OUTLINE

Ages of Empires: Russian, Chinese, British

1. Definition of Empire and Emperor
   The essential feature: the recognition and control of difference by domination.

2. Theories of Empires
   Empires as a general type
   Empires of the 19th century: What is different?

3. Why Do Empires Expand?
   Economic Incentives
   Geopolitics and Security
   The Imperial Vision: Why do Ideals Matter?
4. How Do They Keep People Under Control?  
Classification and Ethnography

5. Other Models of Organizing the World  
Civilizations: Universalist Ideals but without Domination  
Nations: Particular Essences; Sameness not Difference

Nov. 6, 2003
Outline
Three Empires in Conflict: Russia, Britain, China

1. Why Is Empire Back?
   - From Empire to Nation?
   - From Empire to … Empire?
   - Why Compare Empires: Politics of Comparison

2. Russian Imperial Expansion: The Real Story
   - Not just Despotism
   - Visions of Profit, not Glory
   - From Furs to Exile
   - Moving into Central Asia

3. What’s So Special about the British Empire?
   - “A fit of absence of mind”?  
   - The East India Company: Greed, Corruption, and Honor
   - Capitalism and Industrial Technology

4. China Under the Last Century of Qing Rule, 1800 -1911
   - Frontier Troubles: White Lotus rebellions, Muslim rebellions in Xinjiang, the Taiping.
   - Foreign Relations: Russians, British, and Others.

Nov. 20, 2003