

**Title and Code of Course: Selected Topics in English Literature 4: Introduction to Postcolonial Literatures ERPB-BAN 3353**

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Credit Point Value: <b>6</b>	Number of Lessons per Week: <b>2</b>	Type of Course: <b>Seminar</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lecture</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Method of Evaluation: <b>Oral Examination</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>In-Class Presentation</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Written Examination</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to histories and theories of (post)colonialism. After a few introductory lectures on colonialism and postcolonial cultures, key concepts and approaches will be discussed. The theories will be explored in the context of cultural phenomena: the theoretical approaches will be applied to the analysis of literary works listed in the syllabus. The course will explore issues such as orientalism, exoticization, stereotyping, emotional engagement, among others. Apart from exploring the cultural contexts of these texts, students will be encouraged to identify the narrative strategies the literary texts and artworks use in imagining "the other" as well as the affective responses the narratives evoke. The course will rely on a few key postcolonial texts (Bill Ashcroft's, Edward Said's writings, for instance) and it will also explore the main issues and concerns of the postcolonial world, such as displacement, multiculturalism, diasporic cultures, the significance of global comparative approaches, among others.

**Primary sources:**

W. Shakespeare, *The Tempest*; S. T. Coleridge, "Kubla Khan"; excerpts from the following novels: V. S. Naipaul, *The Mimic Men*; Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*; Salman Rushdie, *Shame*; J. M. Coetzee, *Disgrace*; Monica Ali, *Brick Lane* (+ film); Teju Cole, *The Open City*

**Schedule:****Introduction: What is Postcolonial Studies?**

**Recommended reading:** Peter Childs and Patrick Williams, "Introduction: Points of Departure", *An Introduction to Postcolonial Theory* 1-25.

**Postcolonial Approaches to Western Culture: The Empire Writes Back**

**Required reading:** Salman Rushdie, "Imaginary Homelands", David Dabydeen, Turner (excerpts)

**Recommended reading:** Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin: "Introduction", *The Empire Writes Back Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures* 1-13.

**Irish Literature and Postcolonial Studies**

**Required reading:** Brian Friel, *Translations*

**Recommended reading:** John Cleary, "Postcolonial Writing in Ireland", *The Cambridge History of Postcolonial Literature* vol. 1. 539-570.

**"Postcolonial Shakespeare"**

**Required reading:** W. Shakespeare, *The Tempest*,

**Recommended reading:** W. Shakespeare, *Othello*; Ania Loomba, "Introduction: Race and Colonialism in the Study of Shakespeare", *Shakespeare, Race and Colonialism* 1-21.

**Postcolonialism and Feminism**

**Required reading:** Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

**Recommended reading:** C. T. Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes".

**Orientalism**

**Required reading:** Rudyard Kipling, "Mandalay", "The White Man's Burden"; S. T. Coleridge, "Kubla Khan"

**Recommended reading:** E. Said, "Introduction", *Orientalism* 1-30.

**Postcolonialism and Psychoanalysis**

**Required reading:** V. S. Naipaul, *The Mimic Men*, ch. 1-2.

**Recommended reading:** Warwick Anderson et al, "Introduction", *Unconscious Dominions* 1-20.

**Postcolonialism and Cultural Trauma**

**Required film:** *The Black Venus*

**Recommended reading:** Jeffrey C. Alexander, "Introduction" & "Cultural Trauma: A Social Theory", *Trauma* 1-30.

**Postcolonialism and Magical Realism**

**Required reading:** Salman Rushdie, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*

**Recommended reading:** “Magical Realism as Postcolonial Romance”, *Magical Realism and the Postcolonial Novel* 18-40.

### **Postcolonialism and Migration**

Discussion of Monica Ali’s *Brick Lane*

**Recommended reading:** John McLeod, “Introduction”, *Postcolonial London* 1-23.

### **Postcolonialism and Cosmopolitanism**

**Required reading:** Teju Cole, *The Open City* ch. 1-2.

**Recommended reading:** Kristian Shaw, “‘A Deeper Project’: Critical Cosmopolitanism and Cultural Connectivity in Teju Cole’s *Open City*”, *Cosmopolitanism in Twenty-First Century Fiction* 103-138.

### **Recommended readings:**

Ashcroft, Bill, Helen Tiffin and Garth Griffiths. *The Empire Writes Back*. London: Routledge, 2002.

Childs, Peter and Patrick Williams, *An Introduction to Post-Colonial Theory*. Harlow: Longman, 1997.

Cohen, Robin and Carolin Fischer, ed. *The Routledge Handbook of Diaspora Studies*. London: Routledge, 2018.

Jacobs, Jane M. *Edge of Empire: Postcolonialism and the City*. London: Routledge, 1996.

McLeod, John. *Beginning Postcolonialism*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2000.

Quayson, Ato, ed. *The Cambridge History of Postcolonial Literature*. Vol. 1-2. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Said, Edward. *Orientalism*. London: Penguin, 2003.

Young, Robert J. C. *Postcolonialism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.