

ANTH/SOCI 398-B, (De)Globalization & the Nation
Fall 2019
Film Commentary

Choose to focus on **one** of the two films presented in class (*Life and Debt* or *Brexitannia*). They are shown on October 31 and November 7.

In your **first paragraph**, summarize the film by identifying its main themes and arguments, and the kinds of issues and questions it raises. Remember to identify the film you are discussing.

In the **main body** of the essay, you can choose to take any of a number of possible approaches: (1) you could *challenge* select contents of the film by showing the presentation to have been incorrect, misleading or over-simplified; (2) you could *extend* certain issues, themes or arguments, by adding supporting material; (3) you could *corroborate* the film, by showing how some of its key claims are in fact solidly supported; or, (4) you could *focus* on a specific point, and *magnify* it by doing further research. These are just some suggestions; you might think of another approach.

Whichever approach you choose, or develop on your own, the key thing is to select *one* of the two following methods for evaluating the film. **One** would involve consulting **five (5) primary sources**. A primary source is any *first-hand* information, and can thus comprise government documents, interviews with key figures, statistics from international organizations, or leaked documents, among other possibilities. (Newspaper and magazine articles are *not* primary sources, unless you were doing a study of media, which is not the subject of this course). **Another** method that you could choose instead, is to read **three (3) academic journal articles** that are directly relevant to the film's contents. You can access academic journals via the Concordia Library online catalogue, and some of the best databases are JSTOR, Academic Search Premier (EBSCO), Sage, Taylor and Francis, and Wiley online (the library website also allows you to search *all* possible sources with a single query). Typically, academic journals are like the ones we have read in class: usually 20 pages or so in length. They are *not* magazine or newspaper articles. (You cannot use any of the assigned readings.)

In your **closing paragraph**, provide your overall appraisal of the film. For example, would you recommend it to others, and if so, why? This can be the shortest paragraph of the essay.

For this assignment, a **bibliography** is necessary. You can follow any of the bibliographic formats listed on the Library's collection of "How To" guides, or you can simply mimic the style found in this course's syllabus. The key is to have all of the most important identifying details about your source. No points will be deducted for deviating from any of the established formats, as long as all of the key information is provided.

If you have any questions about this assignment, please send them by email to maximilian.forte@concordia.ca, by November 1st. Answers will then be shared with the entire class, by email, without identifying who may have asked the question. *No* questions about the assignment will receive a response *after* November 1st.

Please follow the guidelines below. This essay is worth **30%** of the final course grade, and is marked out of **15** points.

⦿ This assignment is due on **Friday, November 15**, no later than **5:00pm** (17h00), by **email** to:

courses@openanthropology.org

- ⦿ The maximum word limit for this essay is **1,000** words—which does not include your bibliography. Any word(s) beyond that limit will not be read and will not count for grading purposes. That total also does not include references to sources in the body of your essay.
- ⦿ *How to send your paper:*

As an email attachment, in **one** of the following file formats **only**: **.odt**, **.doc**, **.docx**, **.rtf**, or **.txt**, **but no PDFs or any other file format**. Please **double-check** that you have attached your paper before sending your email. In case of any doubt, or just to be safe, you can also copy and paste the text of your paper straight into the body of your email message.

- ⦿ Typing should be **single-spaced**.
- ⦿ **Insert your full name and email address** at the top of the first page of your exam.
- ⦿ **No confirmation of receipt will be emailed to you.** In the event that a paper is missing, you will be contacted directly and informed that your paper was not received, and that automatically the grade assigned to your paper is zero. Graded papers will be returned by email, as PDF files.
- ⦿ For all course policies that apply to assignments and grading, see the complete Syllabus.