 pm ~ 4:20 pm

What kinds of ideas, philosophies, or legitimating ideologies are associated with empires? What imperial roles are assumed by intellectuals and with what effect? By juxtaposing comparatively what are often thought to be radically different cases of imperial dominance – the Japanese and the American -- this graduate seminar will attempt to generate new questions and insights regarding the intellectual mobilization that accompanies empire in these, and other, places and times with a view to the current global situation we are facing: the end of *Pax Americana*.

This seminar is mainly for graduate students, but some qualified undergraduate students are welcome. The medium for this seminar is English even though some of the lectures at the workshops may be given in Chinese. All the assigned readings will be in English; class room discussions will be conducted in English. Major emphasis will be placed on lectures and class discussions, not only on discussion of assigned readings but out of class research, classroom presentations, and the preparation of a research paper for submission at the end of the semester. Research papers should strive for comparative perspective on empire, but need not focus on the Japanese or American cases.

During the duration of this seminar two workshops will be held to which some authors whose articles and monographs we are going to read will be invited (Week 5 & Week 8). The enrolled students are encouraged to attend the workshops as long as their schedule allows. The most of the presentations at the workshops will be video-recorded, so that those students who cannot attend the workshops because of the conflict in their course schedules can watch the video-taped reproductions.

Each student is required to make at least two class presentations, and the term paper is due on July 5, 2017.

\*\* Please note that some of the readings materials listed in this draft version of syllabus may be changed. By the end of the first week of April, the syllabus will be finalized.

**Week 1**      April 14

### **Trans-Pacific Perspective**

Introduction

Edwin O. Reischauer, "Memorandum on Policy Toward Japan"

Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?" *The National Interest* (Summer 1989):3-18

Hillary Clinton, "America's Pacific Century," in *Foreign Policy*, November 2011.\*

Noam Chomsky, "Noam Chomsky, Hegemony and Its Dilemma -- Losing the world': American decline in perspective, part 1" *The Guardian*, 14 February 2012.

Noam Chomsky, "Noam Chomsky, Hegemony and Its Dilemmas-- The imperial way': American decline in perspective, part 2" *The Guardian*, 15 February 2012.

**Week 2**      April 21

#### **Two Empires: Comparison that has been repressed I.**

Takashi Fujitani, Introduction, Part I and Part II, *Race for Empire*, University of California Press, 2011, 1-236

**Week 3**      April 28

#### **Two Empires: Comparison that has been repressed II.**

Takashi Fujitani, Part III and Epilogue, *Race for Empire*, 239-385

**Week 4**      May 5

#### **Two Empires: Comparison that has been repressed III.**

Lisa Yoneyama, *Cold War Ruins: Transpacific Critique of American Justice and Japanese War Crimes*, Durham: Duke University Press, 2016

**Week 5**      May 10, 11, and 12

#### **NCTU Workshop on Decolonization and Knowledge I**

The workshop program will be publicized as soon as the titles of presentations are announced.

**Week 6** May 19

**Two Empires: Comparison that has been repressed IV.**

Lisa Yoneyama, *Cold War Ruins: Transpacific Critique of American Justice and Japanese War Crimes*, Durham: Duke University Press, 2016

**Week 7** May 26

**World-History and the Greater East Asian Co-prosperity Sphere**

Takeshi Kimoto, "Antinomies of Total War", *positions: east Asia cultures critique*, vol. 17, no. 1, 97-125.

Lewis Harrington, "The Failure of World-History: Miki Kiyoshi and the Shōwa Kenkyūkai," *ibid*, 43-72.

J. V. Koschmann, "Total War and Subjectivity: 'Economic Ethics' as a Trajectory toward Postwar," *The Politics of Culture*, John Kim and Richard Calichmann ed. London: Routledge, 2010, 157-174.\*

**Week 8** June 1, 2, and 3

**NCTU Workshop on Decolonization and Knowledge II**

The workshop program will be publicized as soon as the titles of presentations are announced.

**Week 9** June 9

**Imperial Nationalism: the Society of Sympathy, Minority, Racism I**

Pearl S. Buck, 'Letter to the Times,' November 15, 1941 in the New York Times, from *American Unity and Asia*, New York: the John Day Company, 1942: 11-20\*

Pearl Buck, 'A letter to colored Americans,' February 28, 1942, *American Unity and Asia*: 34-42\*

Naoki Sakai, "Imperial Nationalisms and the Comparative Perspective," *positions: east Asia cultures critique*, vol. 17, no. 1, 159-205.\*

**Week 10** June 16

**Imperial Nationalism: the Society of Sympathy, Minority, Racism II**

James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*, Vintage Books, 1993.

