

Department of English
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

ENGE2640: Introduction to World Literatures in English

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the variety of writing in English that is taking place around the world. In order to develop an appreciation of the range of writing in English, this course draws on different modes of literary expression such as novels, short stories, poems, and plays. Importantly, many of the texts chosen will be those exploring aspects of cross-cultural, multilingual, or post-colonial experience – experiences which you may find resonate with your own experience of contemporary Hong Kong. In order to explore the richness of such experiences, this course draws on some relevant analytical approaches and literary theories.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A) appreciate some of the scale and diversity of writing in English
- B) recognize the significance of cross-cultural exchange in contemporary writing in English
- C) draw on key aspects of postcolonial literary theory and diaspora studies in order to productively explore world literatures in English
- D) produce a well-reasoned essay

READING

Athol Fugard, *My Children! My Africa!*
David Malouf, *Remembering Babylon*

plus excerpts from a course reader which will be available for download from wk 1

CLASS TOPICS

World literature

Colonialism and Decolonization

Monolingualism and Multilingualism

Nation and Cosmopolitanism

Globalization and cultural appropriation

Temporality and space

ASSESSMENT

- A) Tutorial Preparation & Participation – 10%
- B) Tutorial Presentation – 15%
- C) In-Class Essay – 20%
- D) Major Essay – 55%