

Instructor: Marie-Catherine Allard  
Office: Richcraft 2404R-A  
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**GINS 2020A: Global Literatures**  
Carleton University, Fall 2019  
Friday 8:35am-10:25am  
Minto Centre 5050 (please confirm location on Carleton Central)

**TAs (office hours by appt.):**  
Adiba Faizi, [AdibaFaizi@cmail.carleton.ca](mailto:AdibaFaizi@cmail.carleton.ca)  
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*"And by saying 'we need new names' I was speaking for the need for us as a people to sort of re-imagine, rethink ourselves, rethink our way, think about where we were going. We needed new ways of seeing things, new ways of doing things, new leadership. It was basically a call for renewal." NoViolet Bulawayo*

**Course Description:**

In this course on Global Literatures, we will explore how globalization has affected and still affects the production and circulation of literary works. Throughout the semester we will also ask ourselves questions regarding the accessibility and consumption of such works.

Since this course focuses on literature, we will also study how this artistic medium plays a role in our understanding of history and culture, in our understanding of the global and the dynamics of our contemporary world. This semester we will read short stories, novels, plays as well as excerpts taken from a graphic novel to familiarize ourselves with various narratives and different literary genres in order to define what global literatures are. In addition to exploring the possibilities and limitations of various literary genres, we will employ different analytical strategies to better understand how the assigned readings bring attention to the political, economic, and ethical implications of globalization by making alternative, imaginary, and forgotten worlds visible.

**Course Format:**

This course consists of a two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial every week. The schedule for the tutorials is as follows:

Section	Day	Time	Location	TA
A01	Wednesday	10:35-11:25		
A03	Tuesday	13:35-14:25		
A04	Thursday	08:35-09:25		
A05	Thursday	08:35-09:25		

## Required Texts:

The assigned readings will be available at Octopus Books (116 Third Ave, (613) 233-2589, [www.octopusbooks.ca](http://www.octopusbooks.ca)). The texts marked with an asterisk (\*) will be available electronically via cuLearn or the Ares Course Reserves system (<http://libares01.carleton.ca/>). If you find that a required reading is not available for a given week, please notify me immediately by email.

Friel, Brian. *Translations*. Faber and Faber, 1981. ISBN-13: 978-0571117420

Lalami, Laila. *The Moor's Account* (2014). Vintage, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-0804170628

Kincaid, Jamaica. *A Small Place*. Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2000. ISBN-13: 978-0374527075

Bulawayo, NoViolet. *We Need New Names* (2013). Back Bay Books, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0316230841

Verdecchia, Guillermo. *Fronteras Americanas* (1993). Talon Books, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0889227057

\* Salih, Tayeb. "The Doum Tree of Wad Hamid," *The Wedding of Zein and Other Stories* (1969). Heinemann, 1988. pp.1-20.

\* Yang, Gene. *American Born Chinese*. Square Fish, 2006. pp.23-40.

\* Anzaldua, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. Aunt Lute Books, 1987. pp.1-23.

\*Diaz, Junot. "Waiting for Spider-Man," *The New Yorker*, vol.93, n.37, 20 Nov. 2017, pp.42-43.

## Schedule:

Date	Reading	Journal	Essay
September 6	<b>Introduction</b>		
September 13	"The Doum Tree of Wad Hamid"		
September 20	<i>Translations</i>	First Journal	
September 27	<i>Translations</i>		
October 4	<i>The Moor's Account</i>	Second Journal	
October 11	<i>The Moor's Account</i>		Close Reading
October 18	<i>A Small Place</i>	Third Journal	
October 25	<b>Fall Break</b>		
November 1	<i>We Need New Names</i>	Fourth Journal	
November 8	<i>We Need New Names</i>		Analytical Essay
November 15	Selections from Yang's <i>American Born Chinese</i> , Anzaldua's <i>Borderlands</i> , and Diaz's "Waiting for Spider-Man"		
November 22	<i>Fronteras Americanas</i>	Fifth Journal	
November 29	<i>Fronteras Americanas</i> + Review		
December 6	<b>Classes follow a Monday schedule</b>		Comparative Essay

## **Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

### **Overview**

Participation in Tutorials	10%
Journal Entries	10%
Close Reading	10%
Analytical Essay	15%
Comparative Essay	25%
Final Exam	30%

### **Participation in Tutorials: 10%**

You are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials. Coming late to or leaving early from our two-hour lecture or your one-hour tutorial is disrespectful towards both your instructor and your fellow students. If you come late or leave early, you will be marked as absent. If you have a valid reason to miss a lecture, please inform your TA using your Carleton email.

You will be allocated up to 10% for your participation in tutorials. Please note that attending the tutorial will not necessarily result in you being allocated all participation marks as you will be graded in terms of preparedness for tutorial discussions as well as the level of active participation.

### **Journal Entries: 10% (due on Sept. 20, Oct.4, Oct.18, Nov.1, Nov. 22)**

Throughout the semester, you will write journal entries which will help you formulate your ideas and engage with the assigned readings. Each entry should be a paragraph of approximately 150-200 words. Submit a hard copy of each journal entry to your TA at the beginning of the lecture.

