# Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory

#### Coordinator: Melanie Otto

Week-by-week outline

1: Introduction

## **Under Western Eyes**

**2:** Edward Said, excerpts from *Orientalism*, in Laura Chrisman and Patrick Williams (eds.), *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* (Harlow: Longman, 1994)

### 3: -- E.M. Forster, A Passage to India

--Jenny Sharpe, 'The Unspeakable Limits of Rape: Colonial Violence and Counter-Insurgency', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* 

### Language and Identity

**4:** -- Chinua Achebe, 'The African Writer and the English Language', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* 

-- Ngugi wa Thiong'o, 'The Language of African Literature', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* -- Margaret Atwood, 'Death by Landscape', in *Wilderness Tips* (copies provided on Blackboard)

5: Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart

## Postcolonial Feminism and Subaltern Knowledge

**6:** -- Gayatri C. Spivak, 'Can the Subaltern Speak?', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* --Chandra T. Mohanty, 'Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* 

## 7: Study week

8: Jean Rhys, Wide Sargasso Sea

## Hybridity and Translation

**9:** -- Homi Bhabha, 'Remembering Fanon: Self, Psyche and the Colonial Condition', in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader* 

---'Of Mimicry and Man', in *The Location of Culture* (copies provided on Blackboard)

--'Signs Taken for Wonders', in *The Location of Culture* (copies provided on Blackboard)

10: Salman Rushdie, Midnight's Children

### Place and Displacement: Settler Colonialism

**11:** -- D E S Maxwell, 'Landscape and Theme' (copies provided on Blackboard)

--Lorenzo Veracini,'The Settler-Colonial Situation' (copies provided on Blackboard)

12: --Shaun Tan/John Marsden, The Rabbits

### Course texts:

Laura Chrisman and Patrick Williams (eds.), *Colonial Discourse* and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader (Harlow: Longman, 1994) E M Forster, A Passage to India (any edition) Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart (any edition) Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* (any edition) Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children* (any edition) Shaun Tan/John Marsden, *The Rabbits* (any edition)

#### **Further Reading**

Amar Acheraïou, *Rethinking Postcolonialism: Colonialist Discourse in Modern Literatures and the Legacy of Classical Writers* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008)

Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths, Helen Tiffin, *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures* (London/New York: Routledge, 2002)

Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths, Helen Tiffin, *Key Concepts in Postcolonial Studies* (London: Routledge, 1998)

Diana Brydon, *Postcolonialism: Critical Concepts in Literary and Cultural Studies* (London/New York: Routledge, 2000)

Peter Childs and R. J. Patrick Williams, *An Introduction to Post-Colonial Theory* (London: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1997)

Leela Gandhi, *Postcolonial Theory: A Critical Introduction* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1998)

Jane Hiddleston, *Understanding Postcolonialism* (Stocksfield: Acumen, 2009)

C.L. Innes, *The Cambridge Introduction to Postcolonial Literatures* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007)

Neil Lazarus, *The Postcolonial Unconscious* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2011)

Neil Lazarus (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Postcolonial Literary Studies* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004)

Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/Postcolonialism* (London: Routledge, 2005)

John McLeod, *Beginning Postcolonialism* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2010)

John McLeod (ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Postcolonial Studies* (Milton Park & New York: Routledge, 2007)

Pramod K. Nayar, *Postcolonialism: A Guide for the Perplexed* (London: Continuum, 2010)

Ato Quayson (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Postcolonial Novel* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2016)

Ato Quayson (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Postcolonial Literature*, 2 vols. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012)

Henry Schwarz and Sangeeta Ray, *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2000)

Edward Said, Culture and Imperialism (London: Vintage, 1994)

Robert J.C. Young, *Post-colonialism: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003)