Student Authored Midterm Exam

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This is a link to the midterm assignment. It is due Wednesday by midnight

In 2–3 sentences, please answer the following questions with as much specificity as possible. Where possible, please make reference to specific essays and images examined in class.

1. How would you best describe the term “Going upriver?”

1. Why does understanding the orient/orientalism matter in relation to the paradisiacal?

1. How is exoticism reflected through French postcards showcasing Indigenous people and nature?

1. What does “feminization of the tropics” refer to? How is nature in the tropics represented by Western Literature?

1. What were initial reactions upon Rumphius’ writing and categorization of the Upas tree and its dangers? Was it as deadly as he claimed?

Essays (30 points apiece = 60 points)

In 2–3 substantial paragraphs, please compose an essay in response to the questions below.  Be sure that your essay includes a clear thesis statement, the development of an argument through specific examples, and that it demonstrates an engagement with course texts, including images.

1) How does the historical feminization and over sexualization of tropical women in a paradisiacal / pestilential context compare to views of tropical women in modern society?

2) Using examples in the given texts, which mode of representation has been impacted greater from colonial influences, culture or environment? Use paradisiacal and pestilential concepts to describe what has been impacted and how.

Extra Credit! (5pts)

1. In the film *The Letter (1940)*, What was the name of the assistant that came forward with the letter written by Leslie?
2. Give examples of how men versus women are represented on the postcards.

\*Please have each member of your briefly describe their contributions:

Tyler: Wrote short answer question #3 and worked with the rest of the group on the essay questions.

Alejandra: I wrote question #1, we all worked together on writing the essay questions/extra credit questions.

Alli: I wrote question short answer question #2, we all worked on the essay questions together.

Anna: I wrote question number 4, We all worked on the extra credit/essay questions

Gavin: I wrote question 5. We all worked on the essay questions and extra credit questions together.

 \*What was your collective approach to the exam? What kinds of knowledge did you want the test-taker to surface?

We met on zoom Sunday to gather some ideas and lay a foundation for the work to be done as well as finished the essay questions together. Using the topics we individually knew best, we then separated to work on a short answer question each. We met back up on Wednesday morning to work on the extra credit questions and compile the short answer questions to look as if it were one cohesive piece. The knowledge we want the test-taker to take away is how despite each of these pieces being of different topics and different authors, it all correlates into the grand idea of colonialism in the “tropics” and how these bleeds into modern society.

\*\*What worked smoothly in this collaboration? What was a challenge?

The only challenge in this project was really setting up communication between us as a group. At first we tried using zoom, but with complications surrounding the password, we instead opted to use discord, a social platform that's mainly utilized by the video game community that also has group calls. At first, getting everyone’s information was a bit of a struggle, but everything went smoothly from there. As a group, we talked about what kind of topics we should include, established some goals that we can accomplish after every meeting together, and easily divided the work between us, as well as making a group effort on the extra credit questions. Once everything fell into place, the workflow was smooth, productive, and everyone contributed equally.