

POSTCOLONIAL READING LIST

Student: _____

Supervisor: _____

Anticipated Exam Date: _____

For the purposes of the examination, post-colonial literature is divided into five regions: 1) Africa, 2) the South Pacific (primarily Australia and New Zealand), 3) Canada, 4) the Caribbean, and 5) South Asia (primarily India and Pakistan). The aim of studying “post-colonial” as a specialisation is to gain a broad understanding of the field, its literary production, and critical debates as possible. The field, however, is vast. Students must work with their supervisor to select at least three of the five regions as well as a list of theoretical/critical approaches in order to best inhabit the intent of the aim.

Conditions for all Major Field Lists include the following:

- approximately 100 texts (novels, a selection of about ten poems, three articles); however, the equivalencies should be balanced by the length and level of difficulty of the poem or article;
- 20% of the texts may be substituted with others, so that students can shape their approach to the field according to their interests, experiences, and past readings;
- titles of poetry, short stories, and critical articles must be specified prior to submission of the list to the Graduate Study Committee;
- substituted texts must be indicated clearly on the list prior to submission of the list to the GSC.

A finalized reading list must be submitted to and approved by the Graduate Study Committee at least two months before the written examination. Students should provide a rationale (approx. 100 words) for their selections. The rationale is a description of thinking behind the selections, the shape of the list, and thus the student’s approach to a sufficiently comprehensive knowledge.

PROSE FICTION:

Africa

Abdulrazak Gurnah, *Paradise* (Tanzania)

Bessie Head, *Maru* (Botswana)

Buchi Emecheta, *The Rape of Shavi* (Nigeria)

Cheikh Hamidou Kane, *Ambiguous Adventure* (Senegal)

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Half of a Yellow Sun* (Nigeria)

Chinua Achebe and C.L. Innes (eds), *Heinemann Book of Contemporary African Short Stories* (anthology)

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* (Nigeria)

Flora Nwapa, *Efuru* (Nigeria)

J.M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (South Africa)

Lauretta Ngcobo, *And They Didn't Die* (South Africa)

Mariama Ba, *So Long a Letter* (Senegal)

Nadine Gordimer, *Burger's Daughter* (South Africa)
Nawal El Sadaawi, *Woman at Point Zero* (Egypt)
Ngugi wa Thiango, *A Grain of Wheat* (Kenya)
Sindiwe Magona, *Mother to Mother* (South Africa)
Tayeb Salih, *Season of Migration to the North* (Sudan)
Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (Zimbabwe)
Zoe Wicomb, *You Can't Get Lost in Cape Town* (South Africa)

Canada

Austin Clarke, *The Polished Hoe*
Eden Robinson, *Monkey Beach*
Esi Edugyan, *The Second Life of Samuel Tynes*
Joy Kogawa, *Obasan*
Kerri Sakamoto, *The Electric Field*
Leanne Simpson, *Islands of Decolonial Love*
Leonard Cohen, *Beautiful Losers*
M. G. Vassanji, *The Book of Secrets, The In-Between World of Vikram Lall*
Maria Campbell, *Half-Breed*
Michael Ondaatje, *Running in the Family*
Mordecai Richler, *St. Urbain's Horseman*
Rohinton Mistry, *Such a Long Journey*
Shani Mootoo, *Cereus Blooms at Night*
Shyam Selvadurai, *Funny Boy*
Sky Lee, *Disappearing Moon Café*
Susanna Moodie, *Roughing it in the Bush*
Thomas King, *Green Grass Running Water*

Caribbean

Austin Clarke, *The Polished Hoe* (Barbados)
Claude McKay, *Banana Bottom* (Jamaica)
David Dabydeen, *The Counting House* (Guyana)
Dionne Brand, *In Another Place, Not Here* (Trinidad)
Edwidge Danticat, *The Farming of Bones* (Haiti)
Erna Brodber, *Myal* (Jamaica)
Jamaica Kincaid, *Autobiography of My Mother* (Antigua)
Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* (Dominica)
Merle Collins, *The Colour of Forgetting* (Grenada)
Merle Hodge, *Crick Crack, Monkey* (Trinidad)
Michelle Cliff, *Abeng* (Jamaica)
Patricia Powell, *The Pagoda* (Jamaica)
Pauline Melville, *The Migration of Ghosts* (Guyana)
Ramabai Espinet, *The Swinging Bridge* (Trinidad)
Sam Selvon, *The Lonely Londoners* (Trinidad)
Sylvia Wynter, *Hills of Hebron* (Jamaica)

