

**Module Details for****GERMAN, AUSTRIAN AND SWISS POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES II**

Future Record

**Module Code****GRU44152**

Module Name

GERMAN, AUSTRIAN AND SWISS POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES II

Module Short Title

Postcolonialism

ECTS weighting

5

Semester/term taught

Semester 2 Assessed

Module Coordinator/Owner

Clemens Ruthner

**Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of the modules, students should be able to:

- Read and understand selected complex primary texts in the original German;
- Demonstrate a detailed critical knowledge of the primary texts studied in the course and of the relevant secondary literature;
- Display a deeper understanding of the specific literary or linguistic topic and its cultural, historical, theoretical and/or linguistic contexts;
- Present a critical analysis of the primary (literary or linguistic) material in a well-structured, correctly referenced essay in coherent English (or German, where required).

**Module Content**

It is widely forgotten that between the 1880s and the First World War, the German Kaiserreich was among the colonial powers of Europe, occupying e.g. the territories that are known as Namibia, Cameroon, Togo, and Tanzania in Africa nowadays, along with New Guinea in the Pacific and the Chinese city of Qingdao. In the case of Austria-Hungary, however, the mantra of Habsburg historiography remains that this empire was not a colonizer (overseas) - but maybe it was within the continent or, at least, in its own imagination. Strange is the case of Switzerland, too, which as trade superpower was an important facilitator of European colonialism, but abstained from colonial conquest itself.

This module is a sequel of sorts to German Postcolonial Studies I, but can be taken independently as well. It will introduce students to Postcolonial approaches, following Ania Loomba's introduction to the subject matter and selected other articles. It will then apply this knowledge to the critical analysis of German, Swiss and Austrian literary texts of the 20th century dealing with Asia and the South Pacific (their idyllic Südseephantasien). New perspectives of power, agency, Mündigkeit, and gender/queer studies will be introduced to complement approaches developed in MT.

Teaching and Learning Methods

To introduce student to Postcolonial approaches in German literary and cultural studies, their theories and application to texts of the 20th century.

Assessment Details@I-MOD-ASSM

Essay (100%)

Reassessment Requirements

Contact Hours and Indicative Student Workload

2 hour per week - 22 hours in total

Recommended Reading List

Ania Loomba, Colonialism/Postcolonialism (Routledge, 2015)

Primary texts:

Zweig, St.: Der Amokläufer (1921) - A Colonial Gender War in Indonesia

Kubin, A.: Die Andere Seite (1909) – Dystopian Novel Set In Central Asia

Kracht, C.: Imperium (2012) – German Colonialism In The South Pacific

Winkler, J.: Domra. Am Ufer des Ganges (1996) - Queering India

A detailed reading list (including recommended editions and secondary sources) will be handed out in the opening session of the module.

Module Pre-requisite

Module Co Requisite

Module Website

[www.tcd.ie/nmes](http://www.tcd.ie/nmes)

Are other  
Schools/Departments @I-  
MOD-OSCH

Module approval date

Approved By                      Council

Academic Start Year              2022/23

Academic Year of Data

Graduate Attributes - To  
Think Independently

Graduate Attributes - To  
Act Responsibly

Graduate Attributes - To  
Communicate Effectively

Graduate Attributes - To  
Develop Continuously