



ICP
INSTITUT
CATHOLIQUE
DE PARIS

L'esprit grand ouvert sur le monde

POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE

Bachelor in English and American Language, Literature and History
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 3 24 HOURS

Fall Semester 5 ECTS

Lectures (CM)

Professor: Laurence Chamlou (PhD Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris)

Course Code: FDL_AN_L3_S5_CM_LITT_POSTCO

Course description

The lectures consider postcolonialism as a literary current and critical approach. Since the major step taken by Edward Said and the important reflections of Homi Bhaba, postcolonialism has developed and today offers us new writings and approaches. The sessions will be structured around the critical study of different texts by and secondary commentaries about the major authors representative of postcolonial thought today, among them Salman Rushdie, Amitav Ghosh, Anita Desai, Arundhati Roy, V.S. Naipaul, Amit Chaudhuri...

Learning Objectives

The objectives are cultural, literary and political. The students will understand the new concepts derived from postcolonial thinkers, from Aimé Césaire to Gayatri Spivak and many others. The connection between the literary productions (novels, poems, plays...) and the critical works will be constantly made.

Course Prerequisites

The students are expected to have read XXth and XXIst century postcolonial novels and to be aware of the different currents that emerged from various geographical spheres (Africa, Australia, Canada, India, the West Indies...).

Method of Instruction

The class is first based on a lecture on postcolonial criticism with quotations of thinkers that will be commented upon. It is then followed by a literary extract that illustrates the points focused on during the lecture. This second part is more based on a direct exchange with the students. A special attention will be given to Indian texts.

Assessment and Final Grade

Two assessments are planned: one essay (inspired by the lecture) and one literary commentary.

Course Requirements

The students are asked to be informed about the many questions raised in postcolonial literature (identity, otherness, migration...) and connect them with contemporary events.