

# decolonising† the canon‡: 4 moves for historians of ideas

the canon‡: relatively determinate, relatively stable body of work in the history of ideas that has attained the status of classic text

Western

White

Male

1. Add ...

neglected, marginalised voices

2 Reveal

... silences, complicity, biases

3. Demonstrate the operation of the 'master's tools' (Lorde, Mills)

4. Expose ... the institutionalisation of norms, the rules of the game (Mbembe)

† decolonise: acknowledge power inequalities, read dominant voices through the lenses of domination

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