

# ENGL 330 Postcolonial Literature

**Trimester 2 2015**

13 July to 15 November 2015

**20 Points**



## IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2015

Withdrawal dates:

Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

## CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Mon, Wed

11.00 – 11.50

Murphy MYLT220

### Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL330 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial Sign Up” and then follow the instructions under the “myAllocator Log In” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on myAllocator, Blackboard and on the noticeboard in the Level 3 corridor of the Hugh Mackenzie Building.

## NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room	
Dougal McNeill	<a href="mailto:dougal.mcneill@vuw.ac.nz">dougal.mcneill@vuw.ac.nz</a>	463 6807	VZ 903	Course co-ordinator

(Office Hour: Thursday 1 – 2pm).

## 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.

## 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 and poems, 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.

## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

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 who pass this course should be able to:

- 1) become familiar with the thought, form, techniques and language of the set novels;
- 2) gain an understanding of the general nature of twentieth century literature in relation to the social, cultural and theoretical contexts to which it belongs;
- 3) 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.

### TEACHING FORMAT

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

### MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass the course, students must meet the following Mandatory Course Requirements:

- Submit the essays by the specified due dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work) and achieve at least a 40% mark on each in order to demonstrate achievement of the CLOs for the course
- Attend a minimum of eight tutorials (out of 11)

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of these mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

### WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

A course 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 course 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.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)
1	Four 600-word reading reports	40%	1, 2, 3
2	One essay/performance proposal, 600 words	5%	3
2	2000-word theoretical report	25%	1, 2, 3
3	2500-word essay OR creative writing/performance piece	30%	1, 2, 3

Marking criteria will be discussed in lectures, and more detail will be provided via Blackboard.

## SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Administration office: von Zedlitz level 8. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the instructions provided in the "Assignments and Turnitin" section of Blackboard.

Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the English administration office. Attach an assignment cover sheet or extension form, found on Blackboard or outside the administration office.

Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the Administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the Administration office.

## EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

### Extensions

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, email your Course Coordinator before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date. Tutors cannot grant extensions. **No assignment with or without an extension will be accepted after Friday 13 November 2015.**

### Penalties

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.

## SET TEXTS

ENGL 330 Student Notes;  
Lu Xun, *Real Story of Ah-Q*;

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*,  
Andrea Levy, *Small Island*,  
Jean Binta Breeze, *Third-World Girl: Selected Poems*;  
Sok-yong Hwang, *The Guest*,  
Yong-Ha Kim, *Your Republic is Calling You*;  
Suji Kwok Kim, *Notes from the Divided Country*;  
Tusiata Avia, *Bloodclot*.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz).

### RECOMMENDED READING

Further recommend reading suggestions will be made on Blackboard and in Lecture slides.

### CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

### STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php). In response to student feedback, I have made changes to the information included in visual presentations so that main ideas are highlighted; I will also continue to supply basic outlines for lectures in advance through Blackboard.

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)

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

- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:  
[www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)
- School website: [www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms)

## COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1      13 Jul    Lecture 1: Introduction  
                 15 Jul    Lecture 2: Postcolonial realism or postcolonial modernism?

Week 2      20 Jul    Lecture 3: Claiming a Voice: writing back to empire  
                 22 Jul    Lecture 4: *Things Fall Apart*

### READING REPORT 1 DUE Friday 24 July 5pm

Week 3      27 Jul    Lecture 5: *Things Fall Apart*  
                 29 Jul    Lecture 6: Postcolonialism or Anti-imperialism?

Week 4      3 Aug    Lecture 7: The Real Story of Lu Xun  
                 5 Aug    Lecture 8: Lu Xun and Modernism

Week 5      10 Aug    Lecture 9: Linton Kwesi Johnson  
                 12 Aug    Lecture 10: Jean 'Binta' Breeze  
**READING REPORT 2 DUE Friday 14 Aug at 5pm**

Week 6      17 Aug    Lecture 11: *Small Island*  
                 19 Aug    Lecture 12: *Small Island*  
**READING REPORT 3 DUE FRIDAY 21 Aug 5pm**

**Mid Trimester Break:**    Monday 24 August to Sunday 6 September 2015

Week 7      7 Sep    Lecture 13: 'Mugging de Queen's English'  
                 9 Sep    Lecture 14: Gender, Feminism, and Postcolonial Politics

Week 8      14 Sep    Lecture 15: Korea and Postcolonial Politics  
                 16 Sep    Lecture 16: *The Guest*  
**READING REPORT 4 DUE Friday 18 Sep 5pm**

Week 9      21 Sep    Lecture 17: *The Guest*  
                 23 Sep    Lecture 18: *Your Republic is Calling You*

