

Universidad de Puerto Rico
Recinto de Río Piedras
Facultad de Humanidades
Departamento de Inglés

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. María del Carmen Quintero Aguiló

COURSE TITLE: The Caribbean Experience in Literature (hybrid)

COURSE NUMBER: INGL 3229

COURSE CREDITS: 3 credits/ 45 hours

CONTACT INFORMATION: maria.quintero@upr.edu
Office hours: Fridays 9:00-10:00 am; 1:00-1:30 pm
via email or videoconferencing
Course Classroom: LPM 308

COURSE PREREQUISITES:
One of the following: English 3103-3104, or English 3011-3012, or level 5 on English Department English Placement Test, or Advanced Placement in English (level 3 or higher on the CEEB).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Hybrid course. An introduction to Caribbean literature in English with emphasis on the Twentieth Century. Attention is given to the development of distinctively Caribbean techniques and themes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate basic knowledge of some trends in Caribbean literary and cultural study.
2. Read critically and utilize basic research resources relevant to the study of Caribbean literature.
3. Gain understanding of historical or cultural contexts significant to the study of Caribbean literature.
4. Analyze the ways in which writers and artists have influenced and participated in particular arts movements, social movements, and/or trends in Caribbean artistic expression.
5. Communicate some of the complexities of Caribbean identity and the means by which writers explore the connections between history, current events, and ethnicity, race, class, gender, and/or sexual identity.
6. Write and orally present informed literary critical essays/presentations that interpret selected texts.

COURSE OUTLINE (CONTENT AND TIMEFRAME): *Subject to change

Date	Text(s)	Details
Jan. 27	Syllabus Supplementary source: Truman Capote's "House of Flowers"	Introduction to course: meet and greet; discussion of syllabus; Sample Response Paper discussion; Discussion of instructions for presentations on the novel; selection of chapters and dates for presentations on the novel; In-class critical activity
Feb. 3	SHORT FICTION: Selections from Edwidge Danticat's <i>Everything Inside</i> Supplementary sources: <i>FROM THE ESSAY</i> : Derek Walcott's "The Caribbean: Culture or Mimicry?" An interview with Derek Walcott; "The Antilles: Fragments of Epic Memory"; <i>From V.S. Naipaul's The Middle Passage</i>	Response paper #1
Feb. 10	SHORT FICTION: <i>From</i> Edwidge Danticat's <i>Everything Inside</i> Supplementary source: <i>FROM THE NOVEL</i> : Junot Díaz's <i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>	Response paper #2
Feb. 17	SHORT FICTION: <i>From</i> Edwidge Danticat's <i>Everything Inside</i> Supplementary sources: <i>FROM THE NOVEL</i> : George Lamming's <i>The Emigrants; In the Castle of My Skin</i> FILM: Steve McQueen's <i>Mangrove</i> (Available in Amazon Prime Video)	Response paper #3 ; Midterm paper guidelines distribution and discussion; sample paper discussion
Feb. 24	The Writing Process	Writing Workshop ; students share their midterm paper's purpose, focus, structure, and secondary sources
Mar. 3	The Writing Process	Asynchronous class; submission of midterm paper via Google Drive

Mar. 10	DRAMA: Derek Walcott's "The Last Carnival"	Response paper #4
Mar. 17	THE NOVEL: Marlon James's <i>The Book of Night Women</i> , Part I, Ch. 1-8	Group I; Response paper #5
Mar. 24	Cont., Part I, Ch. 9-14	Group II; Response paper #6
Mar. 31	Cont., Part II	Group III; Response paper #7
Apr. 7	NO CLASS- HOLY WEEK	N/A
Apr. 14	Cont., Part III	Group IV; Response paper #8
Apr. 21	Cont., Part IV	Group V; Response paper #9
Apr. 28	Cont., Part V	Group VI; Response paper #10 ; distribution of guidelines for final paper for independent review
May 5	The Writing Process	Asynchronous class; Writing Workshop ; students share their final paper's purpose, focus, structure, and secondary source
May 12	Course Wrap	Asynchronous class ; independent study in preparation for submission of final paper Date of submission TBD Total: 45 credit hours; 3 in-person classes 12 online classes as per Hybrid course definition of 75% online/ 25% in-person ratio

TEACHING STRATEGIES: Lecture (20%), critical discussion (70%) of literary texts, (5%) workshop, and (5%) seminar.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

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, 2009-2020) 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.