V.S. Naipaul, *Guerrillas* (Trinidad)
Wilson Harris, *Palace of the Peacock* (Guyana)

South Asia

Amitav Ghosh, *Sea of Poppies* (India)
Anita Desai, *Clear Light of Day* (India)
Arundati Roy, *God of Small Things* (India)
Bama, *Sangati* trans. Lakshmi Holmström (India)
Githa Hariharan, *When Dreams Travel* (India)
Jean Arasanayagam, *All is Burning* (Sri Lanka)
Kamila Shamsie, *Burnt Shadows* (Pakistan)
Khushwant Singh, *Train to Pakistan* (India)
Kiran Desai, *The Inheritance of Loss* (India)
Kwai Yun-Li, *Palm Leaf Fan* (India)
Manju Kapur, *Difficult Daughters* (India)
Mohsin Hamid, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* (Pakistan)
Mulk Raj Anand, *Untouchable* (India)
Nayantara Sahgal, *Rich Like Us* (India)
Rabindranath Tagore, *The Home and the World* (India)
Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children* (India)
Shama Futehally, *Tara Lane* (India)
Shashi Deshpande, *The Binding Vine* (India)
Tahmima Anam, *A Golden Age* (Bangladesh)
Yasmine Gooneratne, *Pleasures of Conquest* (Sri Lanka)

South Pacific

Albert Facey, *A fortunate Life* (Australia)
Albert Wendt, *Leaves of the Banyan Tree* (Sa'amo'a)
Barbara Baynton, *The Portable Barbara Baynton* (Australia)
Chris Tsiolkas, *Loaded* (Australia)
Christina Stead, *For Love Alone* (Australia)
Colin Johnson, *Doctor Wooreddy's Prescription for Enduring the Ending of the World* (Australia)
David Malouf, *Johnno* (Australia)
Eleanor Dark, *The Timeless Land* (Australia)
Elizabeth Jolley, *Miss Peabody's Inheritance* (Australia)
Frank Moorhouse, *The Everlasting Secret Family* (Australia)
Frank Sargeson, *Collected Stories* (New Zealand)
Helen Demidenko (Darville), *The Hand That Signed the Paper* (Australia)
Helen Garner, *Monkey Grip* (Australia)
Janet Frame, *Living in the Maniototo* (New Zealand)
John Mulgan, *Man Alone* (New Zealand)
Joseph Furphy, *Such is Life* (Australia)
Katharine Susannah Prichard, *Coonardoo* (Australia)

Katherine Mansfield, *Bliss and Other Stories* (New Zealand)
Keri Hulme, *The Bone People*. (Aotearoa New Zealand)
Marcus Clarke, *For the Term of His Natural Life* (Australia)
Miles Franklin, *My Brilliant Career* (Australia)
Patricia Grace, *Potiki* (Aotearoa New Zealand)
Patrick White, *The Tnyborn Affair* (Australia)
Patrick White, *Voss* (Australia)
Peter Carey, *True History of the Kelly Gang* (Australia)
Randolph Stow, *To the Island* (Australia)
Robert Dessaix, *A Mother's Disgrace* (Australia)
Sally Morgan, *My Place* (Australia)
Shirley Hazzard, *Transit of Venus* (Australia)
Sia Figiel, *Where We Once Belonged* (Sa'amo'a)
Thomas Keneally, *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith* (Australia)
Witi Ihimaera, *The Matriarch* (New Zealand)
Xavier Herbert, *Capricornia or Poor Fellow My Country* (Australia)

POETRY:

Africa

Ben Okri, *An African Elegy* (Nigeria)
Gabriel Okara, *The Fisherman's Invocation* (Nigeria)
Okot p'Bitek, *Song of Lawino* (Uganda)
Stella and Frank Chipasula, *The Heinemann Book of African Women's Poetry* (anthology)

Canada

Dionne Brand, *No Language is Neutral*
Lee Maracle, *Sojourners and Sundogs*
Louise Bernice Halfe, *Blue Marrow*
Margaret Atwood, *The Journals of Susanna Moodie*

Caribbean

Aimé Césaire, *Notebook of the Return to a Native Land* (Martinique)
Derek Walcott, *Omeros* (St. Lucia)
Edward Kamau Braithwaite, *The Arrivants* (Barbados)
Lorna Goodison, *Travelling Mercies* (Jamaica)
Olive Senior, *Gardening in the Tropics* (Jamaica)

