

Global Anglophone Literatures Section 80

ENGL 207

Spring 2025 Fully Online 4 Unit(s) 01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025 Modified 01/21/2025

Contact Information

Instructor(s):	Meghan Gorman-DaRif
Email:	meghan.gorman-darif@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wednesdays 10:30-12:30 (via Zoom or FOB 216) and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Mondays 7:00-9:45 (Zoom)
Prerequisites:	Classified graduate standing or instructor consent

Course Description and Requisites

The study of literature in English since 1900 produced outside the Anglo-American core countries.

Letter Graded

Classroom Protocols

Attendance: Your success in this class will largely be dependent on your attendance and active participation in our zoom lectures and discussions, as well as keeping closely up to date with our reading schedule. Staying on top of lecture and reading material will result in a better understanding of the material, which will translate into higher grades across all assignments. Please plan accordingly and develop a schedule to manage the variety of assignments for this course, including readings and written assignments

Scholastic Honesty: Turning in work that is not your own, or any other form of scholastic dishonesty, will result in a major course penalty, possibly failure of the course. This standard applies to all drafts and assignments, and a report of the incident will be submitted to the appropriate Dean's office on campus. **Please note that any writing developed through the use of ChatGPT is, by definition, plagiarism (since ChatGPT does not cite or credit its sources).**

Program Information

The following statement has been adopted by the Department of English for inclusion in all syllabi: In English Department Courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System").

Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance:

- A = excellent;
- B = above average;
- C = average;
- D = below average;
- F = failure.

Within any of the letter grade ranges (e.g. B+/B/B-), the assignment of a +(plus) or -(minus) grade will reflect stronger (+) or weaker (-) completion of the goals of the assignment.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MA English program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an appropriate level of expertise in literary history, literary theory, and rhetoric.
2. Demonstrate high-level proficiency in literary research and in the synthesis of research
3. Demonstrate critical and analytical skills in the interpretation and evaluation of literary texts.
4. Demonstrate a command of written academic English, including the abilities to
 - a. organize and present material in a cogent fashion,
 - b. formulate and defend original arguments,
 - c. employ effectively the language of their discipline and
 - d. write under time constraints.
5. Demonstrate a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language.

Department Information:

Department Name: English and Comparative Literature

Department Office: FO 102

Department Website: www.sjsu.edu/english (<https://www.sjsu.edu/english>)

Department email: english@sjsu.edu (<mailto:english@sjsu.edu>)

Department phone number: 408-924-4425

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

- 1) Analyze, contextualize, and critically respond to both content and form of literary texts through close reading.
- 2) Effectively locate, synthesize, and apply interdisciplinary research to develop original interpretations of literature.
- 3) Develop rhetorically sophisticated writing out of critical reading, as appropriate to graduate level discourse
- 4) Demonstrate familiarity with the content of and theory relating to the field of postcolonial literature

Course Materials

A Grain of Wheat, (1967) by Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o
The Joys of Motherhood, (1979) by Buchi Emecheta
Nervous Conditions, (1988) by Tsitsi Dangarembga
The God of Small Things, (1997) by Arundhati Roy

The Hungry Tide, (2005) by Amitav Ghosh
Oil on Water, (2010) by Helon Habila

Secondary readings will be available via Canvas for download

Course Requirements and Assignments

Weekly Response Papers: You will be asked to develop a crafted, claim-based response paper in response to the readings to post to our discussion board each week (for a total of ten posts). Your contributions will include both an original post (at least 500 words) and a response to a classmate's post (at least 100 words).

Papers are due Sunday at midnight; responses are due by Friday. These short critical essays should center on the course readings for that upcoming week, focusing on textual analysis through close reading skills and/or connecting the secondary readings to the primary text. Papers should make an argument about some element of the text, as well as providing support for the argument with textual evidence and your own interpretation and analysis of the evidence to support your point or idea. The audience for this will be your peers - educated readers familiar with the text - therefore, the goal is to produce a value-added piece of writing for the class that hinges on persuading your readers that your interpretation is valid (though debatable). Examples might include: a pattern or theme you have noticed developing in the text, and what you think the author is trying to reveal through it; a close reading of a particular scene in an attempt to get at its possible meaning or implications; the use of outside research or secondary readings to contextualize the text and make an argument about it; a consideration of how the text's conditions of production may relate to or influence its meaning, etc. These posts are designed for you to be able to practice your analytical skills, and receive substantive weekly feedback on your writing and critical thinking in preparation for our longer writing assignment, and to encourage attentive reading practices to facilitate class discussion.

Presentation/Discussion Facilitation: You will be asked to carefully read, summarize, and prepare discussion questions for one of the recommended texts on the syllabus. These presentations may either be individual or in pairs. Part of the presentation should be a handout with an annotation or summary of the source, highlighting the main claims/points made by the author, and crafted questions linking the claims of the source to the novel under discussion that day in class. Your grade for the presentation will be based on the handout and your brief (10 minutes max) presentation of the source and your discussion questions.

Annotated Bibliography: In preparation for the final paper, you will be asked to submit an annotated bibliography of at least 7 sources. The annotations for each source should include the MLA citation of the source itself and a (250 word maximum) summary of the source's main argument. Sources may be theory, history, or criticism.

Final Paper: A major part of your grade will be developing paper on one or more of the novels. We will discuss and determine final paper format and length together in class.

✓ Grading Information

Weekly Response Papers	30%	CLO 1, 3
Presentation	15%	CLO 4
Annotated Bibliography	10%	CLO 2, 3, 4
Participation	15%	CLO 1, 4
Final Essay	30%	CLO 1, 2, 3, 4

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.