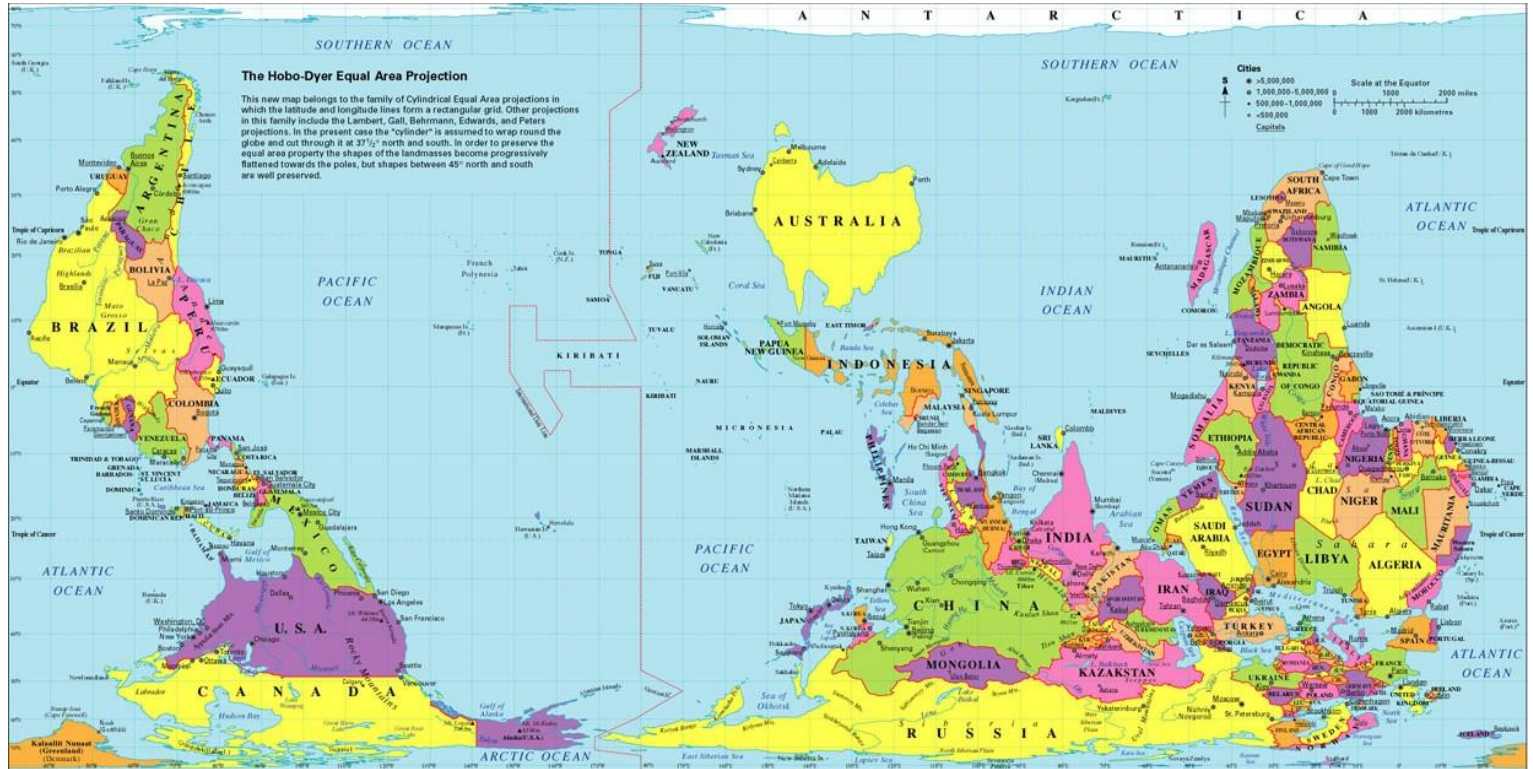


World-Breaking Literature

ENGL 224-002: WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | Term 1 Winter 2017-2018

Hobo-Dyer equal area projection map. Commissioned in 2002 by Bob Abramms and Howard Bronstein of ODT Inc., and drafted by cartographer Mick Dyer



Contact Info

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Vital Info

- Course meets: MWF from 2-2:50 in MATH-104
- My office hours: M 3-4, W 12-1 and by appointment

Course Description

World literature as a category assumes that texts travel beyond their designated home in the world. This course will give students an opportunity to critique the designations of world literature and its adjutant cultural imaginaries. We read anti-foundational texts which question the “world” and engage in imaginative projects of world-fracturing.

Where does world literature situate exilic, diasporic, transnational, or polylingual writers? How does it account for the popular? What constructs the markets, circulations, and exchanges of world literature? We will study case histories and current issues of controversy, reading theoretical voices along with participants and dissidents.. The course will also extend your abilities to pull together and analyze research sources, to organize and support sound and interesting arguments, and to revise and edit for clarity and tone.

Book List

1. Mahasweta Devi: *Imaginary Maps*
2. Etel Adnan: *Sitt Marie Rose*
3. Juan Goytisolo: *Count Julian*
4. Naguib Mahfouz, *Midaq Alley*
5. Ken Saro-Wiwa: *Sozaboy*
6. Mine Okubo: *Citizen 13660*
7. Film: *Midaq Alley* (1995), Jorge Fons, dir. This must be viewed outside of class; an optional screening will be offered, and the film will be available on UBC library course reserve for those unable to attend the screening.
8. Some briefer materials will be available on Canvas and distributed in class.