ACOMODO RAZONABLE (LEY 51):

In accordance with the recommendation of the Dean of Students Office (Division for Persons with Disabilities), students who are clients of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester in order to make arrangements for reasonable accommodations and for any necessary auxiliary equipment. Other students with special needs who require any kind of assistance or reasonable accommodations should also contact the professor. Alternative evaluation methods will be provided to students with identified special needs.

Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con la profesora 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 Impedimento (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. Según la Ley de Servicios Educativos Integrales para Personas con Impedimentos, todo estudiante que requiera acomodo razonable deberá notificarlo al profesor el primer día de clase. 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 impedimentos (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales de algún tipo de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el(la) profesor(a). Certificación #99 (01-02) del Senado Académico, Ley 51 de 1996 (Ley de Servicios Educativos Integrales para personas con impedimentos) y la Certificación 130 (1999-2000) de la Junta de Síndicos.

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT:

The University of Puerto Rico prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in any of its forms including that of sexual harassment. According to the Institutional Policy Against Harassment at the University of Puerto Rico, Certification Num. 130, 2014-2015 from the Board of Governors, any student subjected to acts constituting sexual harassment, must turn to the Office of the Student Ombudsperson, the Office of the Dean of Students, and/or the Coordinator of the Office of Compliance with Title IX for an orientation and/or a formal complaint.

PLAN DE CONTINGENCIA EN CASO DE UNA EMERGENCIA/CONTINGENCY PLAN IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY:

En caso de surgir una emergencia o interrupción de clases, el profesor continuará ofreciendo el curso utilizando la modalidad a distancia o en línea, según establecidas en este prontuario oficial. De acuerdo a la información oficial y las directrices institucionales, el profesor realizará esfuerzos para comunicarse

con los estudiantes vía correo electrónico institucional u otros medios alternos disponibles para coordinar la continuidad del ofrecimiento.

If an emergency or an interruption of courses occurs, course offerings will take place with the support of distance learning modalities, as established in the official syllabus. In compliance with official communications and institutional guidelines, the professor will make efforts to communicate with students via institutional email or other available communication outlets to coordinate the continuity of course work.

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

Internet connection; tablet or computer that can process audio and video with access to one or more of the following: Google Meet, Zoom, Big Blue Button, Google Hangout, Microsoft Teams, and Moodle. The class will mostly be held via Moodle for assignments and access to reading material, and Google Meet in order to synchronically convene every Friday from ten a.m. to twelve fifty p.m. (10:00-12:50), unless otherwise stipulated (see course schedule chart). Please notify the professor if you do not have one or more of the required resources so that we may accommodate your needs.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Response Papers

10 @ 10 pts. each= 100 points

Midterm paper (1)= 100 points

Presentation (1)= 100 points

Final paper (1)= 100 points

Writing Workshops

2 @ 10 pts. each= 20 points

Total: 420 points

GRADING SYSTEM: Quantifiable scale; A, B, C, D, F

REQUIRED TEXT: *The Book of Night Women* by Marlon James (2009)

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Álvarez, Julia. *In the Time of Butterflies*. New York: Penguin Books, 1997.

Alleyne, Mervyn C. *The Construction and Representation of Race and Ethnicity in the Caribbean and the World*. Barbados: University of the West Indies Press, 2002.

Baldeosingh, Kevin. *The Ten Incarnations of Adam Avatar*. Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 2005.

Benítez-Rojo, Antonio. *The Repeating Island*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1996.

'Binta' Breeze, Jean. *On the Edge of an Island*. Newcastle, Bloodaxe Books: 1997.