George S. Schuyler, "The Caucasian Problem," *What the Negro wants*, Rayfor W. Logan ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1944, 281-299\*

Langston Hughes, "My America," *What the Negro wants*, Rayfor W. Logan ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1944: 300-308\*

Naoki Sakai, "Two Negations: the fear of being excluded and the logic of self-esteem," In *Contemporary Japanese Thought*, Richard Calichmann ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005: 159-192\*

**Week 11** June 23

***Sovereignty and the Modern International World I***

Carl Schmitt, *The Nomos of the Earth in the International Law of the Jus Publicum Europaeum*, G. L. Ulmen trans., 9-34; 42-138; 140-212, Telos Press Publishing, 2006

**Week 12** June 30

***Sovereignty and the Modern International World II***

Carl Schmitt, *The Nomos of the Earth in the International Law of the Jus Publicum Europaeum*, 214-322; 324-355.

Assigned Readings

- 1) Carl Schmitt, *The Nomos of the Earth in the International Law of the Jus Publicum Europaeum*, New York: Telos Press Publishing, 2006.
- 2) Takashi Fujitani, Introduction, *Race for Empire*, University of California Press, 2011
- 3) Lisa Yoneyama, *Cold War Ruins: Transpacific Critique of American Justice and Japanese War Crimes*, Durham: Duke University Press, 2016
- 4) James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*, New York: Vintage Books, 1993

Articles (Copies of the articles with \* mark will be available on line)

- 1) Hillary Clinton, "America's Pacific Century," in *Foreign Policy*, November 2011.\*

- [http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/10/11/americas\\_pacific\\_century](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/10/11/americas_pacific_century)
- 2) Noam Chomsky, “Noam Chomsky, Hegemony and Its Dilemma -- Losing the world’: American decline in perspective, part 1” *The Guardian*, 14 February 2012.\*  
[http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175502/tomgram%3A\\_noam\\_chomsky%2C\\_hegemony\\_and\\_its\\_dilemmas/](http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175502/tomgram%3A_noam_chomsky%2C_hegemony_and_its_dilemmas/)
  - 3) Noam Chomsky, “Noam Chomsky, Hegemony and Its Dilemmas-- The imperial way’: American decline in perspective, part 2” *The Guardian*, 15 February 2012.\*  
[http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175503/tomgram%3A\\_noam\\_chomsky%2C\\_imperial\\_hegemony\\_and\\_its\\_dilemmas/](http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175503/tomgram%3A_noam_chomsky%2C_imperial_hegemony_and_its_dilemmas/)
  - 4) Edwin O. Reischauer, “Memorandum on Policy Toward Japan,”
  - 5) Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History,” *The National Interest* (Summer 1989): 3~18
  - 6) J. Victor Koschmann, “Total War and Subjectivity: ‘Economic Ethics’ as Trajectory toward Postwar,” *The Politics of Culture*, John Kim and Richard Calichmann ed. London: Routledge, 2010, 157-174
  - 7) Takeshi Kimoto, “Antinomies of Total War”, *positions: east Asia cultures critique*, vol. 17, no. 1, 97-125.\*
  - 8) Lewis Harrington, “The Failure of World-History: Miki Kiyoshi and the Shôwa Kenkyûkai,” *ibid*, 43-72.\*
  - 9) Pearl S. Buck, ‘Letter to the Times,’ November 15, 1941 in the *New York Times*, from *American Unity and Asia*, New York: the John Day Company, 1942: 11-20\*
  - 10) Pearl Buck, ‘A letter to colored Americans,’ February 28, 1942, *American Unity and Asia*: 34-42\*
  - 11) George S. Schuyler, “The Caucasian Problem,’ *What the Negro wants*, Rayfor W. Logan ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1944, 281-299\*
  - 12) Langston Hughes, “My America,” *What the Negro wants*, Rayfor W. Logan ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1944: 300-308\*
  - 13) Naoki Sakai, “Two Negations: the fear of being excluded and the logic of self-esteem,” In *Contemporary Japanese Thought*, Richard Calichmann ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005: 159-192\*
  - 14) Naoki Sakai, “Imperial Nationalisms and the Comparative Perspective,” *positions: east asia cultures critique*, vol. 17, no. 1, 159-205.\*