

EN3C4-30 New Literatures in English

20/21

Department

English and Comparative Literary Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Upamanyu Mukherjee

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

EN3C4-30 New Literatures in English

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

Through the medium of English, writers from Africa and Asia today confront a (prospectively) global audience. This module aims to introduce students to the emergent body of literature being produced by writers (and film-makers) from South Africa, sub-Saharan Africa generally, and South Asia, and to situate it in terms of the historical circumstances that have engendered it and to which it constitutes a response. The module will examine the various ways in which different writers negotiate and represent social conditions -- local and global -- in their work, and the ways in which they incorporate and work with domestic and foreign literary forms and conventions. The works will be read comparatively, in relation to one another, and as contributions to particular literary and cultural traditions. Social issues under review will range very widely: for example, race, violence, religion and communalism, land, 'development' and the environment, sex and gendered identity, nation and state, memory, trauma and prolepsis, English as a world language and English as a language of cultural imperialism.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Syllabus for Term 1: South Asia

Week One: Introduction to the Module

Week Two: Partition Narratives

Urvashi Butalia, excerpt from *The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India* (2000)

Butalia, *The Other Side of Silence*

Saadat Hasan Manto, 'Toba Tek Singh' (1955). *Kingdom's End and Other Stories* (1987)

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Manto, 'Khol Do' (1950). *The Annual of Urdu Studies* 27 (2012) Manto, Khol Do

Kamleshwar, 'Kitne Pakistan' (1966-7). Tarun K. Saint, ed. *Translating Partition: Essays, Stories, Criticism* (2001) Kamleshwar, *Kitne Pakistan*

Faiz Ahmed Faiz, 'The Dawn of Freedom' (1947). Tr. Agha Shahid Ali. *The Annual of Urdu Studies* 11 (1996) Faiz, *The Dawn of Freedom*

Week Three: Salman Rushdie, *Shame* (1983)

Week Four: Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things* (1997)

Week Five: Mirza Waheed, *The Collaborator* (2011)

Film: *Garm Hawa* (1974) (dir., M.S. Sathyu, Urdu, with English subtitles, film)

Screening: Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Week Six: No class. Reading Week

Week Seven: Amitav Ghosh, *The Hungry Tide* (2004)

Week Eight: Vishwajyoti Ghosh, *Delhi Calm* (2010)

Film: *Masaan (Crematorium)* (2015) (dir., Neeraj Ghaywaan) The film will be screened in H545 on Wednesday, Nov 22, from 7 pm.

Week Nine: Arvind Adiga, *The White Tiger* (2008)

Week Ten: Mahasweta Devi, 'Pterodactyl, Puran Sahay, and Pirtha'. *Imaginary Maps* (1995).

Pterodactyl

Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar, 'November is the Month of Migrations', 'Baso-jhi' and 'The Adivasi Will Not Dance' from *The Adivasi Will Not Dance: Stories* (2015)

Syllabus for Term 2: Sub-Saharan Africa

Week One: J M Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (1980)

Week Two: Ayi Kwei Armah, *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* (1968)

Week Three: Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (1988)

Week Four: Nadine Gordimer, *The House Gun* (1998)

Week Five: Film: *Tsotsi* (dir. Gavin Hood, 2005)

THE FILM WILL BE SCREENED ON WEDNESDAY, FEB 7 AT 7 PM IN H545.

Week Six: No class. Reading Week

Week Seven: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2006)

Week Eight: Mia Couto, *Confession of the Lioness* (2012)

Week Nine: Film (screening to be arranged): *Moolaadé* (dir. Ousmane Sembene, 2004)

Week Ten: Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *A Grain of Wheat* (1967)

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Familiarity with a wide range of Anglophone writing that has emerged after decolonization.
- Familiarity with basic concepts and methods of post-colonial studies.
- Acquire knowledge of key theoretical, literary, cultural and critical contexts within which to situate the set texts.
- Develop analytical and critical skills through close reading/viewing of the set texts.
- Adjust to scholarly standards and protocols of academic presentation.

