

ENGL 330 Modern Fiction: Colonial and Post-colonial Literature

Trimester 1 2012

5 March to 4 July 2012

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012

Mid-trimester break: 6 to 22 April 2012

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room
Dougal McNeill	dougal.mcneill@vuw.ac.nz	463 6807	VZ 903 (Course co-ordinator)

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Days	Time	Room Number
Monday & Thursday	1:10 – 2:00pm	Hunter Lecture Theatre 220 (HULT 220)

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 330 site on Blackboard: go to “Frequently Asked Questions” on the left, select “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “Signing Up for a Tutorial” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside HMLT206

COURSE DELIVERY

The course will be delivered through two lectures and one tutorial each week. In addition to set novels, required reading includes selected non-fictional writing, in the form of postcolonial criticism and critical commentary on the novels.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All changes or additional information will be conveyed to students via Blackboard.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course considers the impact of British colonial expansion on the development of modern fiction, with a particular focus on novels written in the 20th century. The novels discussed represent a variety of different national literatures and are considered in the contexts of their historical and cultural production. Recent post-colonial debates provide the theoretical framework for discussion.

COURSE CONTENT

The course covers a range of twentieth-century novels, reading them in relation to the historical events of modern colonialism, through which European nations extended their imperial control over much of the world. The course will provide an introduction to some of the theoretical and critical issues relevant to postcolonial studies (and literary analysis in general) in twentieth-century fiction. In addition to set novels, required reading includes selected non-fictional writing, in the form of postcolonial criticism and critical commentary on the novels. These readings are a crucial component of the course and are collected in the *Student Notes* anthology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to:

- a) provide an overview of literary representations of aspects of the colonial project through the twentieth century, by writers of European and non-European descent;
- b) provide an introduction to some of the theoretical and critical issues relevant to postcolonial study of twentieth century fiction;
- c) develop the skills of attentive reading through close analysis and discussion in relation to the set novels;
- d) develop the skills of theoretical analysis and discussion in relation to the set novels and selected non-fictional writings;
- e) build on students' knowledge and appreciation of literature and provide the critical and analytical tools necessary for a progression to graduate studies.

Students should therefore:

- a) become familiar with the thought, form, techniques and language of the set novels;

- b) gain an understanding of the general nature of twentieth century fiction in relation to the social, cultural and theoretical contexts to which it belongs;
- c) develop skills in alert and informed reading, and in the oral and written processes of literary discussion, especially in critical analysis and evaluation in the form of reading reports and an extended essay at a level appropriate to graduates majoring in English Literature.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours spread evenly over the 12 week trimester and breaks, or 13 hours per teaching week.

A paper in the novel inevitably entails considerable time spent reading (and re-reading) set texts. In addition to the reading of set novels you are also required to spend time reading the critical and theoretical writings set for the paper and attending lectures and workshops. It is strongly recommended that you develop regular reading habits to ensure that you have read set fiction and critical writing *before* it is discussed in class.

READINGS

Essential texts:

- *ENGL 330 Student Notes*
- John Kucich ed., *Fictions of Empire*
- Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*
- Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*
- Andrea Levy, *Small Island*
- David Malouf, *Remembering Babylon*
- Young-Ha Kim, *Your Republic is Calling You*
- Sok-Yong Hwang, *The Guest*
- Hanif Kureishi, *The Buddha of Suburbia*

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 13 February to 16 March 2012, while student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment is internally assessed. Assessment has been structured to meet the aims and objectives of the paper and to ensure coverage of most of the novels and critical material on the paper. Assessment is weighted as follows: four brief reading reports (worth 40% in total); one theoretical report (worth 25%) and one compulsory in-term essay (35%).

Coursework (100%)

Reading Reports (see Course Programme below for due dates): there are four reading reports in total (all are compulsory). An essay of 2500 words is due on **Friday 25 May, 5pm**. This essay is worth 35% of your final mark. A final theoretical report of 2000 words is due on **Friday 8 June, 5pm**.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Attend at least 8 out of 11 tutorials.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
ENGLISH PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE ENGL 330

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	Mon 5 Mar	Lecture 1: Introduction
	Thurs 8 Mar	Lecture 2: The imperial archive
Week 2	Mon 12 Mar	Lecture 3: "Heart of Darkness"
	Thurs 15 Mar	Lecture 4: "Heart of Darkness"
READING REPORT 1 DUE FRIDAY 16 Mar 5pm		
Week 3	Mon 19 Mar	Lecture 5: Postcolonialism or Anti-Imperialism?
	Thurs 22 Mar	Lecture 6: Claiming a voice: writing back to empire
Week 4	Mon 26 Mar	Lecture 7: <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
	Thurs 29 Mar	Lecture 8: <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
READING REPORT 2 DUE FRIDAY 30 Mar 5pm		
Week 5	Mon 2 Apr	Lecture 9: <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>
	Thurs 5 Apr	No lecture
Mid-Trimester Break 6 Apr – 22 Apr		
Week 6	Mon 23 Apr	Lecture 10: <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>
	Thurs 26 Apr	Lecture 11: Representation and Endorsement
READING REPORT 3 DUE FRIDAY 27 Apr 5pm		
Week 7	Mon 30 Apr	Lecture 12: <i>Small Island</i>
	Thurs 3 May	Lecture 13: <i>Small Island</i>
READING REPORT 4 DUE FRIDAY 4 May 5pm		
Week 8	Mon 7 May	Lecture 14: Gender, Feminism, and Postcolonial Politics
	Thurs 10 May	Lecture 15: <i>Remembering Babylon</i>

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Week 9 Mon 14 May Lecture 16: *Korea and Postcolonial Politics*
 Thurs 17 May Lecture 17: *Your Republic is Calling You*

Week 10 Mon 21 May Lecture 18: *The Guest*
 Thurs 24 May Lecture 19: *The Guest*
 ESSAY DUE FRIDAY 25 May 5pm

Week 11 Mon 28 May Lecture 20: Culture and Authenticity
 Thurs 31 May Lecture 21: *The Buddha of Suburbia*

Week 12 Mon 4 June **Queen's Birthday Holiday**
 Thurs 7 June Lecture 23: From Global to Local
 THEORETICAL REPORT DUE FRIDAY 8 JUNE 5pm