South Asia

Kamala Das, *Old Playhouse and Other Poems* (India)
Maki Kureishi, *The Far Thing* (Pakistan)
Meena Kandasamy, *Touch* (India)

Rukmini Bhaya Nair, *The Ayodhya Cantos* (India)

South Pacific

A.B. Paterson, *Collected Poems* (Australia)

A.D. Hope, *Selected Poems* (Australia)

Allen Curnow, *Collected Poems* (New Zealand)

Dorothy Porter, *The Monkey's Mask* (Australia)

Gwen Harwood, *Selected Poems* (Australia)

Harvey McQueen and Lois Cox, *Ten Modern New Zealand Poets* (New Zealand)

Henry Lawson, *The Portable Henry Lawson* (Australia)

Judith Wright, *Five Senses* (Australia)

Kevin Gilbert, ed., *Inside Black Australia* (Australia)

Les Murray, *The Boys Who Stole the Funeral* (Australia)

Russell Ward, ed., *The Penguin Book of Australian Ballads* (Australia)

DRAMA:

Africa

Ama Ata Aidoo, *Dilemma of a Ghost* (Ghana)

Andiah Kisia, *Homecoming* (Kenya)

Athol Fugard, *The Road to Mecca* (South Africa)

John Kani, *Nothing But the Truth* (South Africa)

Wole Soyinka, *Death and the King's Horsemen* (Nigeria)

Zakes Mda, *And the Girls in Their Sunday Dresses* (South Africa)

Canada

Monique Mojica, *Princess Pocahontas and the Blue Spots*

Tomson Highway, *The Rez Sisters*

Caribbean

Derek Walcott, *Dream on Monkey Mountain* (St. Lucia)

Edouard Glissant, *Monsieur Toussaint* (Martinique)

M. NourbeSe Philip, *Coups and Calypsos* (Tobago)

Sistren Theatre Collective, *QPH* (Jamaica)

Trevor Rhone, *Smile Orange* (Jamaica)

South Asia

Hanif Kureishi, *Borderline* (Pakistan)

Mahesh Dattani, *Dance Like a Man* (India)

Manjula Padmanabhan, *Harvest* (India)

Rahul Varma, *Bhopal* (India)

South Pacific

- Alexander Buzo, *Norm and Ahmed* (Australia)
Bruce Mason, *The Pohutukawa Tree* (New Zealand)
David Williamson, *The Collected Plays Vol. I* (Australia)
Dorothy Hewitt, *Chapel Perilous* (Australia)
Jack Davis, *Kullark* or *The Dreamers* (Australia)
Jack Hibberd, *A Stretch of the Imagination* (Australia)
Scott Rankin and Leah Purcell, *Box the Pony* (Australia)
Timberlake Wertenbaker, *Our Country's Good* (UK, but about Australia)

THEORY:

- Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/Postcolonialism*. London: Routledge, 1998.
Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*. London: Routledge, 1995.
Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths, and Helen Tiffin. *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures*. 2nd Edition. New York: Routledge, 2002.
Benita Parry, *Postcolonial Studies: A Materialist Critique*. London: Routledge, 2004.
Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Vintage, 1993.
Elleke Boehmer, *Colonial and Postcolonial Literatures: Migrant Metaphors*. London: Oxford UP, 1995.
Frantz Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*. 1952. Trans. Richard Philcox. New York: Grove, 2008.
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, *In Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics*. New York: Methuen, 1987.
George Lamming, *The Pleasures of Exile*. London: Allison & Busby, 1984.
Helen Gilbert and Joanne Tompkins. *Postcolonial Drama: Theory, Practice, Politics*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1998.
Homi K. Bhabha, *The Location of Culture*. New York: Routledge, 1994.
Jahan Ramazani, *The Hybrid Muse: Postcolonial Poetry in English*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001.
Krim Bentrerrak et al. *Reading the Country*. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1996
Laurie Hergenhan, ed. *The Penguin New Literary History of Australia*. Ringwood, Vic: Penguin Books, 1988.
Neal McLeod, ed. *Indigenous Poetics in Canada*. Peterborough, ON: Wilfrid Laurier UP, 2014.
Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, *Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature*. Nairobi: East African Educational Publishers, 1986.
Nicholas Harrison, *Postcolonial Criticism: History, Theory, and the Work of Fiction*. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2003.
Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993.
Robert J.C. Young, *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2001.
Shalini Puri, *The Caribbean Postcolonial: Social Equality, Post-Nationalism, and Cultural Hybridity*. New York: Palgrave, 2004.

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