

HOW TO WRITE YOUR LECTURE ON COLONIZATION VS. NEOCOLONIZATION

Writing a lecture is much harder than it may appear at first...but the process will help you get a solid background on the information you are presenting, and will help you better explain the information than if you simply regurgitated someone else's lecture or read off of someone else's notes. Follow these directions as closely or as loosely as you believe is needed, given your own background in world history.

STEP 1. Readings.

As you may well know, a certain number of readings are essential to any well-informed lecture. For this lecture, you should read:

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

(A huge number of other colonial, neocolonial, and post colonial theorists and historians exist! Don't be limited to Fanon—if you're inspired, try branching out to Ngugi Wa Thiong'O, Wole Soyinka, etc.)

STEP 2. Formulate the central questions.

If you had to reduce Fanon's theory into four central questions, what would they be? The first, and most obvious question might be: "What is colonization, and why does it happen?"

Question 2:

Question 3:

Question 4:

STEP 3. Develop detailed and historically rich answers to these questions.

Read carefully through the Fanon text and find detailed, specific answers to each question; which nations is he referring to? What time periods? Which dictators does he reference? Do not simply come up with "off-the-cuff" answers; this defeats the whole purpose of a lecture. You are not discussing some ideas you happened to come across in your own head; you are presenting a series of carefully crafted arguments, theory, and historical evidence.

Answer to Question 1:

Answer to Question 2:

Answer to Question 3:

Answer to Question 4:

STEP 4. Vocab, presentation.

Go through your lecture notes now and find key vocabulary words that students may not understand. Don't go overboard - choose between 3 and 5 words. Also, don't choose random words that are not central to your lecture; choose words that have rich meaning in the context of what you will say.

When you deliver your lecture, you should start by putting a short outline on the board. Example:

TITLE of YOUR LECTURE (Short and to-the-point, please)

- 1. Colonization in West Africa**
- 2. Achieving "freedom" in the 1960s**
- 3. Neocolonial governments and the rise of dictatorships**
- 4. Is neocolonization the same as colonization?**

Vocab list:
oligarchy
feudalism
uhuru

STEP 5. Delivery.

Students should copy the outline of your lecture, draw a line underneath it, and jot down notes. Teach students to ALWAYS date their notes. This habit should be well inculcated by the time they begin college.

