

**University of Puerto Rico
Rio Piedras Campus
Faculty of Humanities
English Department**

INGL 3229 Caribbean Experience in Literature

Credit Hours 3

Professor Norma L. Rodriguez-Santiago

Office Hours Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (or by appointment)

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Course Description An introduction to Caribbean literature in English with emphasis on the twentieth century. Readings are in all literary genres and include such writers as V.S. Naipaul, Jean Rhys, George Lamming, Michael Anthony, Errol John, Derek Walcott, and Edward K. Braithwaite. Attention is given to the development of distinctively Caribbean techniques and themes.

Content and Distribution

Week 1 Introduction to class

Discussion of syllabus

Readings: Baytop, Adrianne. "The Emergence of Caribbean English Literature." *Latin American Literary Review*, vol. 4, no. 9, 1976, pp. 29–38.

Selection from Collymore, Frank. *The Man Who Loved Attending Funerals*.

Week 2 Background on West Indian Literature and Short Stories

Readings: Selection from the book *West Indian Literature* by Bruce King and short stories by Sam Selvon

Week 3 East Indians in the Caribbean-VS Naipaul

Readings: selection from Naipaul's *Miguel Street*

Week 4-5 Reacting to Colonial Writing

Readings: Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

ROPER, VALERIE P. "WOMAN AS STORYTELLER IN 'WIDE SARGASSO SEA.'" *Caribbean Quarterly*, vol. 34, no. 1/2, 1988, pp. 19–36. JSTOR, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/23210989.

Week 6-7 Derek Walcott

Readings: Selection from his poetry, *Dream of Monkey Mountain*

Week 8-9 Women writers

Readings: Danticat, *Claire of the Sea Light* (Kindle)

***WEEK 10: MIDTERM**

Week 11 Caribbean Cinema
Screening: *Life + Debt*

Week 12-13 Women Writers (Continuation)
McCaulay, *Dog-Heart* (Kindle)

Week 14-15 The Caribbean Experience in the United States
Reading: Selection from Diaz, Junot. *Drown*, and *This is How You Lose Her*.

Week 16 Preserving the Past (The Immigrant Experience)
Readings: Espada, Martin. *Vivas to Those Who Have Failed*
Carvalho, *Puerto Rico is in the Heart* Ch. 1 & 2

Week 17-19 The Immigrant Experience (Continuation)
Reading: Young, *Pao* (Kindle)

Week 20-21 Current Trends in Caribbean Literature
Readings: Selection from Rahim, Jennifer. *Curfew Chronicles*

Teaching Strategies:

This course will include textual analysis, group discussion, and quizzes. It will also include readings to supplement and contextualize the novels to be discussed.

- “Los estudiantes que requieren acomodo razonable o reciben servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con el profesor al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo y equipo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la oficina que atiende los asuntos para personas con impedimentos en la unidad.”

Methods of Evaluation:

- Class attendance and punctuality: 25 points
- Class participation: 25 points
- Leading Class Discussion: 50 points
- Short writing assignments and quizzes: 100 points
- Midterm: 100 points
- Final Paper: 100 points
- Total: 400 points

*Note that four absences will drop your grade by one. If you have four excused absences, then one more unexcused absence will affect your grade similarly. Seven absences will drop two grades. Twelve absences or more will not pass the course.

Grading System: A, B, C, D, F.

Plagiarism Statement:

—The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR Students General Bylaws (Board of Trustees Certification 13, 2009-2010) states that academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: fraudulent actions; obtaining grades or academic degrees by false or fraudulent simulations; copying the whole or part of the academic work of another person; plagiarizing totally or partially the work of another person; copying all or part of another person answers to the questions of an oral or written exam by taking or getting someone else to take the exam on his/her behalf; as well as enabling and facilitating another person to perform the aforementioned behavior. Any of these behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the disciplinary procedure laid down in the UPR Students General Bylaws.—

--La Universidad de Puerto Rico promueve los más altos estándares de integridad académica y científica. El Artículo 6.2 del Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la UPR (Certificación Núm. 13, 2009-2010, de la Junta de Síndicos) establece que “la deshonestidad académica incluye, pero no se limita a: acciones fraudulentas, la obtención de notas o grados académicos valiéndose de falsas o fraudulentas simulaciones, copiar total o parcialmente la labor académica de otra persona, plagiar total o parcialmente el trabajo de otra persona, copiar total o parcialmente las respuestas de otra persona a las preguntas de un examen, haciendo o consiguiendo que otro tome en su nombre cualquier prueba o examen oral o escrito, así como la ayuda o facilitación para que otra persona incurra en la referida conducta”. Cualquiera de estas acciones estará sujeta a sanciones disciplinarias en conformidad con el procedimiento disciplinario establecido en el Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la UPR vigente.—