

Spring 2021
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Office Hours: M 3-4pm, TuesThurs 3-4:30pm, and by appointment

ENGLISH 6035
African Literature

M 4:30-7:20 pm

THIS COURSE WILL BE OFFERED ONLINE

Course Description

A critical investigation of some of the major novels written by 20th-century African writers. Special emphasis is given to the development of distinctively African techniques and themes. Texts are chosen from all over the African continent; those not originally written in English (but in French or an African language) will be studied in English translation.

Requirements

In order to complete this course successfully, students are expected to do the following: attend class regularly and punctually; complete the assigned readings; participate in class discussions; present an oral report and submit a written version of the report one week after the presentation (5-8 pp.); take a midterm examination when scheduled; prepare a substantial paper (topic to be discussed with the professor) which is due on the last day of classes (8-12 pp.)

Papers should be word processed. They should be double-spaced and must be handed in at the beginning of the class period during which they are due. I will not accept late papers, unless you have a doctor's note.

Please order the following required books online:

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*, Norton 978-0393932195
Buchi Emecheta, *The Joys of Motherhood* George Braziller 978-0807616239
Driss Chraïbi, *Mother Comes of Age* Three Continents Press 978-0894103230
Nadine Gordimer, *July's People* Penguin 978-0140061406
Nuruddin Farah, *Sweet and Sour Milk* Graywolf Press 978-1555971595

Ousmane Sembène, *Xala* Larence Hill 978-1556520709
Mariama Bâ, *So Long a Letter* new ed. Heinemann 978-0435913526
Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *Matigari* Africa World Press 978-0865439993

Things Fall Apart, *The Joys of Motherhood*, and *July's People* are also available as Kindle books.

Other course materials will be distributed in class.

Syllabus

January	26	Introduction
February	01	Introduction
	08	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> ()
	X	
	22	<i>The Joys of Motherhood</i> ()
March	01	<i>Mother Comes of Age</i> ()
	08	<i>July's People</i> ()
	15	<i>July's People</i>
	X	
	29	Midterm Examination
April	05	<i>Sweet and Sour Milk</i> ()
	12	<i>Sweet and Sour Milk</i>
	19	<i>Xala</i> ()
	28	<i>Xala</i>
May	03	<i>So Long a Letter</i>
	05	(Wednesday) <u><i>Matigari</i></u>
	10	<i>Matigari</i> (

Final paper due on Monday, May17

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