

Post-colonialism: Desire and the Other

Code: 42295
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313157 Advanced English Studies	OT	0	0

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Prerequisites

There are no prior course requirements but it is advisable for students who wish to take this course to have some basic knowledge of postcolonial theory.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aims of the course are to provide students with the necessary skills

- to understand and analyze postcolonial literatures in English
- to debate the main theories in the field
- to relate postcolonial studies with other disciplines in English studies
- to produce critical papers on postcolonial texts

Skills

- Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
- Analyse the relationship between factors, processes or phenomena in the acquisition of English as a second language, its learning and teaching methods, and its literature, history and culture.
- Apply methodological knowledge of statistical analysis and data generation, treatment and codification of multilingual databases, analysis of literary texts, etc. to research.
- Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
- Critically argue, issue judgements and present ideas on the basis of the analysis of information originating from scientific production in these areas.
- Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
- Distinguish and contrast between the different methodological and theoretical models applied to the academic study of the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.
- Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
- Use the English language for academic and professional purposes related to research into the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.

Learning outcomes

1. Analyse and interpret at an advanced level literary texts on Post-Colonial Literature in English, learning to distinguish its specificities.
2. Analyse and interpret at an advanced level scientifically produced texts on Post-Colonial Literature in English, extracting relevant citations and making content summaries.
3. Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
4. Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
5. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
6. Distinguish and contrast the different theoretical and methodological models applied to the academic study of Post-Colonial Literature in English.
7. Make oral presentations in English about subjects and texts related to advanced research into Post-Colonial Literature in English.
8. Read and analyse post-colonial texts in the English language.
9. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
10. Write texts defending an idea in relation to a literary text from Post-colonial literature in English, applying secondary sources to the critical argumentation.

Content

The following novels will be discussed in detail from various perspectives, including gender, ethnicity and class. Other disciplines such as history, anthropology and whiteness studies will also be drawn on.

Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things* (4th State, 1997)

M.G. Vassanji, *The Book of Secrets* (Canongate Books Ltd., 1994)

Taiye Selasi, *Ghana Must Go* (Penguin, 2013)

Apart from these novels, a collection of short stories and poetry will be provided by the teacher via Aula Moodle

Methodology

Close readings of the novels and class discussions centred on particular theoretical issues or cultural aspects

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Theory classes	50	2	1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9
Type: Supervised			
Papers	15	0.6	3, 4, 5, 7
Type: Autonomous			
Private study	40	1.6	1, 8

Evaluation

Students are required to participate in class discussions on a regular basis.

Students will be asked to keep a "Reflective Journal" throughout the course which will have to be submitted to the teacher at the end of the semester alongside the Final Paper. The "Reflective Journal" grants students a space whereby they can reflect upon issues raised by the texts under discussion in a subjective manner.

The final paper consists of a 2,500 word paper with at least 5 valid, academic secondary sources. Students are required to submit a proposal BEFORE the Christmas holiday. This proposal must include the following: provisional title, 150-word abstract, bibliography with five items).

In order to pass the subject, students must hand in all the written exercises (including the Reflective Journal), do the classroom presentation and participate in class discussions.

The assessment is based on the following:

Short essay 20%

Class discussions 20%

Reflective journal 10%

Classroom presentation 10%

Final paper 40%

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Class Discussions	20%	20	0.8	4, 7, 9
Class Presentation	10%	2.5	0.1	1, 6, 7, 8
Essay	20%	5	0.2	1, 2, 4, 8
Final Paper	40%	15	0.6	2, 3, 5, 6, 10
Reflective Journal	10%	2.5	0.1	1, 2, 8, 10

Bibliography

The following is a list of basic postcolonial texts. More specific bibliography, especially journal articles, will be provided in October.

Printed Sources

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

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

Bernal, Martin. *Black Athena: The Afrosiatic Roots of Classical Civilization. Volume I. The Fabrication of Ancient Greece 1785-1985*. London: Free Association Books, 1987.

Bhabha, Homi K.. *The Location of Culture*. London and New York: Routledge, 1994.

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Chapman, Michael & Margaret Lenta (eds). *SA Lit. Beyond 2000*. Durban: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2011.

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Donaldson, Laura E. *Decolonizing Fictions: Race, Gender and Empire-building*. London and New York: Routledge, 1992.

Dyer, Richard, *White*. London and New York: Routledge, 1997.

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Gilroy, Paul. *The Black Atlantic. Modernity and Double Consciousness*. London: Verso, 1993.

hooks, bell. *Representing Whiteness in the Black Imagination*. New York: Routledge, 1970.

Huggan, Graham & Helen Tiffin, *Postcolonial Ecocriticism. Literature, Animals, Environment*, London: Routledge, 2010.

JanMohamed, Abdul. *Manichean Aesthetics*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachussets Press, 1983.

Malak, Amin. *Muslim Narratives and the Discourse of English*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2005.

Mbembe, Achille. *On the Postcolony*. Berkeley and London: University of California Press, 2001.

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

Mishra, Vijay, *The Literature of the Indian Diaspora. Theorizing the Diasporic Imaginary*, Routledge, 2007.

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade, Ann Russo and Lourdes Torres, eds. *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1991.

Moore-Gilbert, Bart (ed). *Writing India 1757-1990. The Literature of British India*. Manchester U.P., 1996.

Morrison, Toni. *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination*. New York: Vintage Books, 1992.

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

Nash, Geoffrey. Writing Muslim Identity. London: Continuum, 2012.

Ngugi wa' Thiongo, Decolonizing the Mind. The Politics of Language in African Literature. London: Heinemann, 1986.

Ramsey-Kurz, Helga & Geeta Ganapathy-Doré (eds). Projections of Paradise. Ideal Elsewheres in Postcolonial Migrant Literature. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011.

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

Said, Edward. Orientalism. 1978. Western Conceptions of the Orient. London: Penguin Books, 1998.

_____. Culture and Imperialism. New York: Vintage Books, 1994.

_____. Reflections on Exile and Other Literary and Cultural Essays. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2001.

Schwarz, Bill. The White Man's World, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2011.

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.

Young, Robert. Colonial Desire. Hybridity in Theory, Culture and Race, Routledge, 1995.

Websites

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http://www.eng.fju.edu.tw/worldlit/world_link.htm

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