

## Department of English &amp; Writing Studies

Global Literatures in English Survey

**English 2601E (001)**

Fall/Winter 2019-20

**Instructor:** Dr. Nigel Joseph**Course Date/Time:** Wednesday 6.30 - 9.30 pm**Course Location:** University College 2105**Office hours:** TBA**Antirequisites:** English 2101, English 2361E, English 2362F/G, English 2363F/G and English 3884E, or the former English 2310E.**Prerequisites:** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

This course encourages students to explore literary traditions outside that of canonical English literature. We look at novels, plays and poetry from different literary traditions and innovations, and from such diverse geographic regions as Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean. Through close reading of literary texts written in English, students will explore how cultures produce different--often competing--ways of making meaning.

**Objectives:**

By the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- Identify some of the most significant writers from Africa, India, Britain's immigrant population, and the Caribbean;
- Identify themes associated with decolonization, canon formation, and the power of the printed text in a globalized world.

Course Materials**Required texts (available at Book Store)**Tomson Highway: *Kiss of the Fur Queen*V.S. Naipaul: *Miguel Street*Wole Soyinka: *Death and the King's Horseman*Doris Pilkington: *Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence*Samuel Selvon: *Lonely Londoners*Bapsi Sidhwa: *Cracking India*Shyam Selvadurai: *Funny Boy*Chimamanda Adichie: *Americanah*

Coursepack: essays and articles by Adam Kirsch, John Locke, Herman Lebovics, Edward Said, Arundhati Roy, Amitav Ghosh and Homi Bhabha.

### Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

In-class test 1	5%
In-class test 2/Presentation	10%
Assignment 1 (2000 words)	20%
Assignment 2 (2000 words)	25%
Attendance and participation	5%
Final examination	35%

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

### Additional Information

**In-class tests** will last one hour. You can refer to textbooks, notes, etc, but you may not access the Internet. Depending on the level of enthusiasm displayed, students may choose to do short (10 minute) **presentations** instead of the second test. We'll decide this after classes start.

**The final examination** will test your familiarity with **all the primary texts** covered in the course. During the examination, the use of texts, notes, or electronic devices is not permitted.

**Assignments:** For assignment 1, students must have a Works Cited page with at least **two** secondary sources (works other than the primary texts). For assignment 2, students must have a Works Cited page with at least **four** secondary sources. Secondary sources may include introductions/afterwords to the texts studied and works from the coursepack. Students may consult me and/or send me early drafts of assignments. I will be available in my office during office hours, and I normally respond to e-mails within eight hours.

**Late assignments:** A penalty of one mark per day (including weekends) will be imposed for late essays beginning the first day after the deadline. No essays will be accepted after the tenth day. Essays submitted after that day will be accepted only on (a) humanitarian grounds, or (b) medical grounds, for which written proof must be provided to the Office of the Academic Dean. No essay will be accepted after the last day of classes unless (a) or (b) above apply, or the student has received prior permission from the instructor. **Late essays not handed in at class may be dropped off in the mailbox outside the English department office.** All essays dropped off after 4:00 p.m. on a Friday will be date-stamped the following Monday. Essays should have the professor's name clearly inscribed.

**Attendance and participation:** Participation in classroom discussion is encouraged. The UWO calendar states: "Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class... in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning is given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course...". Class attendance is important: 5% of the overall grade is set aside for this component. In addition, overheads and/or PowerPoints will be used during lectures, and not all the material used will appear on OWL; so only those who attend all (or a majority of) the classes will have access to this material.

### Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at [http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

### **Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

### **Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

### Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

**Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.**

Timetable

Sep 11	Adam Kirsch: World Literature; Edward Said: Intertwined Histories; Mark Nathan Cohen and Cultural Relativism; Arundhati Roy and the ordinary person's guide to empire (all in coursepack)
Sep 18	Tomson Highway: <i>Kiss of the Fur Queen</i> ; Canada's colonial past
Sep 25	<i>Kiss of the Fur Queen</i>
Oct 2	Pilkington: <i>Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence</i> ; a modern Odyssey; <b>in-class test 1</b>
Oct 9	<i>Kiss of the Fur Queen</i> , <i>Rabbit-Proof Fence</i> , Locke and Lebovics (coursepack): moral justifications for appropriation of land; the role of residential schools
Oct 16	V.S. Naipaul: <i>Miguel Street</i> ; mimicry and performance
Oct 23	<i>Miguel Street</i> ; <b>assignment 1 due</b>
Oct 30	<i>Miguel Street</i>
	<b>Nov 4 -10 Fall Reading Week</b>
Nov 13	Wole Soyinka: <i>Death and the King's Horseman</i> ; mimicry and rhetoric; Homi Bhabha (coursepack); rhetoric and the emphasis on logos, pathos and ethos in Soyinka
Nov 20	<i>Death and the King's Horseman</i> ; <b>in-class test 2</b>
Nov 27	<i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>
Dec 4	Bapsi Sidhwa: <i>Cracking India</i> ; mob violence and religious sectarianism; Amitav Ghosh and "The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi" (coursepack)
	<b>Winter Break</b>
Jan 8	<i>Cracking India</i>
Jan 15	Shyam Selvadurai: <i>Funny Boy</i> ; Amitav Ghosh's "Tibetan Dinner" (coursepack);
Jan 22	<i>Funny Boy</i>
Jan 29	<i>Funny Boy</i> ;
Feb 5	Samuel Selvon: <i>Lonely Londoners</i> ; performance and gender politics
Feb 12	<i>Lonely Londoners</i>
	<b>Feb 15 – 23 Winter Reading Week</b>
Feb 26	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: <i>Americanah</i> and the performance of race
March 4	<i>Americanah</i> and the performance of race; <b>assignment 2 due</b>
March 11	<i>Americanah</i> ; Adam Kirsch on <i>Americanah</i> (coursepack);
March 18	Adichie and Arundhati Roy (essays from coursepack)
March 25	Review
April 1	Review