Session 12
Imperialism: A Problem for Anthropology
Anthropology’s unspoken word

Ideological study of ideology
Disentangling a Word

The History of a Word

- 1870s, Great Britain
- “empire” & “imperial” → imperator
“Imperialism” as a short-term policy; propaganda
Being against imperialism was not a repudiation of empire
Liberals (self-government) vs. Conservatives ("jingoism")

Gilbert H. MacDermott (1878):
“We don’t want to fight, But by Jingo! if we do, We’ve got the ships, we’ve got the men, We’ve got the money too”.

Shifting, expanding meanings
Philanthropy, the civilizing mission \(\rightarrow\) “cultural imperialism”
- J.A. Hobson, economic theory of imperialism
Imperialism without Colonies

Harry Magdoff, *Imperialism without Colonies*
Gough’s New Proposals (1968)

Kapferer: The Corporate-Oligarchic State

Lutz: The Militarized State