

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of English  
with effect from Semester A 2017/2018**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** World Literature in English

**Course Code:** EN3579

**Course Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit Units:** 3 credits

**Level:** B3

**Proposed Area:**  
*(for GE courses only)*

Arts and Humanities  
 Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations  
 Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Precursors:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course aims to introduce students to notable works of world literature in English. Using an interdisciplinary frame that blends history, political studies, and sociology, it will provide an overview of writers and texts (fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction), allowing students to discover the ways literary production simultaneously embodies and creates culture. The course will invite students to reflect on the intersection of language and literature and to analyse texts from various critical perspectives including globalization, postcolonialism, and sociolinguistics. Furthermore, students will be asked to consider the influence of technology and social media on contemporary forms of literary expression and storytelling. As students learn how literature functions and evolves in changing global contexts, they will develop their ability to think critically and to analyse culture with both rigor and creativity.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	<b>Identify</b> key writers and texts and <b>examine</b> the social and political issues that contribute to the emergence of new literary forms.		X	X	
2.	<b>Discuss</b> the characteristics of major writers and texts and understand the interdisciplinary possibilities of creative texts.		X	X	
3.	<b>Analyse</b> the aesthetic and creative aspects of literature and culture by exploring themes and styles of diverse texts.		X	X	X
4.	<b>Apply</b> critical reading, thinking, and writing skills in interpreting literary and cultural texts.		X	X	X
		100%			

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

*Attitude*

A1: Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
Reading analysis and discussion	Using relevant concepts and terms, students will analyse and reflect upon an array of texts in small group and whole-class settings.	X	X	X	X			
Peer-review	In small peer-review groups, students	X	X	X	X			

meetings and discussion	will read and respond to one another's writing as a way to reflect upon and develop various stages of the writing process.							
In class writing and creative workshops	Students will document and reflect upon learning through writing activities and creative workshop projects.	X	X	X	X			

#### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4			
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
Critical Essays	X	X	X	X		60%	Students will be asked to reflect and analyse particular issues germane to global literature in English. Students may be given the option to write a creative response for one of these assignments.
Quizzes	X			X		20%	Students will take quizzes to judge their reading comprehension and ability to reflect on issues discussed in class.
Participation and Completion of in class Class Writing Activities	X	X	X	X		20%	Students are expected to contribute to in-class discussions/workshops and to demonstrate their learning in reading relevant materials related to the texts. Short in-class writing assignments will also be given.
Examination: _____% (duration: _____, if applicable)							
* The weightings should add up to 100%.						100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Critical Essays	Organization and Cohesion	The organization between sentences, paragraphs, and ideas is effective and smooth. The writing is cohesive and logically organized.	Organization supports thesis. Transitions between ideas are clear and functional. There is a sense of progression as the argument unfolds.	Elements of Marginal and Good	Some signs of logical organization. May have abrupt or illogical shifts and ineffective flow of ideas. Generally very choppy.	Ideas are not clearly contextualized.  Unclear organization.
	Clarity and Precision of Language	Language is used effectively and with a high level of precision.	Almost all sentences are error free. There is a sense of precision in word choice. The writer successfully uses complex sentence structures to convey ideas.	Some minor mistakes remain but these do not confuse the reader or impede meaning. The writer attempts to use complex grammatical patterns to convey ideas.	Many sentences have mistakes, which causes strain for the reader. The meaning is sometimes distorted or unclear.	There are several mistakes in grammar and word choice, often impeding communication and causing severe strain for the reader.
	Thesis / Argument	The essay contains well thought-out ideas that are clearly expressed, original, and supported.	Thesis and purpose are clear and appropriate for the writing task. There is a sense of originality in the purpose.	Elements of Marginal and Good	Thesis and argument are vague or only loosely related to the writing task.	Reader cannot determine thesis & purpose OR thesis has no relation to the writing task
	Engagement with the relevant texts	Shows a deep understanding of the relevant texts.  Sophisticated reading/interpretative skills apparent.	The discussion of the primary texts is sufficiently detailed. There is a sense of the writer interpreting the text.	Elements of Marginal and Good	Some discussion of the relevant texts, but mostly in general and broad terms. Lacks details.	Very little if any engagement with the primary texts
2. Quizzes	Comprehension of course materials	Demonstrates a full understanding of course materials including details and	Demonstrates a good understanding of course materials	Demonstrates a partial understanding of course materials	Demonstrates a limited understanding of course materials	Fails to demonstrate an understanding of course materials

		nuances in meaning.				
3. Participation	Participation in in-class activities (such as group discussion and writing tasks)	Makes significant contribution to in-class discussion and completes writing tasks satisfactorily.	Makes occasional contribution to in-class group discussion and completes the writing tasks satisfactorily.	Seldom makes contribution to in-class group discussion; completes most of the in-class writing tasks	Little evidence of participation in class; completes very few in-class writing tasks	Fails to sufficiently participate in in-class activities (including discussion and writing)

**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

World literature in English, diaspora, class, race, hybridity, identity, culture

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

1.	Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. <i>One World: A Global Anthology of Short Stories</i> . New Internationalist, 2009.
2.	Damrosch, David. <i>Longman Anthology of World Literature: The Compact Edition</i> . Longman, 2007.

**2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

1.	Chew, Shirley and David Richards. <i>A Concise Companion to Postcolonial Literature</i> . Malden: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
2.	Damrosch, David. <i>What is World Literature?</i> Princeton UP, 2003.
3.	Lane, Richard J. <i>Global Literary Theory: An Anthology</i> . Routledge, 2013.