ENG 2850-001: Post-Colonial Literatures in English

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English 2850-001  Post-Colonial Literatures in English  
TTh 9:30-10:45 Coleman Hall 303  
Dr. Susan Bazargan  
Office: Coleman Hall 323  
Telephone: Office 581-6979  Home (Champaign): 355-5784  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10-1 and 1-2 and by appointment

**Required Texts:**  
Achebe, Chinua, *Things Fall Apart*  
Clerk and Siegel, *Modern Literatures of the Non-Western World*  
Conrad, Joseph, *Heart of Darkness*  
Djebar, Assia, *Women of Algiers in their Apartment*  
Gordimer, Nadine, *July's People*  
Naipaul, V.S., *A Bend in the River*  
Roy, Arundhati, *The God of Small Things*  
Rushdie, Salman, *East, West*  
Saleh, Tayeb, *Season of Migration to the North*

**Course Requirements:**  
I. 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. If you are ill or have to leave campus because of family emergency, please call my office or home and let me know.  
II. Three 2-page (typed) papers and one longer essay (4 pages or longer). Topics will be assigned later.  
III. Four brief oral presentations (on the papers)  
IV. Mid-term and Final exams

**Grading Policy:**  
Short papers and oral presentations 50%; longer essay 10%; 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.
Class Meetings:

Week One:
8/25: Introduction to the course
8/27: Read the introduction to Africa in Clerk and Siegel (pp. 521-525) and the following stories and poems: “The Gentlemen of the Jungle”; “You Laughed and Laughed...” “Half a Day”; “The Collector of Treasurers”

Week Two:
9/1: Achebe, Things Fall Apart (Chapters 1-10)
9/3: Achebe (Chapters 11-25)

Week Three:
9/8: Conrad, Heart of Darkness, pp. 79-97, 132-141; 7-33
9/10: Conrad, 33-76

Week Four:
9/15: from Clerk and Siegel, “Wedding at the Cross”; “She Has No Place in Paradise.”
(Read also as many pages as you can from the interview with Assia Djebar in the “Afterword”)

Week Five:
9/22: Gordimer, July’s People, pp. 1-80
9/24: Gordimer, 81-160

Week Six:
9/29: Fugard, The Island in Clerk and Siegel
10/1: Paper #1 is due; presentations

Week Seven:
10/6: Read the introduction to the Caribbean (pp. 813-815) in Clerk and Siegel and the following texts (from same): “Crazy Jane”; two poems by Derek Walcott (pp. 1010-1011), “Mira”
10/8: Naipaul, A Bend in the River, pp. 1-107

Week Eight:
10/13: Naipaul, pp. 107-182
10/15: Naipaul, pp.183-278

Week Nine:
10/20: Midterm Exam
10/22: Read the Introduction to “South Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and New Zealand” in Clerk and Siegel, pp. 195-206 and the following texts (from same): “Spiritual Song of the Aborigine” “Poem Two” “Kiacatoo” “It Used to Be Green Once”
Week Ten:
10/27: “Yellow Brick Road” “Arthur Corunna’s Story”
10/29: Paper # 2 and presentations

Week Eleven:

Week Twelve:
11/10: “Dhowli”; A Devoted Son”
11/12: Rushdie, East,West, pp. 5-32; 125-146

Week Thirteen:
11/17: Rushdie, pp. pp. 149-211
11/19: Paper # 3 and presentations

Thanksgiving break

Week Fourteen:
12/1: Roy, pp. 1-123
12/3: Roy, pp. 124-214

Week Fifteen:
12/8: Roy, pp. 125-340
12/10: Paper # 4 and presentations