English 6301: British Literary History
“The Empire Writes Back: The Post-Colonial British Novel in Dialogue with the Empire”
Instructor: Dr. Hama
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Office Hours: MWF 12:00pm-1:00pm; TR 10:00am-11:30am; also, by appointment if necessary, with 24hr. advance notice.

CLASS POLICIES

Required Texts


Additional critical readings will be provided in a reading packet

Course Description
Because our understanding of and engagement with literature deepens significantly when we examine it within its broader historical and cultural contexts, the course engages the subject of the post-colonial British novel within the social, political, and cultural milieu of the period of the late-19th and 20th centuries as they relate to British imperialism and post-colonialism. The appropriate context will be provided through lectures and background reading, and the course content will include major works of fiction from this period, as well as background essays and critical material.

Requirements and Grading
Oral Presentation-------------------------------20%
Annotated Bibliography------------------------20%
Research Paper-------------------------------30%
Final exam---------------------------------30%

Essay Format
Written assignments must be typed (using standard Times Roman or Times New Roman 12 point font) and double-spaced with one-inch margins, and they must follow the guidelines of the most
recent edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. Written assignments will be given a penalty of five points if turned in after the beginning of class on the due date and five more points for each additional day late. I will accept late assignments without penalty only in cases of documented emergencies (computer/printer problems do not count as emergencies).

*Students must complete and turn in all assignments to be considered for a passing grade.*

**Attendance Policy**

Each student is allowed one unexcused absences without penalty. For each subsequent absence after the allowed one, 3 points will be deducted from your final semester grade. All absences will be charged against this allotment unless proper written documentation indicating the nature of the absence is presented; in any case, I reserve the right to determine whether the absence will be excused. Further, you are responsible for keeping up with the syllabus during any absence. You are also expected to be in the classroom and prepared for the day's work at the start of class. If you arrive after the assigned class-time on any regular basis, I will bring the matter to your attention. At that point, any further late arrivals will each be counted as an absence. Finally, a total of three or more absences for any reason will constitute grounds for failing the course.

**Classroom Decorum**

Please come to class fully prepared; if you do not, I reserve the right to ask you to leave and to charge you with an absence. Also, any student who falls asleep will be awakened and asked to leave the class. If these actions would embarrass you, please come to class prepared and alert. Also, eating, drinking, talking disruptively, habitually forgetting the textbook, and doing coursework for other classes are prohibited. Please turn off all electronic communications devices before entering the classroom. Finally, following University policy, please turn off all electronic communications devices before entering the classroom, and refrain from any sort of tobacco use in the classroom as well.

**Academic Honesty**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, available on the web at [http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf). At minimum students who are determined to have violated this policy will receive a failing grade on the assignment, and may also receive a failing grade in the course and be referred to the English Department Head for possible further action.

**Students with Disabilities**

Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Absences for Religious Holiday Observation**

Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious “holy day” (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must inform the instructor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe as determined by the professor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment within the specified timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.
# Syllabus

**Th 8/29**  
Class Introduction  
Research Project and Presentations assigned  
Brief overview of ASU research databases

**Th 9/5**  

**Th 9/12**  
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*, all  
Additional reading: *NCE*, 99-160; 208-41; 365-75; 396-414; 422-9; 336-49; 365-76

**Th 9/19**  
Joyce Cary, *Mister Johnson*, all  

**Th 9/26**  
**Presentation #1**  
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*, all  
Additional reading: “Essays and Responses,” 159-257 (omit “An Image of Africa”)

**Th 10/3**  
**Presentation #2**  
V. S. Naipaul, *A Bend in the River*, all  

**Th 10/10**  
**Presentation #3**  
Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*, all  
Additional reading: *NCE*, 161-258

**Th 10/17**  
**Presentation #4**  
Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre*, all  

**Th 10/24**  
Overview on India  
Th 10/31  **Presentation #5**  
Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, all  
Additional reading: *NCE*, poems, 259-61; also, 297-320; 337-58; 393-406; 410-26

Th 11/7  **Presentation #6**  
E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, all  
Additional reading TBA

Th 11/14  **Annotated Bibliography due**  
**Presentation #7**  
Anita Desai, *Clear Light of Day*, all  
Additional reading TBA

Koyel Chakraborty, “Gandhian Influence on Indian Writing in English,” packet

Th 11/28  **Thanksgiving Break**

Th 12/5  Last Day of Class  
**Research Paper Due**  
Discuss final exam

Final Exam: Tuesday, 12/10, 6pm-9pm