

## ENGLISH 295: Twentieth Century World Literature Spring 2015

Monday and Wednesday 10:20-11:30, Zinzendorf 103

**Instructor:** Dr. Nicole Tabor, [taborn@moravian.edu](mailto:taborn@moravian.edu)

**Office Location and Phone:** 304 Zinzendorf Hall, (610) 625-7842

**Drop-In Office Hours:** Monday 9:15-10:15 & 2:30-3:30, Wednesday 9:15-10:15 & 2:30-3:30,  
Thursday 10-11, and also by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Students will spend significant time learning about the historical, religious, economic, and political dimensions of literary studies as transnational practice. Through a multi-disciplinary lens, informed by substantial peer-reviewed sources, students will read, discuss, and analyze texts from a variety of periods and national traditions in order to become familiar with the major styles, techniques, and conventions that characterize world literature of the twentieth century. The course will provide a broad introduction to multi-disciplinary theoretical and historical debates that stand at the center of world literature today, and students will have the chance to enter into these debates through critical writing assignments. Our readings, discussions, and writing assignments will offer the opportunity to develop questions at issue for our discourse community. Writing especially will provide the chance to develop your own line of inquiry regarding specific texts.

### **COURSE GOALS:**

- Develop a sophisticated multidisciplinary vocabulary of key terms to closely read, discuss, and write about world literature and the power relations it encodes
- Enrich our textual experience of world literature and global issues by critically engaging with its historical, religious, economic, and political tradition(s)
- Deepen our understanding and appreciation of multicultural contributions to twentieth century literature
- Work collaboratively to generate challenging and complex questions at issue for our discourse community
- Design and implement an intellectually engaging research project drawing on original argumentation, writing, and research that substantiates claims utilizing global literature as textual evidence
- Utilize life experiences to make connections between world literature and personal identity

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

*The Norton Anthology of World Literature: The Twentieth Century, Volume F, Third Edition*

ISBN: 9780393913293

*The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy ISBN: 0812979565

Additional Texts via Google Books, Google Drive, and on Reserve at Reeves Library

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

First Essay 20% Second Essay 20% Third Essay 20%

Reading Journal 20% Oral Presentations 10% Class Participation 10%

**ESSAYS:** You are required to compose three argumentative essays. The first essay will be 5 pages, essay two will be 10 pages and the final essay will be 15-20 pages in length. You will develop the final essay from an abstract and rough draft. These essays will be thesis-driven and follow MLA guidelines. Essays will be evaluated primarily on the quality of your ideas and the thoroughness of your critical argument (including appropriate citations of the text). Organizational, grammatical, and other writing matters will, however, also affect your grade. We will discuss these essays in further detail throughout the term.

**READING JOURNAL:** You will write a one-page journal entry for each date's assigned primary reading. This entry will consist of three parts. In part one you will summarize the day's primary reading in a page-long summary. Part two will consist of a discussion question about the primary reading. These questions are useful in generating class discussion and essays from our readings. Please refer to the handout "Discussion Questions as Post-reading." Part three will focus on a briefer summary of our secondary reading. You may be asked to read from your response in class. These journals will be checked each class period and collected twice during the term.

**ORAL PRESENTATIONS:** You will be required to give one group presentation. Your group will summarize, historicize, and ask the class significant discussion questions related to your assigned topic as well as create/photocopy/distribute a handout. The presentations will also provide in-depth analysis of the day's assigned reading(s) from our syllabus. A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class.

**PARTICIPATION:** Our classroom comprises a *discourse community*, in which we gain knowledge and insight through mutual inquiry as a result of both verbal and written interaction with others in the class. This interaction will take the form of co-operation as well as respectful disagreement. As a member of this discourse community, you will be expected to contribute intelligently and frequently to the discussion. Along with speaking, effective participation requires active and open-minded listening to others. Respond to and interact with your peers, not just with me. The more you participate, the more interesting, exciting, and rewarding this class will be. Always bring your textbook and notes to class. Expect to read passages aloud and closely investigate details of the texts we are studying. There will be unannounced quizzes and in-class writings throughout the term. I highly encourage you to visit me during office hours (or make an appointment) to discuss your paper ideas or any other questions or concerns related to the course.

