



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2017

EN2230 (A2): Reading Politics: Empire and Postcolonial – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2894
OFFICE: C308 **E-MAIL:** CrSmith@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2:30-3:30; Tuesday 1:00-2:30; or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the dynamics of colonization and its resistances in literary and other cultural texts and to the critical concepts and methods key to their study.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: 6 credits of junior English

REQUIRED TEXTS/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Rhys, Jean – *Wide Sargasso Sea*
Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o – *A Grain of Wheat*
Siddhwa, Bapsi – *Cracking India*
Carey, Peter – *True History of the Kelly Gang*
Mda, Zakes – *Heart of Redness*

Other class readings will be posted to Moodle; it is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these documents well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class quizzes, oral presentations, and written assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The aims of this course are to introduce students to a range of texts and concepts central to the study of post-colonial literatures. Through a reading of texts from the Americas, Africa, South Asia, and Australia, students will have the chance to become conversant with the key questions, debates, and issues in the field of post-colonial literary studies. Ultimately,

we will attempt to gain an understanding of what makes post-colonial literatures a vibrant, distinct, and diverse body of writing within a global literary context.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- Familiarity with, and the ability to employ, terminology relevant to the understanding of post-colonial literatures and post-colonial theory
- Awareness of the importance of context and intertexts in post-colonial writings
- An ability to perform close textual analysis and to relate theoretical and historical sources to the primary texts under consideration
- An ability to perform research and incorporate secondary materials effectively and responsibly into written assignments

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, GMU

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Participation – 10%

Reading quizzes – 5%

Moodle forum and discussion question contributions – 5%

Passage Analysis – 10%

Short paper – 15%

Final essay – 25%

Final exam – 30%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Friday, September 1: Introduction to the course

Monday, September 4: **Labour Day – No Classes**

Friday, September 8: Vera Bell, “Ancestor on the Auction Block”; Earle Birney, “Can Lit”; A.D. Hope, “Australia”

Monday, September 11: Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Friday, September 15: *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Monday, September 18: *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Friday, September 22: Ngũgĩ, *A Grain of Wheat*

Monday, September 25: *A Grain of Wheat*

Friday, September 29: *A Grain of Wheat*

Monday, October 2: Louise Bennett, “Jamaica Oman”; **Passage analysis due**

Friday, October 6: Slade Hopkinson, “The Madwoman of Papine”; Linton Kwesi Johnson, “If I Woz a Top-Natch Poet”

Monday, October 9: **Thanksgiving – No Classes**

Friday, October 13: Bapsi Sidhwa – *Cracking India*

Monday, October 16: *Cracking India*

Friday, October 20: *Cracking India*

Monday, October 23: *Cracking India*; Claire Harris, “Backstage at the Glenbow Museum, Calgary”

Friday, October 27: Derek Walcott, “The Train”; Fred D’Aguiar, “Home”; **short paper due**

Monday, October 30: Peter Carey, *True History of the Kelly Gang*

Friday, November 3: *True History of the Kelly Gang*

Monday, November 6: *True History of the Kelly Gang*
Friday November 10: **Fall Break – No Classes**

Monday, November 13: **Fall Break – No Classes**
Friday, November 17: Zakes Mda, *Heart of Redness*

Monday, November 20: *Heart of Redness*
Friday, November 24: *Heart of Redness*

Monday, November 27: *Heart of Redness*
Friday, December 1: Thomas King, “Borders”; **final essay due**

Monday, December 4: Review for final exam

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be submitted directly to me in hard copy form. I will not accept electronic copies. It is the student’s responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of theft or loss, a duplicate copy must be available upon request.
2. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. This means that they are due *before the beginning of class*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as one day.
3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
4. Students are expected to attend *all* classes. Unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student’s grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student’s final mark.
5. Students are required to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Cellphones are to be turned off and kept out of sight during class time. Students who text while the instructor and/or other students are speaking will lose marks for participation. Similarly, students must display good classroom etiquette at all times. This includes coming to class on time, not packing up to leave before the instructor has indicated that class is over, and not engaging in discussions with

others while the instructor or other students are speaking. The unwillingness to abide by these expectations will result in a student receiving a failing grade for participation.

7. The final exam for this class will be scheduled by the registrar and will take place in December. The exam **will not** be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required for any student wishing to write the final exam on an alternate date.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments.

Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.