Indicative reading list

South Asia

Ulka Anjaria, ed. *A History of the Indian Novel in English* (Cambridge UP, 2015)

-----, *Realism in the Twentieth-Century Indian Novel: Colonial Difference and Literary Form* (Cambridge University Press, 2012)

Deepika Bahri, *Native Intelligence: Aesthetics, Politics, and Postcolonial Literature* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota P., 2003)

Mrinalini Chakravorty, *In Stereotype: South Asia in the Global Literary Imaginary* (Columbia University Press, 2014)

Toral Jatin Gajarawala, *Untouchable Fictions: Literary Realism and the Crisis of Caste* (Fordham University Press, 2012)

Ghosh, Bishnupriya, *When Borne Across: Literary Cosmopolitics in the Contemporary Indian Novel* (New Brunswick and London: Rutgers University Press, 2004)

Gopal, Priyamvada. *The Indian English Novel: Nation, History, and Narration* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)

Priya Joshi, *In Another Country: Colonialism, Culture and the English Novel in India* (Columbia University Press, 2002)

Tabish Khair, *Babu Fictions: Alienation in Indian English Novels* (Oxford University Press, 2001)

Satya P. Mohanty, ed. *Colonialism, Modernity, Literature: A View from India* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)

Meenakshi Mukherjee, *The Perishable Empire: Essays on Indian Writing in English* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000)

Upamanyu Pablo Mukherjee, *Postcolonial Environment: Nature, Culture and the Contemporary Indian Novel in English* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010)

Rashmi Sadana, *English Heart, Hindi Heartland: The Political Life of Literature in India* (University of California Press, 2012)

Snehal Shinghavi, *The Mahatma Misunderstood: The Politics and Forms of Literary Nationalism in India* (Anthem, 2013)

Anis Shivani, "Indo-Anglian Fiction: The New Orientalism". *Race and Class* 47, 4 (2006)

E. Dawson Varughese, *Reading New India: Post-Millennial Indian Fiction in English* (Bloomsbury, 2014)

Africa

Chinua Achebe, *Morning Yet on Creation day* (Heinemann, 1977)

Chidi Amuta, *The Theory of African Literature: Implications for Practical Criticism* (Zed, 1989)

Jean-Francois Bayart, *The State in Africa: Politics of the Belly* (Longman, 1993)

Aquino de Braganca and Immanuel Wallerstein eds., *The African Liberation Reader*, 3vols (Zed, n.d.)

Basil Davidson, *Let Freedom Come: Africa in Modern History* (Little Brown, 1978)
Neil Lazarus, *Resistance in Postcolonial African Fiction* (Yale, 1990)
Mahmood Mamdani, *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism* (Princeton UP, 1996)
Ali A. Mazrui ed., *Africa Since 1935. General History of Africa Vol.VIII* (James Currey, 1999)
Njabulo Ndebele, *Rediscovery of the Ordinary: Essays on South African Literature and Culture* (COSAW, 1991)
Ngugi Wa Thiong'o, *Decolonizing the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature*

Subject specific skills

No subject specific skills defined for this module.

Transferable skills

No transferable skills defined for this module.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	264 hours (88%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Reading & research

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time
Assessed Essay 1 Based on Term 1 readings	40%	
Assessed essay 2 Based on Term 2 readings	40%	
Creative or Critical Project Final syncretic project designed by the students	20%	

Feedback on assessment

Written comments; opportunity for further oral feedback in office hours.

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 3 of UENA-Q300 Undergraduate English Literature
- Year 3 of UENA-QP36 Undergraduate English Literature and Creative Writing
- Year 4 of UENA-QP37 Undergraduate English Literature and Creative Writing with Intercalated Year
- Year 3 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- Year 4 of UENA-QW35 Undergraduate English and Theatre Studies with Intercalated Year
- Year 4 of UFIA-QW25 Undergraduate Film and Literature
- Year 4 of UFIA-QW26 Undergraduate Film and Literature (with Study Abroad)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of UCXA-QQ37 Undergraduate Classics and English
- Year 3 of UFIA-QW25 Undergraduate Film and Literature

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 3 of UTHA-QW34 Undergraduate English and Theatre Studies

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature
- Year 4 of UPHA-VQ73 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature with Intercalated Year