

EN2C4-30 New Literatures in English

21/22

Department

English and Comparative Literary Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

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

EN2C4-30 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.

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

Research & reading

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 Topics based on Term 1 readings	40%	
Assessed essay 2 Topics based on Term 2	40%	
Creative or Critical Project A final, syncretic project devised 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 2 of UENA-Q300 Undergraduate English Literature
- Year 2 of UENA-QP36 Undergraduate English Literature and Creative Writing
- Year 2 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- Year 2 of UTHA-QW34 Undergraduate English and Theatre Studies
- Year 2 of UFIA-QW25 Undergraduate Film and Literature

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 2 of UCXA-QQ37 Undergraduate Classics and English

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature