

Department of English & Writing Studies

**English 2601E (001)**  
**Global Literatures in English Survey**  
Fall/Winter 2024-25

**Instructor:** Nandi Bhatia

Course Description

This course offers students the opportunity to survey the links between and among different literary traditions and innovations across such diverse geographic regions as South Asia, Africa, Australia, 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. The course explores novels, plays, and poems by writers from former British colonies to analyze the traces of colonial thought on languages, cultures, and understandings of race, class, and gender historically and in current contexts of a globally interconnected world.

**Objectives:**

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

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

Course Materials

**Required Texts (You can get these texts at the bookstore or online from Amazon.ca or other bookstores. Any edition will work)**

*Miguel Street*

*Cracking India*

*A Small Place*

*Death and the King's Horseman*

*Master Harold and the Boys*

*The White Tiger*

*Things Fall Apart*

*Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence*

Thomas King, "Borders"

Bharati Mukherjee, "The Management of Grief"

**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

ASSIGNMENT	VALUE	LENGTH	DUE DATE
In-Class written assignment	7.5 %		Oct. 23
In-Class written Assignment	7.5%		November 27
In-Class exam	20%		Jan 22
Research Essay	20%	2500 words	Outlines due March 12 Final essay due April 8
Final Exam	35%		TBA
Class Participation and attendance	10%		

**In-Class written assignments and In-class exam** will be held in class and will be completed within two hours or less.

**The Research Essay** will be a 2500 word research assignment with at least three secondary sources. Both topics and treatment can be discussed with me in advance. Essays handed in late will be returned with a grade but no comments. Essays handed in late without prior permissions will receive a lower mark. Extensions must be arranged in advance of due date. There is an essay drop-box outside the English department office where essays may be left outside of office hours or may be e-mailed. The Research essay should follow the format described in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*.

**Class Participation and Attendance:** Participation grade will be based on class attendance and the student’s demonstrated familiarity with course readings and ideas in discussions. 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: 10% of the overall grade is set aside for this component. Not all the material used will appear on Brightspace, so only those who attend all (or a majority of) the classes will have access to this material.

**Academic Consideration**

Students may request academic consideration in cases of extenuating circumstances – that is, personal circumstances beyond the student’s control that have a substantial but temporary impact on the student’s ability to meet essential academic requirements.

1. Requests for academic consideration are made to the Academic Advising office of the student’s Faculty of Registration.
2. Requests for academic consideration include the following components:
  - a. Self-attestation signed by the student;
  - b. Indication of the course(s) and assessment(s) relevant to the request;
  - c. Supporting documentation as relevant.

Requests without supporting documentation are limited to one per term per course.

In this course, requests for academic consideration pertaining to the extension of deadline for the Research Essay and the Final Exam must be accompanied by supporting documentation.

Documentation for medical illness, when required, includes the completion of a Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation, by a health care practitioner.

Requests linked to examinations scheduled by the Office of the Registrar during official examination periods as well as practice laboratory and performance tests typically scheduled in the last week of term always require formal supporting documentation.

Assignments with flexible deadlines and any term work that does not count towards the course grade are not eligible for additional consideration.

**Professionalism & Privacy:** Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- Students are expected to follow in person and online etiquette expectations provided on OWL.
- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared.
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission.
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed.

**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 offense.

### Western Academic Policies and Statements

**Absence from Course Commitments:** [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences](#)

In the interest of the health and safety of students and health care providers, you are no longer required to seek a medical note for absences. If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness you should use the Illness Reporting Tool. This tool takes the place of the need to submit a medical note and the Self-Reported Absence System formally used by undergraduate students.

You are required to self-report every day that you are ill and unable to complete course commitments. Details about when you should submit missed work, the format of the missed work can be found in Section 7. Students should communicate promptly with their instructor and use this tool with integrity.

**Accommodation for Religious Holidays:** The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed [here](#).

**Academic Offences:** Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](#) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

**Accessibility Statement:** Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [the policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

**Correspondence Statement:** The centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).

**Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement:** Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

**Gender-Based and Sexual Violence Statement:** Western University is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/studentsupport/survivorsupport/get-help.html>. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca)

**Support Services:** The following links provide information about support services offered at Western University.

[Academic Counselling \(Science and Basic Medical Sciences\)](#)

[Appeal Procedures](#)

[Registrarial Services](#)

[Student Development Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)

### Schedule of Classes & Assignments

	FALL 2024
<b>Week 1</b> Sep. 11	Introduction
<b>Week 2</b> Sep. 18	CANADA Thomas King, "Borders" <a href="https://pennersf.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/borders.pdf">https://pennersf.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/borders.pdf</a>
<b>Week 3</b> Sep. 25	Bharati Mukherjee, "The Management of Grief"
<b>Week 4</b> October 2	Bapsi Sidhwa, <i>Cracking India</i>
<b>Week 5</b> Oct. 9	<i>Cracking India</i>

<b>Week 6</b> Oct. 16	READING WEEK
<b>Week 7</b> Oct. 23	In-class written assignment
<b>Week 8</b> Oct. 30	Aravind Adiga, <i>The White Tiger</i>
<b>Week 9</b> Nov. 6	<i>The White Tiger</i>
<b>Week 10</b> Nov. 13	V.S. Naipaul, <i>Miguel Street</i>
<b>Week 11</b> Nov. 20	<i>Miguel Street</i>
<b>Week 12</b> Nov. 27	In-Class written assignment
<b>Week 13</b> Dec 4	Jamaica Kincaid, <i>A Small Place</i> ; <b>guidelines for in-class exam</b>
	<b>WINTER 2025</b>
<b>Week 1</b> Jan 8	<b>Introduction to Africa-themes and issues</b> Achebe, "The African Writer and the English Language" Ngugi wa Thiongo, "The Language of African Literature"
<b>Week 2</b> Jan 15	<b>EXAM PREPARATION (No Class)</b>
<b>Week 3</b> Jan 22	<b>In-Class Exam</b>
<b>Week 4</b> Jan 29	Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
<b>Week 5</b> Feb 5	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
<b>Week 6</b> Feb 12	Athol Fugard, <i>Master Harold and the Boys</i>
<b>Week 7</b> Feb 19	READING WEEK
<b>Week 8</b> Feb 26	Work on research essay
<b>Week 9</b> Mar 5	Wole Soyinka, <i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>
<b>Week 10</b> Mar 12	Doris Pilkington Garimara, <i>Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence</i> ; <b>Research Essay outlines due</b>
<b>Week 11</b> Mar 19	Guest Lecture
<b>Week 12</b> Mar. 26	M. NourbeSe Philip, "Discourse on the Logic of Language" <a href="https://www.are.na/block/1941474">https://www.are.na/block/1941474</a>
<b>Week 13</b> April 8	<b>FINAL EXAM REVIEW; Research Essay Due</b>