COMPARATIVE HISTORY OF EMPIRES IN THE 20TH CENTURY
Day/Time: MW 11:00-12:20
Discussion Sections: TH 1:00, TH 3:00, TH 4
Email Address: pap.ndiaye@sciencespo.fr
Maximum Enrollment: 45

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course offers a comparative history of empires in the 20th century. It will provide students with an overview of the new forms of world-spanning imperial rule that emerged in the past 100 years, and the extraordinary story of their rise and fall. We will study the collapse of the old empires at the end of the 19th century, and the rise of new 20th-century colonial regimes centered on England, France and Japan. We will consider the first World War as a war between empires, the emergence of new imperial structures in the middle of the 20th century, including those in the US, the USSR, and the Third Reich. Finally we will turn to the decolonization processes in the 1950s and 1960s, and the post-imperial world with its conflicting memories of empires. Attention will be paid throughout to developments in civil societies, local elites, and various forms of resistances within and between empires, as well as their cultural expression in the colonies and the metropoles. PowerPoint presentations will feature movie clips, songs, and documentary photographs, as well as in-class student engagement.

AREA OF CONCENTRATION: Americas, Asia/Middle East, Global, Europe

TEACHING METHOD: Lecture and discussion sections

EVALUATION METHOD: Midterm, Final and Section Participation

GRADING BASIS: ANC

TENTATIVE READING LIST:
Selections from—
Takashi Fujitani, Race for Empire: Koreans as Japanese and Japanese as Americans During World War II (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013), 9780520280212.
Todd Shepard, Voices of Decolonization: A Brief History with Documents (Bedford-St. Martin’s, 2014), 9781457618154.
Timothy Snyder, Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin (New York: Basic Books, 2010), 9780465031474.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE: Pap Ndiaye is Roberta Buffett Visiting Professor of International Studies at Northwestern University for the Fall Quarter. His permanent position is at Sciences Po in Paris, France. He has recently published books on the history and social condition of French Blacks (La condition noire, Gallimard 2009), on the history of Chicago (Histoire de Chicago, Fayard 2013), and in 2018 will be publishing a Global History of the Civil Rights Movement. Ndiaye writes regularly for French newspapers including Le Monde and Libération.