

Department of English

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Postcolonial Literatures 1
Postkolonial litteratur 1

7.5 Higher Education Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

 Course code:
 ENP1H9

 Valid from:
 Autumn 2011

 Date of approval:
 2009-06-08

 Changed:
 2011-05-06

Department Department of English

Main field: English

Specialisation: A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of English on 2009-06-08 and revised on 2010-05-21 and 2011-05-06.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Degree of Bachelor of Arts with at least 90 HECs/ECTS credits or the equivalent in a field relevant to the programme. English B or the equivalent.

Course structure

Examination codeNameHigher Education CreditsP1H9Postcolonial Literatures 17.5

Course content

This course aims to familiarise the students with central issues in postcolonial literature and theory. The texts we will read originate from different backgrounds, but all from the field of tension between their own culture and the English language. We will discuss such concepts as hybridity, the nation, nationalism, cultural translation, and the relation between tradition and modernity. Special emphasis is put on problematisations of the understanding of what is meant by 'postcoloniality'.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Advance arguments about the literary, theoretical and critical texts in the course displaying critical distance;
- •Use postcolonial critical and theoretical terms when discussing literary texts;
- •Offer an independent interpretation of a literary text;
- •Follow the debate about the postcolonial condition and develop their own stance within that debate.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of seminars. The form and extent of the training may be adjusted according to the number of students in the course.

Forms of examination

The course is assessed on the basis of active participation at the seminars, as well as written assignments.

Students will receive letter grades on a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent

B = Very Good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Inadequate

F = Totally Inadequate

The assessment criteria for the course will be distributed at the beginning of the course.

If students fail a course unit and receive the grade Fx or F on an examination, they are allowed to retake the examination up to four times, as long as the course is still provided, in order to obtain a grade of E or higher. Students who receive a grade of E or higher on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.

If students receive the grade Fx or F on an examination twice by the same examiner, they are entitled to have a new examiner appointed to determine the grade on the examination, unless there are any specific reasons against it. Such a request should be addressed to the Board of the Department.

Interim

If this course is discontinued, or its contents are substantially altered, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester for three further semesters.

For comparisons with the previous course system, please refer to the department's student counsellor or director of studies.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree together with a course, taken in Sweden or elsewhere, of identical or partially similar content.

Required reading

Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart. Norton Critical Editions (2009).

Anderson, Benedict. Imagined Communities.

Bhabha, Homi K. Nation and Narration.

Coetzee, J. M. Waiting for the Barbarians.

Conrad, Joseph. Heart of Darkness. Norton Critical Editions (2006).

Rushdie, Salman. Midnight □s Children.

Boehmer, Elleke. Colonial and Postcolonial Literature: Migrant Metaphors. 2nd edition.

Additional material as instructed by the teacher.

Students are encouraged to use specific editions of the literature when such are listed above.