

Spring 1-15-2002

ENG 2850-001: Post-Colonial Literatures in English

Susan Bazargan
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2002



Part of the [English Language and Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Bazargan, Susan, "ENG 2850-001: Post-Colonial Literatures in English" (2002). *Spring 2002*. 60.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2002/60

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2002 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2002 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.

English 2850-001 Post-Colonial Literatures in English

TTh 11-12:15 Coleman Hall 3170

Dr. Susan Bazargan

Office: Coleman Hall 3765

Telephone: Office 581-6979 Home (Champaign): 355-5784

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 and Wednesdays 12-2 and by appointment

E-mail: sbazargan@eiu.edu

Course Objectives:

The main objective of this course is to familiarize you with the works of English-speaking authors from countries previously colonized by Great Britain and other European powers. We will discuss the many aspects and themes of postcolonialism, which we will use as a framework to discuss a number of short stories, novels, poems, and plays.

Course Requirements:

Class attendance: I have a strict class attendance policy. If you have more than two unexcused absences, your grade for the semester will suffer one-half point for each unexcused absence. Please let me know if a family emergency or other crucial activity prevents you from attending class.

Papers:

Two 2-page (typed, single-spaced) papers and one longer essay (5 pages or longer). The short papers are "response essays." For the first essay, your task is to choose one of the texts we've studied and draw attention to those aspects of the novel or short story that we've neglected in class discussion. In one paragraph of the essay, describe your personal response to the work. For the second essay, choose a text we've not studied and discuss it in light of one or two main themes of postcolonial studies. Include a paragraph describing your response to your chosen text.

I'll give you topics for the longer essay

Oral presentations (on the papers):

On the day that the papers are due, I'll ask class members (1/3 each time) to talk briefly about their essays.

Mid-term and final exams will be given.

Grading Policy:

Short papers 30%; class participation and oral presentations 10%; longer essay 20%;
Midterm 20%; Final 20%

Conferences:

Please stop by my office to discuss any problem or question related to the course. You can also make an appointment if my regular office hours are inconvenient for you.

The English Department policy on plagiarism: “Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism--’the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work’ (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*) has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Required Texts:

Achebe, Chinua, *Things Fall Apart*

Clerk and Siegel, *Modern Literatures of the Non-Western World*

Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*

Lahiri, *Interpreter of Maladies*

Roy, Arundhati, *The God of Small Things*

Rushdie, Salman, *East, West*

Class Meetings:

Week One:

1/8: Introduction to the course

1/10: Read the introduction to Africa in Clerk and Siegel (pp. 521-525) and the following stories and poems: “The Gentlemen of the Jungle”; “Half a Day”; “Good Climate, Friendly Inhabitants”

Week Two:

1/15: “She has No Place in Paradise”; “There is No Exile”; “The Collector of Treasurers”

1/17: “The March of the Women” “Nightsong: City” “The Goldsmith”

Week Three:

1/22: *The Island*

1/24: *The Island* (continued) and “Master Harold and the Boys” (on stage?)

Week Four:

1/29: First essay is due. Class presentations

1/31: No class (I’ll be away at a conference)

Week Five:

2/5: Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* (Chapters 1-7)

2/7: Achebe (Chapters 8-16)

Week Six:

2/12: Achebe (Chapters 17-25)
2/14: Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*

Week Seven:

2/19: *Nervous Conditions*
2/21: *Nervous Conditions*

Week Eight:

2/26: *The Strong Breed*
2/28: **Midterm Exam**

Week Nine:

3/5: Read the introduction to the Caribbean (pp. 813-815) in Clerk and Siegel and the two poems by Derek Walcott (pp. 1010-1011)
3/7: "Crazy Jane" and "My Aunt Gold Teeth"

SPRING BREAK

Week Eleven

3/19: "Leaving This Island Place" ; "Mira"
3/21: Read the Introduction to "Australia, and New Zealand" in Clerk and Siegel, pp. 203- 206 and the following texts (from same): "Spiritual Song of the Aborigine" "Poem Two" "Kiacatoo" "It Used to Be Green Once"

Week Twelve:

3/26: Read the Introduction to "South Asia and Southeast Asia" in Clerk and Siegel (pp. 195-200) and the following stories: "The Tale of the Old Fisherman" "The Dog of Titwal"
3/28: Roy, *The God of Small Things*

Week Thirteen:

4/2: *The God of Small Things*
4/4: *The God of Small Things*

Week Fourteen:

4/9: Rushdie, "Good Advice is Rarer than Rubies" "The Free Radio" "Harmony of the Spheres" in *East West*
4/11: Lahiri, *The Interpreter of Maladies*

Week Fifteen:

4/16: *The Interpreter of Maladies*
4/19: *The Interpreter of Maladies*

Week Sixteen:

4/23: Long paper due (class presentations)
4/25: Review and evaluation