For each of the journal entries, you can choose to share your initial reactions, concerns, or enquiries. You may also decide to devote your paragraph to key elements of the reading, such as the main themes, specific symbols, etc. The concise, yet reflective nature of each journal entry will slowly allow you to build a repertoire of summaries, which will prove very useful when preparing for class discussions and the final examination. For this reason, make sure you keep a copy of every journal entry.

### **Close Reading: 10% (due on October 11)**

For this first essay, you will select a passage that caught your attention while reading "The Doum Tree of Wad Hamid," *Translations*, or *The Moor's Account*. As this assignment focuses on the analysis of a short excerpt, the chosen passage should not be longer than two paragraphs. You will then submit a close reading and interpretation of your chosen passage in which you will pay particular attention to the language used by the author in order to uncover relevant thematic and linguistic patterns.

Since your passage will not be included in the required length of the essay, you will write your chosen passage between your title and introduction and follow the MLA format for block quotations. The rest of your essay should be 2.5 pages long, doubled spaced, Times New Roman 12 and follow the MLA formatting and citation guidelines. Your essay will be evaluated according to the criteria of the grading rubric. Submit a hard copy of your essay to your TA at the beginning of the lecture. Keep your rough drafts, notes and the final copy of your essay as I reserve the right to examine such materials if I deem it necessary.

**Analytical Essay****15% (due on November 8)**

A list of suggested topics will be posted on cuLearn on October 11. Each prompt will focus on one of the following assigned readings: "The Doum Tree of Wad Hamid," *Translations*, *The Moor's Account*, *A Small Place*, and *We Need New Names*.

Regardless of your choice, you will be required to insert your essay topic in-between your title and introduction. The rest of your essay should be 2.5 pages long, be written according to the MLA formatting, be double spaced, typed in Times New Roman 12, and most importantly, be thesis-driven. The essay will be evaluated according to the criteria of the grading rubric. Submit a hard copy of your essay to your TA at the beginning of the lecture. Keep your rough drafts, notes and the final copy of your essay as I reserve the right to examine such materials if I deem it necessary.

**Comparative Essay****25% (due on December 6)**

For the final essay, you will choose one prompt amongst a list of suggested topics which will be available on cuLearn on November 8. Each of the topics will include a comparative portion in which you will be required to compare specific aspects of the assigned readings. In addition to supporting your arguments by referring to the assigned readings, you will include a minimum of two scholarly sources relevant to your essay.

Your final essay should be 5-6 pages long, be double spaced, typed in Times New Roman 12, and be written according to the MLA formatting. The essay will be evaluated according to the criteria of the grading rubric. Submit an electronic copy of your essay by email to your TA by midnight on December 6<sup>th</sup>. When submitting your essay, make sure that you do not misspell your TA's email address and that you cc. me. After submitting your essay, verify that your submission is not in your draft box/unsent messages. Keep your rough drafts and notes of your essay as I reserve the right to examine such materials if I deem it necessary.

**Final Exam****30% (during exam period)**

The final examination will take place during the formal examination period at the end of the semester. Make sure that you do not schedule any holidays until the exam schedule becomes available.

The exam will consist of a combination of short- and long-answer questions. These different questions will evaluate your comprehension of the assigned readings and the material discussed in the lecture and tutorials.

**Course Policies:****Office Hours**

I encourage you to come to my office hours on Fridays between 11:00-13:00 to discuss any aspect of the course. If you have a conflict with my scheduled office hours, please email me with your Carleton email account to schedule an appointment.

**Assignments**

In order to pass the course, you must complete all of the course requirements. This means that all assignments are mandatory.

In the case of the late submission of an assignment, there will be a penalty of 5% of the assignment's total mark per day unless there is a pressing and well-documented reason and you have informed both your TA and me beforehand. Extensions will be granted only in cases of serious illness (with doctor's note), bereavement, or religious observance. Late papers may be graded without comments.

### **Communication**

Please use your Carleton email to communicate with me and your TA. Check your email account regularly as well as the cuLearn course page.

### **cuLearn**

On cuLearn, you will find the syllabus, the lists of essay topics, as well as excerpts from Yang's *American Born Chinese*, Anzaldua's *Borderlands* and Diaz's "Waiting for Spider-Man."

### **Classroom Etiquette**

- 1- Come to class on time and be prepared to stay for the entire lecture.
- 2- Read the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss a wide variety of topics in a respectful manner. Racist, sexist, homophobic, or ableist comments are unacceptable.
- 3- Mobile devices should be turned off or put into silent mode.
- 4- You can take notes on your laptop, but do ensure that the sound is off and that nothing is visually distracting to other students.
- 5- If you need to record any classroom activity, please email me as you are forbidden to do so without my written consent.

### **BGins Policies:**

**Academic Accommodations:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**Accommodation for Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**Accommodation for Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Intellectual Property:** Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. Late assignments may be submitted to the BGIInS office in 2404R, River Building. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Grading:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Carleton E-mail Accounts:** All email communication to students from BGIInS will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the BGIInS website is the official course outline.