

Department of English & Writing Studies
Department of Women's Studies & Feminist Research

Topics in Postcolonial Literature - Cultures of African Queer Representations
English 3882F (001)/Women s Studies 3363F (001)

Fall 2016

Instructor: Taiwo Adetunji Osinubi
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519.661.2111 x84310
Office Hours: Tues 10:00-12:00pm, Thurs
11:00-12:00pm

Course Location: Somerville House 2317

Date/Time: Tuesday 3:30-5:30pm,
Thursday 4:30-5:30pm

Teaching Assistant: Gabriele Vita
AHB 2G30
Office Hours: Tues 1:00-3:00pm or by appt

Prerequisites for English 3882F: At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or 1022E or 1024E or 1035E or 1036E or both English 1027F/G and 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Prerequisites for Women s Studies 3363F: Women's Studies 2220E or 2253E or 2273E or permission of the Department.

Course Description

This course will introduce students to representations of queer figures in African literature, film, and political discourse. That figure—incarnated as lesbian, gay, inter-sexed, transgendered, or indeterminate—has recently gained a new visibility in the political dialogue of African democracies, in circulating ideas of Africa, and the claims of new national and transnational networks criticizing the legal and social predicaments faced by African sexual minorities. This course will provide

Course Materials

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/info%20for%20students.html#grade>.

Timetable:

TERM 1 FALL 2016

Week 1 September 8	INTRODUCTION
Week 2 September 13/15	<i>Call Me Kuchu & Confusion Na Wa.</i>
Week 3 September 20	Lecture: Colonial Modernity, Queer Representations, & the Global Culture Wars Jomo Kenyatta, <i>Facing Mount Kenya</i> . Chapters 6-8. 125-178. Chinua Achebe, "Uncle Ben's Choice." Denis Brutus, "Letters to Martha."
September 22	Monica Arac de Nyeko, "Jambula Tree."
Week 4 September 27	Chinelo Okparanta, "America." E.C. Osundu, "I Will Lend You My Wife." Chimamanda N. Adichie, "On Monday of Last Week."
September 29	Chimamanda N. Adichie, "The Shivering."
Research essay 1	Due Date: October 20 in class.
Week 5 October 4/6	Huchu, Tendai. <i>The Hairdresser of Harare</i> .
Week 6 October 11/13	Huchu, Tendai. <i>The Hairdresser of Harare</i> .
Week 7 October 18/20	Binyavanga Wainaina. <i>One Day I Shall Write About This Place</i> .
Week 8 October 25	Binyavanga Wainaina, <i>One Day I Shall Write About This Place</i> . Binyavanga Wainaina, "I am a Homosexual Mum." ONLINE
Research essay 2	

Important Dates for 2016-17 Academic Year

Classes begin:	Thursday, September 8, 2016
Thanksgiving Holiday:	Monday, October 10, 2016
Fall Study Break:	Thursday, October 27 - Friday, October 28, 2016
Fall Term classes end:	Wednesday, December 7, 2016
	Final due date for all first-term half-course assignments
Study Days:	Thursday, December 8 - Friday, December 9, 2016
December examinations:	Saturday, December 10 - Wednesday, December 21, 2016

The official Undergraduate Sessional Dates can also be found at:

http://uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/important_dates.html

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking: All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

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