### **POLICIES:**

**Grades.** It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignments and for the final course grade.

**Format.** All written work should include your name, the course number and instructor (Tabor), the date, and the assignment in the upper right or left-hand corner. Any pages after the first should be numbered and stapled. All work must be typed using a reasonable 12-point font, double-spaced, and conventional margins (one inch). No electronic assignments accepted without special arrangement.

**English Majors.** In preparation for creating an English Major Portfolio in your senior capstone seminar, please save both digital and hard copies of your work for this class, including drafts with peer and instructor comments.

**Deadlines.** Reading responses, quizzes, and other daily assignments will not be accepted late, including assignments due to absence. Assignments are due during the class period of the due date. Extensions may be given on essays, provided that a student asks for the extension at least one week in advance. Unless an extension is given, late essays will be reduced by one letter grade for each day that passes after the due date, e.g. an A becomes a B if one day late.

**Time Management.** In completing work for and preparing for this class, you should expect to spend at least 2 hours per week outside of class for every hour spent in class. Some assignments or readings may require more time than that. We will discuss time management extensively throughout the semester.

**Access for Students with Disabilities.** Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Academic and Disability Support in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center. Also, the Writing Center is located in a building that is not accessible to students with mobility impairments. If you have any impairments and need the services of the Writing Center please call 610-861-1392.

**Plagiarism.** All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. Please see the Student Handbook if you have any questions about your use of sources.

**Attendance.** It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet at each class. Your final course grade will be dropped by 10% for each unexcused absence after the second. Arriving to class more than 2 minutes late will count as 1/3 of an absence. A note from a doctor's office is required for an excused absence.

**Tentative Reading Schedule.** Readings are to be completed on the day assigned. The schedule is subject to change. A star (\*) next to page numbers signifies that a reading journal entry will be due in class that day for those assigned pages. Texts without page numbers will be available through links to Google Books, or via Google Drive or Reeves Library reserves. The schedule is subject to change.

### **Week One**

Mon Jan 19 Introduction: Global Literature(s), Historicizing the Genres, and the Discourse Community

Wed Jan 21 **POETRY**

Primary Reading: *Communities at the Margins: Arab Poetry of the Desert*  
<http://ag.arizona.edu/OALS/ALN/aln50/hayward.html>

## Week Two

Mon Jan 26 Primary Reading: Anna Akhmatova's "Requiem" pp. 565-574\* and Frederico Garcia Lorca's "Lament for Ignacio Sanchez Mejias" pp. 575-582\*  
Secondary Reading: *World Literature and Global Theory: Comparative Literature for the New Millennium*  
<http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.2307/40550499?sid=21105613207413&uid=3739256&uid=2129&uid=3739864&uid=4&uid=2&uid=70>

Wed Jan 28 Primary Reading: T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land" pp. 545-558\*  
Secondary Reading: *How Economists Use Literature and Drama*  
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/polisci/faculty/chwe/austen/watts2002.pdf>

## Week Three

Mon Feb 2 Primary Reading: Niyi Osundare's "Our Earth Will Not Die" and other poems pp. 1199-1207\*  
Secondary Reading: *How to Teach a 'Culturally Different' Book*  
<http://postcolonial.org/index.php/pct/article/viewArticle/337/485>

Tue Feb 3 Spotlight on Black History Month:  
Literature of the African Diaspora  
Noon Feb 3, UBC Rm. Details will be discussed early in the term.

Wed Feb 4 Reeves Library Research Session  
**Essay One Due**

## Week Four

Mon Feb 9 Primary Reading: Derek Walcott's "Omeros" and other poems pp. 939-976\*  
Secondary Reading: *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*  
<http://www.sok.bz/web/media/video/ABriefHistoryNeoliberalism.pdf>

Wed Feb 11 Primary Reading: Yehuda Amichai's "God Has Pity on Kindergarten Children," "An Arab Shepherd Is Searching for His Goat on Mount Zion" and other poems, pp. 933-938\*

## Week Five

Mon Feb 16 **FICTION**  
Primary Reading: *Heart of Darkness* by Josef Conrad\*  
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/526/pg526.txt>  
Secondary Reading: *Globalization and the Postcolonial Condition*  
<http://home.comcast.net/~jay.paul/pc.htm>

Wed Feb 18 Primary Reading: *Heart of Darkness* by Josef Conrad  
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/526/pg526.txt>  
**Thesis Workshop, Thesis Due**

