



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2015

EN 2230 (A2) READING POLITICS: EMPIRE - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephen Guy **PHONE:** 780.539.2977
OFFICE: C418 **E-MAIL:** sguy@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays 4-5pm

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Six credits of Junior English.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*.

Cole, Teju. *Open City*.

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*.

Douglass, Frederick. *The Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, as Told by Himself*.

Erdrich, Louise. *Love Medicine*.

King, Thomas. *The Inconvenient Indian*.

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.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): Course work includes lectures, class discussions, online assignments, and written and oral student work.

OBJECTIVES: Students will read works in a variety of genres dealing with postcolonial themes, and will consider the importance and impact of postcolonial literary criticism as a literary discipline. The course is designed to help students develop and strengthen close reading, critical thinking, and effective writing and public speaking skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking EN2230 students will be able to:

- Engage in advanced literary analysis using the concepts and vocabulary of postcolonial criticism.
- Identify and critically discuss major themes and developments in postcolonial literature, especially in North American and African contexts.
- Plan, research and write advanced literary critical essays.

TRANSFERABILITY: AU ENGL 3xx (3); UC Sr. ENGL (3); UA ENGL 223 (3) OR AUENG 2xx;
UL ENGL 2xxx (3); King's UC ENGL 3xx (3)

**** 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**

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Participation 10%

Short Essay (1000 words) 15%

Presentation 15%

Longer Essay (2000 words) 30%

Final Exam 30%

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Please come to class and pass your papers in on time. Papers must be submitted as hard copies, double-spaced and stapled, and are due the minute before class begins on the day of the deadline. The deadlines are STRICT. For every day that your paper is late, you will lose 10% from your grade. Extensions will be granted for EXTRAORDINARY circumstances only. Please pause before submitting a request for an extension and ask yourself: are these circumstances really, truly EXTRAORDINARY? Better to begin planning your essay early, or to accept the penalty like a responsible adult. If you are genuinely ill, you may provide a note from a doctor to have the penalty waived.
2. Read all of the assigned material and come prepared to discuss it during class. Contribute meaningfully to the online discussion by posting questions, links, comments, or by engaging the posts submitted by other students.
3. The reading schedule is subject to change according to time constraints and other considerations. All changes will be posted to Moodle.
5. Please keep a copy of all written work. In the event of theft or loss, the student is required to submit a duplicate copy.
6. Cell phones must be turned off during class, and I strongly encourage you to avoid taking notes with a laptop. Pen and paper have worked very well for this purpose for generations. Surfing the internet during class is disrespectful and very distracting to the other students. Please come prepared to engage with the material, with the other students in the class, and with me.
7. Students are expected to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed. Important passages, chapters, or poems to focus on will be posted there. In the event of a class cancellation, the announcement will be posted to Moodle.

8. Students are advised to read the GPRC Admissions Guide for the rules regarding Registration, Withdrawals, Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

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

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1:

9/2 – Introduction

Week 2:

9/7 – Labour Day, no class.

9/9 – Postcolonial literary criticism (readings on Moodle).

Week 3:

9/14 – Conrad – *Heart of Darkness*

9/16 – Conrad – *Heart of Darkness*

Week 4:

9/21 – Conrad – *Heart of Darkness*

9/23 – Achebe – Essay on *Heart of Darkness* (essay on Moodle)

Week 5:

9/28 – Achebe – *Things Fall Apart*

9/30 – Achebe – *Things Fall Apart*

Week 6:

10/5 – Achebe – *Things Fall Apart* (**short paper due**)

10/7 – Achebe – *Things Fall Apart*

Week 7:

10/12 – Thanksgiving, no class.

10/14 – Douglass – *Narrative*

Week 8:

10/19 – Douglass – *Narrative*

10/21 – Douglass – *Narrative*

Week 9:

10/26 – King – *Inconvenient Indian*

10/28 – King – *Inconvenient Indian*

Week 10:

11/2 – King – *Inconvenient Indian*

11/4 – Alexie (selected poems on Moodle)

Week 11:

11/9 – Erdrich – *Love Medicine*

11/11 – Remembrance Day, no class.

Week 12:

11/16 – Erdrich – *Love Medicine*

11/18 – Erdrich – *Love Medicine*

Week 13:

11/23 – Cole – *Open City* (long paper due)

11/25 – Cole – *Open City*

Week 14:

11/30 – Cole – *Open City*

12/2 – Cole – *Open City*

Week 15:

12/7 – Review.

Additional Information

EMAIL AND MEETING POLICY: I will respond to an email within 48 hours of receiving it. I strongly encourage students to speak with me during my office hours or to set up an appointment.