

Department of English & Writing Studies

English 2601E (001)
Global Literatures in English Survey
Fall/Winter 2025

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Office hours: By appointment

Antirequisite(s): English 2101, English 2361E, English 2362F/G, English 2363F/G and English 3884E.

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

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 Canada, South Asia, Africa, Australia, and the Caribbean. Through close readings of literary texts written in English, students will explore how cultures produce different ways of meaning making. 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 South Asia, 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, online from amazon.ca, or other bookstores. Any edition will work)

V.S. Naipaul, *Miguel Street*

Bapsi Sidhwa, *Cracking India*

Jamaica Kincaid, *A Small Place*

Wole Soyinka, *Death and the King's Horseman*

Athol Fugard, *Master Harold and the Boys*

Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger*

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Doris Pilkington Garimara, *Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence*

Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things*

Thomas King, "Borders"

Bharati Mukherjee, "The Management of Grief"

Chinua Achebe, "The African Writer and the English Language"

Ngugi wa Thiong'o, "The Language of African Literature"

In addition to the above texts and articles, we will read materials by various theorists. These will be made available online or as class handouts after the course begins.

Approximate cost of books: \$180 (Most readings are available on Brightspace through "Course Readings" or in print at the library)

ASSIGNMENTS AND MARKS DISTRIBUTION

ASSIGNMENT	VALUE	LENGTH	DUE DATE
At-home written assignment	10 %		October 1
In-Class written assignment	10%		November 12
In-Class written assignment	20%		February 11
Research Essay	20%	2000 words	Outlines due March 4. Final essay due March 11
In-Class written assignment	30%		April 1
Class Participation and attendance	10%		

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

The Research Essay will be a 2000 words research assignment with at least five 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 permission will receive a lower mark. Extensions must be arranged in advance of due date. Essays 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:

You are expected to attend all classes and participate positively and actively during the discussion period. This will also include coming prepared to class. Inconsistent attendance (including frequent absences and late arrivals) will negatively impact your level of participation and will significantly affect your final participation grade. Attendance without active participation will lead to a poor final participation grade. The maximum mark for attendance without active participation is 50%. Sometimes handouts are given in class, so only those who attend all (or a majority of) the classes will have access to this material.

Expectations for Evaluations and Grades

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	Below 50	Fail.

Technical Requirements

Electronic Devices: *For in-class written assignments electronic devices of any kind (including calculators, cell phones and smart watches) are not permitted.*

Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In this course, the use of AI (automatic translation tools, grammar checkers, ChatGPT...) is prohibited. If AI use is suspected, the instructor will ask for research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. Students are expected to retain these materials until after final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, students may be asked to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against them.

Information about absences, late or missed evaluations and academic consideration:

Only medical, religious holidays and extenuating circumstances considerations will be considered for absences, late or missed evaluations. All academic consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request without supporting documentation in this course.

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic

Calendar: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/academicconsideration_Sep24.pdf. This policy does not apply to requests for academic consideration submitted for attempted or completed work, whether online or in person. The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult: [Accessible Education](#). For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage: https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html. All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline. It is the responsibility of students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

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

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, here:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/scholasticdisciplineundergrad.pdf>.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the [policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Academic Accommodation and Accessible Education

Academic Accommodation is “a means of adjusting the academic activities associated with a course or program of student in order to permit students with disabilities to participate in those activities at the University and to fulfill the essential requirements of a course or program.”

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation%20and%20Disabilities.pdf>. Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with Accessible Education at the earliest opportunity. “Accessible Education plays a central role in Western’s efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students” <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessibleeducation/index.html>

Support Services

Academic Advising

Your Home Faculty’s Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here:

<https://registrar.uwo.ca/facultyacademiccounselling.html>

Mental Health Support

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Gender-based and sexual violence

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.

Learning Development and Success

Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre <https://learning.uwo.ca> are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

USC

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

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.

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](#)

Week 1 Sep. 10	FALL 2025 Introduction
Week 2 Sep. 17	Thomas King, "Borders" https://pennersf.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/borders.pdf
Week 3 Sep. 24	Bharati Mukherjee, "The Management of Grief"
Week 4 October 1	At-home written assignment
Week 5 Oct. 8	Bapsi Sidhwa, <i>Cracking India</i>
Week 6 Oct. 15	<i>Cracking India</i>
Week 7 Oct. 22	Aravind Adiga, <i>The White Tiger</i>
Week 8 Oct. 29	<i>The White Tiger</i>
Week 9 Nov. 5	READING WEEK
Week 10 Nov. 12	In-class written assignment
Week 11 Nov. 19	Arundhati Roy, <i>The God of Small Things</i>
Week 12 Nov. 26	<i>The God of Small Things</i>
Week 13 Dec 3	V.S. Naipaul, <i>Miguel Street</i>
Week 1 Jan 7	WINTER 2026 Jamaica Kincaid, <i>A Small Place</i>
Week 2 Jan 14	M. NourbeSe Philip, "Discourse on the Logic of Language" https://www.are.na/block/1941474
Week 3 Jan 21	Introduction to Africa-themes and issues Achebe, "The African Writer and the English Language" Ngugi wa Thiongo, "The Language of African Literature"
Week 4 Jan 28	Wole Soyinka, <i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>
Week 5 Feb 4	<i>Guest Lecture on Library Resources</i> Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
Week 6 Feb 11	In-Class written assignment

Week 7 Feb 18	<i>READING WEEK</i>
Week 8 Feb 25	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> <i>Start working on research essay</i>
Week 9 Mar 4	Research Essay in class workshop/guidelines; bring outlines to class
Week 10 Mar 11	Athol Fugard, <i>Master Harold and the Boys</i> <i>Research Essay due</i>
Week 11 Mar 18	Doris Pilkington Garimara, <i>Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence</i>
Week 12 Mar. 25	<i>Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence</i>
Week 13 April 1	In-Class written Assignment
Week 14 April 8	Conclusion