Western
Arts&Humanities

Department of English & Writing Studies

Global Literatures in English Survey
English 2601E (001)
Fall/Winter 2022-23

Instructor: Nigel Joseph **Course Day/Time**: Wednesday 6:30-9:30 pm

Course Location: PAB-117

Antirequisites: English 2101, English 2361E, English 2362F/G, English 2363F/G and English 3884E.

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. Global Literatures in English typically focuses on the novels, plays, poems and essays written in English by people from what used to be British colonies, or by people who have been, in one way or another, affected by colonialism. These texts, therefore, bear on them very clearly the marks of resistance to colonialism. They tend to be explicitly anti-racist, and insistently bear witness to the humanity and strength of traditions that were often denigrated or dismissed by the colonial powers. In a time like the present, when anti-racist struggles and the need for mutual cultural understanding have become some of the major moral imperatives in a globalized and interconnected world, such texts acquire a peculiar and lasting importance.

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

- Identify some of the most significant writers from Africa, the Caribbean, and Australia
- Identify themes associated with decolonization, canon formation, and the power of the printed text in a globalized world

Course Materials

Texts (required): These texts will be available at the Book Store. It is not necessary that you have the same edition that I have, so please feel free to purchase cheap/second-hand editions or share editions, or to look for online editions.

Kiss of the Fur Queen by Tomson Highway
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
Death and the King's Horseman by Wole Soyinka
Miguel Street by V.S. Naipaul
A Small Place by Jamaica Kincaid
Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
That Deadman Dance by Kim Scott
Against the Loveless World by Susan Abulhawa

There is a good chance that the class as a group may get to watch a live performance of Death and the King's Horseman at Stratford. This will probably be late in September. Please make every effort to keep the date free (actual date will be indicated at start of course). In addition to the above texts, we will read essays and articles by various theorists. These will be made available online or as handouts after the course begins.

Methods of Evaluation

Test 1:	10%
Test 2:	10%
Assignment:	20%
Forum responses:	20%
Final exam:	35%
Attendance and participation:	5%

Tests will be held in-class, and will be completed within two hours or less.

The final examination will cover all the texts of the course, but will be weighted so that the texts in the second half of the course will feature more often.

Online forums: Earlier online courses have demonstrated that students benefit from online forums (they allow students who are not very comfortable with speaking up in class to participate; also, they allow for more considered and carefully constructed comments and responses). Typically, a forum for the discussion of a particular text will open after the lecture. Any student can comment on any aspect of the text/lecture. Other students can either respond to these comments, or start their own comment threads. Since the forum grade is 20%, students can comment on any four of the eight texts of the course (you can comment on all 8, and I will use the best 4). **Everyone must contribute to the very first forum** (this is because students have to have access to 15% of their grade before add/drop). After this you can choose your forums. You must comment in the thread that will be made for each text. You can comment on the text, on another student's comment, or on a secondary critical reading. You must write at least two separate comments to get a grade for that text. You can write more comments, of course; in fact, I would advise you to write more comments, since that will both stimulate discussion and make it easier for me to grade your output.

The assignment will be a 2500 word research assignment with at least three secondary sources. Both topics and treatment can be discussed with me in advance, and I am willing to look at early drafts and proposals (but only if sent to me more than a week before submission).

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.

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.

E-mail queries: I will be checking for your messages in the forums or at my e-mail every day, so you can expect fairly quick responses to your queries. I really don't mind how often you might wish to check on something with me, so feel free to ask questions and seek clarifications.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in all classes and tutorials. In cases of excessive absenteeism (e.g. more than 9 unexcused hours for a half course, 18 for a full course), which are not accounted for by either academic consideration or accommodation, students may be debarred from taking the final examination, and will receive an official warning to this effect by or before the course drop date (see Senate policy). In classes with or without final exams, students who do not attend class will receive 0% for course participation grades. Unless other policies dictate a different set of penalties in specific English and Writing Studies programs, this will apply to all department programs.

Intellectual Property/Copyright

All instructor-written materials (e.g. PowerPoints, lecture notes, oral lectures) for this course are created solely for students' personal use within the course, and remain the instructor's intellectual property. Further reproduction, fixation, distribution, transmission, dissemination, communication, or any other uses, without securing the consent of the copyright owner (the course instructor) may be an infringement of copyright. You may not distribute, email, or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person. These limitations extend to recording, photographing, or sharing lectures (online or in-person) and lecture material without permission. Posting the instructor's content from this course to online course sharing sites like OneClass or Course Hero without permission is both an infringement of intellectual property law and a violation of academic integrity guidelines. The instructor will pass these cases on to the Western University Ombudsperson or their Department Chair as appropriate.

Accommodation Policies
Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 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 Student Medical Certificate (SMC) can be found at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The full policy is set out here:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Religious Accommodation:
Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

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

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/
Academic Support & Engagement 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

Sept. 14	Introduction; ***Death and the King's Horseman***
Sept. 21, 28	*DKH*, themes and criticism
Oct 5	***Things Fall Apart*** **Test 1 (Oct 5)**
Oct 12, 19, 26	*TFA,* themes and criticism
Oct 31-Nov 6	Fall Study Break
Nov 9, 16, Nov 23,	***Kiss of the Fur Queen*** **Test 2 (Nov 23)**
Nov 30, Dec 7	***Miguel Street***
Dec 9-Jan 8	Winter Break
Jan 11, 18, 25	***MS (concluded), A Small Place***
Feb 1	***Americanah***
Feb 8, 15, 22	***Americanah,*** themes and criticism
March 1, 8, 15	***That Deadman Dance*** **Assignment due March 15th**
March 22, 29, April 5	***Against the Loveless World***