

CMLT/AFST 3150: INTRODUCTION TO MODERN AFRICAN LITERATURE

FALL 2009

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COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE OBJECTIVE

An appraisal of representative works of contemporary African literature which aims at giving the student an understanding and appreciation of African literature and of the African people and their culture depicted in those works.

TEXTBOOKS:

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Camara Layé, *The Dark Child*

Ferdinand Oyono, *Houseboy*

Alex LaGuma, *In the Fog of the Seasons' End*

Marima Bâ, *So Long a Letter*

Mongo Beti, *Mission to Kala*

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEKS

1. August 17 - 21
Course Introduction
2. August 24 - 28
Things Fall Apart
3. August 31 – September 4
Things Fall Apart
4. September 7 - 11
The Dark Child
5. September 14 - 18
The Dark Child
6. September 21 - 25
Houseboy
7. September 28 – October 2
Houseboy
8. October 5 -9
In the Fog of the Seasons' End
10/6/2009: Objective Test I
9. October 11 - 15
In the Fog of the Seasons' End
10/13/2009: Term paper topic assigned
10. October 19 - 23
In the Fog of the Seasons' End
11. October 26 – 29 (**10/30/2009: Fall break**)
So Long a Letter

12. November 2 - 6
So Long a Letter
13. November 9 - 13
Mission to Kala
14. November 16 - 20
Mission to Kala
11/17/2009 Term paper due
15. November 23 – 27: **Thanksgiving break**
Mission to Kala
16. November 30 – December 4
Course overview
12/1/2009: Objective test II

FINAL EXAM: Friday December 11, 2009, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURE

1. Students are required to read all assigned texts, attend all classes and participate in class activities. Absence from class, with or without excuse, for more than 25% of the scheduled classes will be penalized by deducting twenty points from the student's final grade points. Students are asked to report to the instructor at once potential causes of prolonged absence from class, such as an illness or accident, so that the instructor can inform the student of what to do, otherwise the class absence policy will apply.
2. Students will take two objective tests, each comprising 25% of the final grade (total 50%), on the dates shown in the course calendar. Students are required to take the tests on those dates, and there will be no makeup tests unless an exception has been requested by the student and granted by the instructor before the time of the test.
3. In addition to the two objective tests, students will write a typed term paper of no less than **three double-spaced pages** on a topic to be assigned at the beginning of the second half of the semester. The term paper will comprise 25% of the final grade.
4. Students will take a final examination comprising 25% of the final grade on the date shown in the course calendar, unless a change of date has been announced to the class by the Instructor. Students are required to take and pass the final examination in order to pass the course.
5. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course: deviations may be necessary.