- . *The Arrival of Brighteye and Other Poems*. Newcastle: Bloodaxe Books: 2000.
- Brand, Dionne. *At the Full and Change of the Moon*. New York: Grove Press, 1999.
- Brathwaite, Kamau. *History of the Voice*. London: New Beacon Books, 1984.
- Campbell, Christian. *Running the Dusk*. Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 2010.
- Danticat, Edwidge. *The Farming of Bones*. New York: Penguin Books, 1998.
- Dawes, Kwame. *Wheel and Come Again: An Anthology of Reggae Poetry*. Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 1998.
- Ferracane, Kathleen K. *Caribbean Panorama*. San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1999.
- Goodison, Lorna. *Turn Thanks*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1999.
- Habekost, Christian. *Dub Poetry*. West Germany: Michael Schwinn Publishers, 1986.
- Hodge, Merle. *Crick Crack Monkey*. 1970. London: Heinemann, 1994.
- Hutchinson, Ishion. *Far District*. Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 2010.
- Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities: Theoretical and Empirical Analyses*. Ed. Rhoda E. Reddock. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2004.
- Johnson, Linton Kwesi. *Inglan is a Bitch*. London: Race Today Publications, 1980.
- Kincaid, Jamaica. *Annie John*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1983.
- King, Bruce. Introduction. *West Indian Literature*. By King. 2nd ed. London: Macmillan, 1995.
- Lamming, George. *In the Castle of My Skin*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1970.
- Mootoo, Shani. *Cereus Blooms at Night*. New York: Grove Press, 1996.
- Mutabaruka. *Mutabaruka: The First Poems*. Kingston: Paul Issa Publications, 2005.
- Naipaul, V.S. *A House for Mr. Biswas*. 1961. New York: Vintage International, 2001.
- Puri, Shalini. *The Caribbean Postcolonial*. New York: Palgrave, 2004.
- Ramchand, Kenneth. *The West Indian Novel and Its Background*. 2nd ed. London: Heinemann, 1983.
- Roberts, Peter A. *The Roots of Caribbean Identity: Language, Race and Ecology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.
- Rhys, Jean. *Wide Sargasso Sea*. New York & London: W.W. Norton & Co., 1999.
- Selvon, Sam. *Ways of Sunlight*. Essex: Longman, 1957.
- Senior, Olive. *Gardening in the Tropics*. Toronto: Insomniac Press, 2005.
- Walcott, Derek. *Collected Poems 1948-1984*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1986.
- . *Dream on Monkey Mountain and Other Plays*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1970.
- Zobel, Joseph. *Black Shack Alley*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1950.

*Additional resources such as scholarly articles, documentaries, and interviews will be added to the reading load.

Rules of the Game:

Students are required to complete a series of weekly reading responses that count for 100 points of the course grade (ten points each). These will take the form of an MLA-style, one page, double-spaced, size 12 font Times New Roman word-processed document to be uploaded to Moodle. Moodle will open and accept your RP on the day the reading is due for class discussion from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. There will be no make-ups for this course requirement. Therefore, students' presence in class is a determining factor for the course grade. Since most response papers will be submitted on a weekly basis, completing the assigned readings prior to class is of the utmost importance. Not complying with this minimum requirement will result in course failure and/or cancellation.

There will be three main assignments during the semester. Students are expected to divide in groups of two to three (approx.) to give an oral presentation (100 points of course grade); prepare one short (5-6 pp.) midterm paper (100 points of course grade) and one (7-8 pp.) final paper (100 points of course grade).

All written assignments must follow MLA format and must be submitted at the allotted time via the specified platform. For the latest MLA version, go to: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl> or <http://mla.org/style> .

Since courses are based on contact time, class attendance is compulsory at this university. All professors throughout the course of the semester submit attendance reports. If a student is often absent, he or she is liable to not receiving their Federal Aid check. If absent two or more times without appropriate, official documentation, the professor reserves the right to fail the student. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class.

According to the *Reglamento General de Estudiantes* (9 de septiembre de 2009) it is the institutional policy of the Río Piedras Campus to observe the highest standards of intellectual and scientific integrity and to pursue the prosecution of all violations (Circular Núm.17 de la Oficina del Rector, Año 1989-90). Violations include plagiarism (using the work, processes, ideas, and results of others without proper credit). Moreover, Article 6.2 (B) of the UPR General Regulations for Students identifies cheating as a punishable conduct.

As such, a professor *may* present a formal complaint to the Campus Disciplinary Board if she or he believes a student has committed plagiarism. If the professor pursues this line of action, Article 6.2 of the UPR General Regulations for Students stipulates that the repercussions may be the following:

- A written warning which will be included in the student's official record
- Probation for a determined period of time

- Suspension for a determined period of time
- Administrative permanent withdrawal from the UPR system
- Other sanctions provided by special regulation

PLAGIARISM – “The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work. Something appropriated and presented in this manner.”

PLAGIARIZE – “To appropriate by plagiarism. To appropriate ideas, passages, etc. from (a work) by plagiarism. To commit plagiarism.”
~*Webster’s New Universal Unabridged Dictionary*

I, _____, fully understand the meaning of
(Print name)

plagiarism, and therefore if I am found to have plagiarized, I realize I may receive a

“0” for that grade and that I *may* be reported to the Campus Disciplinary Board and/or *may* fail for the semester.

Signature

Date