

INGL3229-002: Caribbean Experience in Literature

Professor Francisco Mojica

Office location: TBA

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-2:30 p.m.

Class Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3-4:40 p.m.

Email: francisco.mojica.m@gmail.com

Description: Caribbean Experience is a study of distinctively Caribbean techniques and themes. It is focused mainly on the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a time where colonization was at an end and a “post-colonial” (some say neo-colonial) era was to begin. However, there are some texts that extend to the 21<sup>st</sup> century where some complexities continue to plague the mind of Caribbean writers. The reading list of this course spreads itself out in time and in location to obtain a “larger picture” of what is the Caribbean to the writer and to the reader of these texts. Themes include gender performativity, economic inequality, diaspora, educational system, and madness.

Requirements: The first requirement is that the student read. From there, students are required to write 1-page response papers about texts assigned by the professor. There will be a total of 4 response papers. **They are all to be single-spaced, Times New Roman, and font size 12.** If for some reason the student cannot turn in their response paper on the due date, the students are allowed until the next class session to turn it in (this is if the student does not have a proper excuse). Anything handed in after that class will be a zero. There will be a final exam on June 5 that will be open-book for students to reference. The professor is also capable of giving pop quizzes if the professor deems it necessary. As for attendance, students are allowed 3 days for unexcused absences. Any excused absences must be accompanied by documented proof.

Participation	20%
Pop Quiz	5%
Response Papers	40%
Final Paper	35%

Books: The following books will need to be found by the students, but they are not the only texts that will be read for the course:

Diaz, Junot. *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. Riverhead Books. 2007.

Antonmattei, Stefan. *Seasons: A Life in Tweets*. 2013.

Hopkinson, Nalo. *Brown Girl in the Ring*. Warner Books. 1998.

#### Important Dates Scheduled

March 13: Introduction

March 15: Syllabus discussion

March 27: First Response Paper due. It should be about the poetry discussed in class.

April 3: Begin discussion on *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*

April 10: Second Response Paper due. It should be on *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*

April 24: Begin discussion on *Seasons: A Life in Tweets*. Third Response Paper due and should be about this very book.

May 8: Begin discussion on *Brown Girl in the Ring*.

May 15: Fourth and Final Response Paper due on *Brown Girl in the Ring*.

June 5: Final exam.

- Plagiarism: INTERNET PLAGIARISM WILL EARN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE COURSE AND CAN RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM THE ENTIRE UPR SYSTEM. If you copy anything from the internet while writing, you must cite it properly.

Teaching strategies: Class meetings will consist of analysis and discussion of reading assignments, and conceptual understanding of related issues. Visual and audio materials will be incorporated as needed and available.

- Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con el/la profesor/a al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistivo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimiento (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren de algún tipo de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el/la profesor/a.

### **Methodology for covering 11.25 hours with an alternative method**

In the event of needing to cover 11.25 hours outside of the classroom, there are interviews of important authors as well as documentaries on Youtube which the professor will require a short response to them to be sent via email.