What You Will Do

In this course, you will read and analyze a range of writing which will give you the opportunity to identify, compare, explain and discuss various aspects and issues of literary criticism, appreciation, theory, and history.

Requirements consist of class participation, four interventions (analysis/response entries of at least 200 words) in an online discussion forum, a research paper, and a final exam. We will follow the Department of English attendance policy, which you may read at: <http://english.ubc.ca/resources/resources-for-students/#attendance>.

- 10% Participation
- 15% Portfolio (four online entries, evaluated holistically)
- 45% Research essay (preparatory materials, 10%, final draft 35%)
- 30% Final examination

All of the major assignments are required, i.e., in order to pass the course, you must submit work in each of these categories. Your assignments will be available on Canvas, and will include a detailed rubric so that you know in advance how they will be marked. I will be available in office hours or by appointment for individual conferences about your assignments or other course-related matters as you may wish.

The course adheres to the university's strict rule against plagiarism. *If you represent the words, productions or ideas of anyone else as your own, you become subject to the disciplinary processes of the university concerning plagiarism, and may fail the course or be expelled from the university.* If you have any questions about what counts as plagiarism, please ask me (**before** you submit the assignment).

Course Schedule

- Sep 6 – Course Introduction
- Sep 8 –Goethe's *Weltliteratur*, Moretti “Conjectures on World Literature” (Canvas)

Sep 11 – Gayatri Spivak’s introduction to Devi’s *Imaginary Maps*, excerpts from “Planetarity” and “Can the Subaltern Speak?”

Sep 13 – *Imaginary Maps*

Sep 15 – *Imaginary Maps*

Sep 18 – *Imaginary Maps*

Sep 20 – *Imaginary Maps*

- **Intervention #1 due**

Sep 22 – Chatterjee : excerpts from “Nationalism as a Problem,” Appadurai “The Production of Locality”

Sep 25 – *Sitt Marie Rose*

Sep 27 – *Sitt Marie Rose*

Sep 29 – *Sitt Marie Rose*

Oct 2 – *Sitt Marie Rose*

Oct 4 – *Sitt Marie Rose*

- **Intervention #2 due**

Oct 6 – Shu-Mei Shih, “Global Literature”

Oct 9 - **No class: Thanksgiving**

Oct 11 – Edward Said: "Reflections on Exile." *Count Julian*

Oct 13 – *Count Julian*

Oct 16 – *Count Julian*

Oct 18 – *Count Julian*

Oct 20 – *Count Julian*

Oct 23 – Edouard Glissant: "National Literatures: Sameness and Diversity" *Midaq Alley*

- Film screening of *Midaq Alley* TBA

Oct 25 – *Midaq Alley*

Oct 27 – *Midaq Alley*

Oct 30 – *Midaq Alley*

Nov 1 – *Midaq Alley*

- **Intervention #3 due**

Nov 3 – North, “Rotten English”

Nov 6 – *Sozaboy*

Nov 8 – *Sozaboy*

Nov 10 – **Instructor away at conference**

Nov 13 – **No class: Stat Holiday for Remembrance Day**

Nov 15 – *Sozaboy*

Nov 17 – *Sozaboy*

Nov 20 – *Sozaboy*

Nov 22 – *Sozaboy*

Intervention #4 due

Nov 24 – Naoki Sakai: "Translation." *Citizen 13660*

Nov 27 – *Citizen 13660*

Nov 29 – *Citizen 13660*

Final paper due

Dec 1 – Course wrap-up.

Exam period Dec 5-20-- **Final examination, TBA**

Please Also Know

Our classroom space is intended to be welcoming, inclusive, and interactive, and I request that you self-monitor your own contributions for civility (including off-topic phone or computer use). Readings, discussions, and class materials may reference mature themes, violence, sexuality, or conflictual subject matter. If you feel you do not wish to read one of the assigned texts because it may significantly distress you, please see me well in advance of the assigned reading's due date to request a substitute reading assignment; if we cannot agree on an appropriate substitution, you may be obliged to follow the original schedule of readings to complete the course.

There is a student Writing Centre with coaches available in the Chapman Learning Commons in Barber: please see <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/tutoring-studying/writing/> for more information. Anyone with a documented disability is gently encouraged to contact the Access and Diversity Office in Brock Hall, 1203- 1874 East Mall (tel. 604.822.5844) for accommodations and support services. Other helpful programs are the academic services described at <http://students.ubc.ca/success>, and UBC Counselling Services tel. 604.822.3811 or, after hours, for anyone in distress, the Vancouver Crisis Line, tel. 800.784.2433. I am a resource person with UBC's Positive Space Campaign. As its website announces, "the Positive Space Campaign is an initiative intended to help make UBC more receptive to and welcoming of its lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans* (transgender, transsexual, trans-identified), two-spirit, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual (LGBT*TQIA+) communities, individuals and issues of sexual and gender diversity on campus." If you would like more information about this campaign, or to be put in touch with campus resources, please feel free to talk to me, or to contact the Equity and Inclusion Office in Brock Hall, tel. 604.822.6353.