

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN ENGLISH
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

Title of the Course	Core Course BEN-DSC13: POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES IN ENGLISH		
Category of the Course	Year & Semester Third Year & Sixth Semester	Credits 4	Subject Code
Hours:	90		
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce a cross-section of writings in English from the colonized nations to illustrate their similarities and differences and their richness and variety. • To study in context, local histories, politics and cultural patterns, and the impact of colonial forces on them and comprehend the extent to which they interrogate Eurocentric conceptions of culture and language. 		
Course Introduction (to be considered for internal assessment only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is colonization, decolonization and post colonization? Who were the colonizers? • Which are the countries that went through the postcolonial experiences? • What does the terms 'natives' and 'settlers' signify? • What is Imperialism? What is Orientalism? What is Apartheid? • What does the term postcolonial signify? 		
Course Components	<p>UNIT 1: Africa</p> <p>1.1 Prose: <i>Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature</i> - NgugiwaThiong'o</p> <p>1.2 Poetry: i) "An African Elegy" - Ben Okri ii) "An Africa Thunderstorm" - David Rubadiri</p> <p>1.3 Drama: <i>The Lion and the Jewel</i> - Wole Soyinka</p> <p>1.4 Fiction: <i>Things Fall Apart</i> - Chinua Achebe</p> <hr/> <p>UNIT 2: Australia</p> <p>2.1 Myths and Legends: "The Aboriginal Song Cycle" Song 1 from The Djanggawul Song Cycle</p> <p>2.2 Poetry: i) "Australia" A.D.Hope ii) "A Song of Hope" Oodgeroo (Kath Walker) iii) "Waltzing Mathilda" Banjo Patterson iv) "For New England" Judith Wright</p> <p>2.3 Short Story: i) "Drover's Wife" Henry Lawson ii) "One Sunday in February 1942" Thomas Keneally</p> <hr/> <p>UNIT 3: Canada</p> <p>3.1 Prose: <i>Godzilla vs. Post-colonial</i> Thomas King</p> <p>3.2 Poetry: i) "First Neighbours" P K Page ii) "Indian Reservation: Caughnawaga" A M Klein</p> <p>3.3 Short Story: i) "Face" Alice Munro ii) "The Hostelry of Mr. Smith" Stephen Leacock (Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town)</p>		

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	<p>UNIT 4: New Zealand, and South Pacific</p> <p>4.1 Poetry: i) “House and Land” Allen Curnow ii) “Stepping Stones” Albert Wendt</p> <p>4.2 Short Story: i) “The Garden Party” Katherine Mansfield ii) “From South Pacific” Bill Manhire</p>
	<p>UNIT 5: Carribean</p> <p>5.1 Poetry: “Ruins of a Great House” Derek Walcott (Arnold Anthology: Pages 498-499)</p> <p>5.2 Short Story: “The Day They Burned the Books” Jean Rhys (Arnold Anthology: Pages 457-461)</p>
<p>Learning Outcomes:</p>	<p>On completing the course, the students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ define the problems and consequences of colonization ➤ identify key authors, and literary forms in postcolonial literature ➤ understand how ancestry, race, class, gender, history, and identity are presented in the literary texts ➤ examine the use of English language by the colonized to express their experiences and the emergence of ‘Englishes’ ➤ think critically about the contexts of exploration and colonialism in relation to postcolonial societies

Prescribed Text

- *Arnold Anthology of Post- Colonial Literatures* by Arnold Thieme. OUP 1996
 - Unit 1:1.1 pages 79-83
 - Unit 4:4.1 Pages 603-604
 - Unit 4:4.2&4.3 Pages 588-598 and 669-675
 - Unit 5: 5.1&5.2 pages:498-499 and 457-461 o

FURTHER READING (to be considered for internal assessment only)

Other authors whose works may be studied are:

- Ama Ata Aidoo
- Nadine Gordimer
- Kate Grenville
- Patrick White
- Margaret Atwood
- James Reaney
- Wilson Harris
- Kamau Brathwaite
- R.K.Narayan
- Anita Desai

BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

- Ashcroft, Bill Ashcroft et al, eds. *The Empire Writes Back*, London and New York: Routledge, 2006. Print.
- Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin. *Key Concepts in Post-Colonial Studies*, London and New York: Routledge, 1998. Print.
- King, Bruce, ed. *The New National and Postcolonial Literatures: An Introduction*, Oxford: Clarendon, 1996.
- Killam, G. D. *The Novels of Chinua Achebe*. *Studies in African Literature Series*, London: Heinemann, 1978. P
- Sarkar Parama ,*Postcolonial Literatures*, Orient Black Swan,2016
- What is Post colonialism, What is Post Colonial Theory And Postcolonial Terms?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_AWWbFM9jNM

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RECOMMENDED MOOC

NPTEL: **Lecture 01- Introduction: What is Postcolonialism?** <https://nptel.ac.in/courses/109104116/>

Postcolonial Literature: <https://nptel.ac.in/noc/courses/noc17/SEM1/noc17-hs12/>

TED TALKS

➤ TEDxRotterdam - Frances Gouda - How the colonial past influences the way we see the world today
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7CyPpnZ7PU>

➤ Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: The danger of a single story
https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story/transcript?language=en