## Week Six

Mon Feb 23 Primary Reading: *Swann's Way* from *Remembrance of Things Past* by Marcel Proust pp. 138-173\*

Wed Feb 25 Primary Reading: *Swann's Way* from *Remembrance of Things Past* by Marcel Proust pp. 138-173  
Secondary Reading: *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*  
<http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/d Crawford/appadurai.pdf>  
**Reading Journal Due**

### Week Seven

Mon Mar 2 Primary Reading: *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka pp. 207-241\*  
Secondary Reading: *Prague Territories: National Conflict and Cultural Innovation in Franz Kafka*  
<http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.1086/530309?uid=3739864&uid=2&uid=4&uid=3739256&sid=21105613536663>

Wed Mar 4 Primary Reading: *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka pp. 247-241  
**Essay Two Due**

### Week Eight

Mon Mar 9 Spring Recess – No Class Meeting

Wed Mar 11 Spring Recess – No Class Meeting

### Week Nine

Mon Mar 16 Primary Reading: *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy pp. 1-333\*  
Secondary Reading: *The Ethical Subject of 'The God of Small Things'*  
[http://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=/journals/journal\\_for\\_the\\_psychanalysis\\_of\\_culture\\_and\\_society/v008/8.2thormann.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=/journals/journal_for_the_psychanalysis_of_culture_and_society/v008/8.2thormann.html)

Wed Mar 18 Primary Reading: *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy pp. 1-333  
Secondary Reading: *What's Doing in Delhi*  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/30/travel/what-s-doing-in-delhi.html>  
*Rhetorical Analysis of Globalization in Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things*  
<https://journals.tdl.org/plaza/index.php/plaza/article/download/.../pdf>

### Week Ten

Mon Mar 23 **DRAMA**  
Primary Reading: *Death and the Kings Horseman* by Wole Soyinka pp. 1049-1097\*  
Secondary Reading: *Yoruba Tragedy*

Wed Mar 25 Primary Reading: *Death and the Kings Horseman* by Wole Soyinka pp. 1049-1097

### Week Eleven

Mon Mar 30 Primary Reading: *Ola Na Iwi* by Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl\*  
Secondary Reading: *From a Native Daughter: Colonialism and Sovereignty in Hawai'i*  
**Abstract Due**

Wed Apr 1 Primary Reading: *Ola Na Iwi* by Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl  
Secondary Reading: *Transporting the Subject: Technologies of Mobility and Location in an Era of Globalization*  
<http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.2307/823247?sid=21105646442843&uid=2&uid=3739864&uid=2129&uid=4&uid=3739256&uid=70>  
**Draft Workshop: Two Hard Copies of Rough Draft Due**

### Week Twelve

Mon Apr 6 Individual Conferences: "Successful Revision Strategies"

Wed Apr 8 Individual Conferences: "Successful Revision Strategies"

### Week Thirteen

Mon Apr 13 Primary Reading: *Letters to a Student Revolutionary* by Elizabeth Wong\*  
Secondary Reading: *Multiculturalism, or, the Cultural Logic of Multinational Capitalism*

[http://www.ata.boun.edu.tr/htr/documents/312\\_10/Zizek,%20Slavoj\\_%20Multiculturalism%20or%20the%20Cultural%20Logic%20of%20Capitalism.pdf](http://www.ata.boun.edu.tr/htr/documents/312_10/Zizek,%20Slavoj_%20Multiculturalism%20or%20the%20Cultural%20Logic%20of%20Capitalism.pdf)

Wed Apr 15 Primary Reading: *Letters to a Student Revolutionary* by Elizabeth Wong  
Secondary Reading: *The Wretched of the Earth*

**Week Fourteen**

Mon Apr 20 Primary Reading: *Twilight Los Angeles, 1992* by Anna Deavere Smith\*  
Secondary Reading: *Blue Dreams: Korean Americans and the Los Angeles Riots*  
**Reading Journal Due**

Wed Apr 22 Primary Reading: *Twilight Los Angeles, 1992* by Anna Deavere Smith  
Secondary Reading: *Ethnic Peace in the American City*  
<http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/jaas/summary/v004/4.1saito.html>

**Week Fifteen**

Mon Apr 27 Primary Reading: *Twilight Los Angeles, 1992* by Anna Deavere Smith

Wed Apr 29 Conclusions and Evaluations  
**Essay Three Due**