

English 222 – 001 – Literature in Canada *Contemporary Canadian Fiction on the Margins*

MWF: 2:00-3:00

Instructor: Dr. Suzanne James

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Office hours: MWF: 1:00-2:00

Term 1 - 2012/13

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This section of English 222 will explore some of the diversity of recent Canadian writing through the study of four novels, a short story collection and two plays. We will focus on contemporary works from writers who might be considered on the margins of Canadian society and literature. We will consider ways in which these works engage with issues of Canadian identity, representation, culture and society.

This course, together with the required ENGL 220, is one of four 200-level courses that may be taken for an English major with a literature emphasis. Successful completion of ENGL 222 can be used to meet the Canadian literature requirement in the English major with a literature emphasis.

Pre-requisite: 6.0 credits (completed) of First Year English, or completion of UBC's Arts One, Foundations, or Arts Studies 100 (ASTU).

Texts:

- Anita Rau Badami, *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*
- Wayson Choy, *Jade Peony*
- Ivan Coyote, *Loose Ends* (short stories)
- Beatrice Culleton Mosionier, *In Search of April Raintree*
- Lawrence Hill, *The Book of Negroes*
- Addena Sumter-Freitag, *Stay Black & Die* (play)
- Thompson Highway, *The Rez Sisters* (play)

Assignments:

In-class Essays (2)	30%
Term Paper	30%
Participation	10%
Final Examination	30%

*Papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date. Late papers will not be accepted unless an extension has been approved **before** the due date.*

The **participation grade** will be based on regular attendance, preparation for class, contributions to discussion and informal written responses. You are expected to carefully read the assigned texts before class and come prepared to ask questions and share your responses to individual works. For some classes you will be asked to respond to a particular question or focus on one aspect of a text.