

**SUBJECT: ALTRES LITERATURES EN LLENGUA ANGLESÀ (Post-Colonial Literature in English)**

**Code: 28487**

**Credits: 6**

**Semester: 2**

**Groups: 1**

**Teacher: Felicity Hand**

**Tutoria integrada: Virtual**

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**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT**

This course is designed to be an introduction to Indian and African literature in English. Owing to the enormous output of creative writing from this part of the world, it will necessarily be a general survey and we will be concentrating on the novel and the short story. Students will be introduced to postcolonial theory and its central issues, such as rewriting colonial discourse, nationalism, identity politics, and gender and sexuality. Extracts from the major postcolonial theorists will be discussed in class together with a selection of short texts by the most significant writers. We will be reading three recent prize-winning novels and students will be required to write a short essay on one of them.

**OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of the course is to

- acquaint students with a wide range of authors from India and Africa who use the English language for their creative writing.
- introduce the student to the major post-colonial theories
- analyse the stylistic and thematic features of Indian and African writing
- encourage students to read and appreciate *other* literatures

**SYLLABUS**

- Reading of a selection of short texts by African and Indian writers including the following: Chinua Achebe, Buchi Emecheta, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Nuruddin Farah, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Mulk Raj Anand, Anita Desai, Amitav Ghosh, Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Arundhati Roy, M.G. Vassanji and Rohinton Mistry. (Reading Pack)
- Introduction to postcolonial theory and its central issues, such as rewriting colonial discourse, nationalism, representation, gender, sexuality and diaspora identities. Discussion of extracts from the work of some of the most influential theorists: Frantz Fanon, Edward Said, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Homi Bhabha, Gayatri Spivak, Bill Ashcroft, Salman Rushdie, Vijay Mishra and Patrick Williams.

- Close reading of three recent novels: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Purple Hibiscus*, Rupa Bajwa, *The Sari Shop*, and Lindsey Collen, *Boy*.

## ASSESSMENT

**Class Participation + tutorial work: 20%**

**Short essay: 30%**

**Final Exam. 50%**

## TUTORIALS

The tutorials will be conducted virtually and they will be used for discussions and debates on issues arising from the readings.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY / MATERIALS

### Compulsory Reading

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Purple Hibiscus*, Harper Perennial, 2005

Rupa Bajwa, *The Sari Shop*, Penguin, 2005

Lindsey Collen, *Boy*, Bloomsbury, 2005

Reading Pack

### Secondary Reading

Ahmad, Aijaz, *In Theory. Classes, Nations, Literatures*, London: Verso, 1992.

Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin, *Key Concepts in Post-Colonial Studies*, Routledge, 1998.

Bhabha, Homi K., *The Location of Culture*, Routledge, 1994.

Bharucha, Nilufer E. & Sarang, Vilas (eds), *Indian-English Fiction. 1980-90: An Assessment*, Delhi: B.R. Publishing Corporation, 1994.

Boehmer, Elleke, *Colonial & Postcolonial Literature*, Oxford University Press, 1995.

Booker, M. Keith, *The African Novel in English*, Heinemann, 1998.

McLeod, John, *Beginning Postcolonialism*, Manchester University Press, 2000.

Mehrotra, Arvind Krishna (ed), *An Illustrated History of Indian Literature in English*, Delhi: Permanent Black – Ravi Dayal Publishers, 2003.

Naik, M.K. & Shyamala A. Narayan, *Indian English Literature 1980-2000. A Critical Survey*, Delhi: Pencraft International, 2001.

Rushdie, Salman, *Imaginary Homelands: Essays and Criticism, 1981-1991*, Granta, 1991.

Said, Edward, *Orientalism*, Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1991 (1978).

Said, Edward, *Culture and Imperialism*, New York: Vintage Books, 1994.

Spivak, Gayatri, *The Post-Colonial Critic*, ed. Sarah Harasym, London: Routledge, 1990.

Williams, Patrick & Laura Chrisman (eds), *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory*, Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993.

## OTHER COMMENTS

This course is suitable for students who are interested in different world views and who wish to complement their knowledge of British and American literature.







