**Literature and Empire**

**Core Texts**

Brantlinger, Patrick. ‘Race and the Victorian Novel’ in [*The Cambridge Companion to the Victorian Novel*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db12045213~S9). Ed. Deirdre David. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2000: 49-168.

Demonstrating the influence of evolutionary theory Brantlinger argues that racial stereotypes informed how the Victorians thought about national identity. Examines the fiction of Scott, Haggard, Trollope and Bulwer-Lytton.

Green, Martin. [*Dreams of Adventure, Deeds of Empire*.](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db10696224~S9) New York: Basic Books, 1979.

A survey and discussion of adventure novels of nearly three hundred years along with the imperialist history of that time. Also includes chapters on individual authors: Defoe, Scott, Cooper, Tolstoy, Twain, Kipling and Conrad.

Ledger, Sally and Scott McCracken, [*Cultural politics at the Fin de Siècle*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db11178405~S9). Cambridge:

Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Radical account of cultural politics that argues that current conflicts of 'race', class, and gender have their origins in the cultural politics of the last fin de siècle, when Britain experienced the onset of imperial decline. This collection includes essays on the “New Woman”, the reconstruction of masculinities, and of feminism and empire.

Marshall, Gail, Ed. [*The Cambridge Companion to the Fin de Siècle*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db13135601~S9). Cambridge:

Cambridge University Press, 2007.

The Introduction is useful for an overview of thefin de siècle. In particular, see chapter 5: Forman, Ross G. ‘Empire’ which examines fin de siècle concerns regarding racial evolution, degeneration and reverse colonization through a discussion of a variety of contemporary texts that comment on Britain’s imperial conduct.

Matthew, Adam. [*Empire online. Section II, Empire writing and the literature of Empire*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db13349112~S9) [**electronic resource**]. 2007

The materials include adventure stories set in the colonies by British and colonial authors, accounts of colonial life, and political decision-making towards decolonisation.

Said, Edward, [*Orientalism*.](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db12274282~S9) London: Penguin, 2003.

Classic and highly influential account of Western constructions of the Orient.

Smith, Andrew and William Hughes (Ed.) [*Empire and the Gothic: The Politics of Genre*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db12215659~S9)*e*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Collection of essays examining the relationship between the Gothic and theories of Post-Colonialism from Romantic literature through to twentieth-century fiction.

**Recommended Reading**

Back, Les and John Solomos, (Ed), [*Theories of Race and Racism*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db13096204~S9)*: a Reader*. New York: Routledge, 1999.

Gilbert, Sandra and Susan Gubar. ‘Heart of Darkness: The Agon of the Femme Fatale.’ *No Man’s Land:* [*The Place of the Woman Writer in the Twentieth Century*.](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db10611606~S9) Vol. 2: Sexchanges. New Haven/London: Yale UP, 1989: 3-46.

http://faculty.ncf.edu/hassold/FinDeSiecle/gg\_heart\_of\_darkness.htm

Horn, David G. [*The Criminal Body: Lombroso and the Anatomy of Deviance*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db12293201~S9). New York;

London: Routledge, 2003.

Katz, Wendy R. [*Rider* Haggard *and the Fiction of Empire: a Critical Study of British Imperial Fiction*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db11084419~S9). Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1987.

McKlintock, Anne. [*Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*.](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db10911659~S9) London: Routledge, 1994. [Online Version Available](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db14517955~S9)

Meyer, Susan. [*Imperialism at Home: Race and Victorian Women’s Fiction*](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db10389710~S9). Ithaca; London: Cornell UP, 1996.

Meyer Susan L. ‘[Colonialism and the Figurative Strategy of *Jane Eyre*’](http://elib.tcd.ie/login?url=http://www.jstor.org/stable/3828358) Victorian Studies
Vol. 33, No. 2 (1990), pp. 247-268

Article Stable URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/3828358

Robbins, Ruth and Julian Wolfreys. Ed. *[Victorian Gothic: Literary and Cultural](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db11945306~S9)*

*[Manifestations in the Nineteenth Century](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db11945306~S9)*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2000.

Showalter, Elaine. ‘Syphilis, Sexuality, and the Fiction of the *Fin de Siècle*.’ [*Sex, Politics, and Science in the Nineteenth-Century Novel: Selected Papers from the English Institute, 1983-84*.](http://library.catalogue.tcd.ie/record%3Db10387663~S9) Ed. Ruth Bernard Yeazall. Baltimore: The John Hopkins UP, 1986: 88-115.