

ENGL 330 Postcolonial Literature

Trimester 1 2016

29 February to 29 June 2016

20 Points



IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates:	29 February to 5 June 2016
Easter break:	24 to 30 March 2016
Mid-trimester break:	25 April to 1 May 2016
Last assessment item due:	3 June 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Monday	10:00 - 10:50	Hunter HULT119
Wednesday	10:00 - 10:50	Hunter HULT220

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 330 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial instructions” and then follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and room for future reference. 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

Dougal McNeill dougal.mcneill@vuw.ac.nz 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 literature, with a particular focus on texts written in the 20th century. The texts 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. Lectures will involve class discussion.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50%, students must:

- 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.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Four 600-word reading reports	40%	1, 2, 3	11/3, 8/4, 15/4, 20/5
2	One 2000-word theoretical report	25%	1, 2, 3	1 st May.
3	One essay/creative writing proposal	5%	3	6 th May
4	2500-word essay OR creative writing piece	30%	1, 2, 3	3 rd June

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

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

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 administration office: **von Zedlitz Level 8**. Attach an assignment cover sheet 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 20 June 2016**

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;

Levy, Andrea. *Small Island*. Hatchett.

Breeze, Jean Binta. *Third-World Girl: Selected Poems*. Bloodaxe.

Hwang, Sok-yong. *The Guest*. Sevens.

Suji Kwock, Kim. *Notes from the Divided Country*. Louisiana.

Tusiata, Avia. *Bloodclot*. VUP.

Figiel, Sia. *Where We Once Belonged*.

Kanafani, Ghassan. *Men in the Sun*.

Darwish, Mahmoud. *Unfortunately, It was Paradise*. California.

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.

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. 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. I am also trying to speak more slowly.

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:

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

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1 29 Feb Lecture 1: Introduction: Postcolonial Politics

2 Mar Lecture 2: Introduction: Postcolonial literature

Week 2 7 Mar Lecture 3: Introduction: the Question of Culture

9 Mar Lecture 4: Palestine: from the Mandate to the Oslo Accords

READING REPORT 1 DUE Friday 11 March 5pm

Week 3 14 Mar Lecture 5: Ghassan Kanafani

16 Mar Lecture 6: Ghassan Kanafani

Week 4 21 Mar Lecture 7: Mahmoud Darwish

23 Mar Lecture 8: Mahmoud Darwish

Week 5

Easter Break: Thursday 24 to Wednesday 30 March 2016

Week 6 4 Apr Lecture 9: Britain, Jamaica, and Black Britain

6 Apr Lecture 10: Jean 'Binta' Breeze

READING REPORT 2 DUE Friday 8 April 5pm

Week 7 11 Apr Lecture 11: Jean 'Binta' Breeze

13 Apr Lecture 12: *Small Island*

READING REPORT 3 DUE FRIDAY 15th April 5pm

Week 8 18 Apr Lecture 13: *Small Island*

20 Apr Lecture 14: Korea and Postcolonial Politics

Mid-trimester Break: Monday 25 April to Sunday 1 May

Week 9 2 May Lecture 15: *The Guest*

4 May Lecture 16: *The Guest*

Theoretical Report due Monday 1st May 5pm

Essay Proposal due Friday 6 May 5pm

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Week 10 9 May Lecture 17: *Notes from the Divided Country*
 11 May Lecture 18: *Notes from the Divided Country*

Week 11 16 May Lecture 19: Samoa: Independence, Migration, Colonialism
 18 May Lecture 20: *Where We Once Belonged*

Reading Report Four due 20 May 5pm

Week 12 23 May Lecture 21: *Where We Once Belonged*
 25 May Lecture 22: *Bloodclot*

Week 13 30 May Lecture 23: *Bloodclot*
 1 Jun Lecture 24: Conclusions: What comes after the postcolonial?

Essay DUE Friday 3 June, 5pm