

GINS 2020 A: *Global Literatures*

Fall 2026

In-Person: Mondays, 2:35-4:25pm

Department of Global and International Studies

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- Instructor: John Coleman, PhD: johncoleman3@cunet.carleton.ca, Office hours: Held virtually (please email to set up an appointment)
 - Teaching Assistants:
Nadia Schwartz
Alicia Gilmour
 - [Brightspace course page](#)
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1. Course Description

This course introduces students to contemporary literary and cultural production from a variety of global contexts. Students will be introduced to the dynamics of globalized literary production, including how texts are shaped in response to literary discourses. Students will also learn about works that postcolonial and diasporic writers are producing in response to the literary field becoming more inclusive, and we will query the politics of race, class, gender and the body in these works. Each student will be registered in a tutorial section which will have weekly meetings.

Tutorial schedule:

Section	Day	Meeting Times:
A1	Tuesday	2:35-3:25 p.m.
A2	Tuesday	3:35-4:25 p.m.

2. Learning Outcomes

The purpose of this course is for students to:

- Be introduced to literary and cultural texts from global contexts
- Be introduced to relevant foundational ideas in postcolonial literary studies
- Learn about the dynamics of globalized literary and cultural production
- Develop critical interpretations of literary and cultural texts
- Practice and develop academic writing and communication skills

3. Texts & Course Materials

Required texts to purchase:

- Andrea Levy, *Fruit of the Lemon*, Headline, 2000: [Kindle, \\$7.99](#)
- Brian Friel, *Translations*, Faber & Faber, 2012: [Google Play Books, \\$15.99](#)
- Nnedi Okorafor, *Death of the Author*, HarperCollins, 2025: [Google Play Books, \\$3.99](#)
- Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake*, [Amazon Kindle, \\$11.99](#)

Each novel is available to purchase as an e-book. Students are free to from any retailer purchase these texts in either e-book or physical book format.

Other required texts, including Satrapi's novel *Persepolis*, as well as articles and short stories, will be available on Ares and Brightspace. Please note on the course calendar dates for all required texts.

4. Course Calendar

Class Date	Readings and Activities	Due Dates
September 14	Introduction to the course	
September 21	• Andrea Levy, <i>Fruit of the Lemon</i> : chapters 1-10	
September 28	• Andrea Levy, <i>Fruit of the Lemon</i> : chapters 11-20	
October 5	• Binyavanga Wainaina, "How to Write About Africa" • NoViolet Bulawayo, "Hitting Budapest"	Prompt Journal, First Submission
October 12	• Nnedi Okorafor, <i>Death of the Author</i>	
October 19	• Nnedi Okorafor, <i>Death of the Author</i> • Claire Barker, "Radiant Affliction"	
October 26-30	Fall Break: No classes	
November 2	• Brian Friel, <i>Translations</i>	Writing Assignment 1
November 9	• Brian Friel, <i>Translations</i>	
November 16	• Jhumpa Lahiri, <i>The Namesake</i>	Quiz – during tutorial
November 23	• Jhumpa Lahiri, <i>The Namesake</i>	
November 30	• Marjane Satrapi, <i>Persepolis</i> : pp. 1-71 • Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, "'As He Himself Puts It': The Art of Quoting"	Writing Assignment 2
December 7	• Marjane Satrapi, <i>Persepolis</i> : pp. 72-120	
11 (Monday Schedule)	• Exam Preparation	Prompt Journal, second Submission

5. Evaluation

General criteria that influence grading: All work completed for this course will receive a numerical grade that corresponds to the guidelines set out by the Faculty of Public Affairs:

90-100 – A+; 85-89 – A; 80-84 – A-; 77-79 – B+; 73-76 – B; 70-72 – B-; 67-69 – C+; 63-66 – C; 60-62 – C-; 57-59 – D+; 53-56 – D; 50-52 – D-; Below 50 – F

Work will be subject to the evaluative criteria stated in each assignment's instructions

Term work:

- 2 Writing Assignments, 10% each for a total of 20% of the final grade: Students will on the text and topic assigned by the instructor.
 - o October 12; November 30
- Quiz, 20% of the final grade: based on selected readings.
 - o November 17
- Prompt Journal, First submission due Oct. 5, Second submission due December 11, 20% of the final grade:
In tutorials, students will be given prompts to complete. These will be brief, engaging discussion activities and responses designed to get students thinking about our texts, topics, and larger writing assignments. Further explanation will be provided in the assignment instructions during tutorials. The Prompt Journal is designed to provide students with manageable exercises to be completed independently throughout the term.. Students must be in attendance on the day a prompt is given to be able to submit that prompt in their Prompt Journal.
- Tutorial Attendance, 10% of the final grade: Attendance will be taken at each meeting.

Examinations:

Final Exam, written during exam period, 30% of final grade

Policy on attendance: To succeed in this course, regular attendance at our class and tutorial meetings is necessary. It is very strongly encouraged for students to strive to attend each meeting, when lectures, and in-class assignments and prompts, will be given, and when students will have the opportunity to participate in discussions and activities.

Policy on submitting assignments: All term work is due in digital format on Brightspace on the date and time noted on the course calendar. Submission portals where students can submit assignments will be made available on Brightspace. Assignment instructions will specify the method of submission for each assignment; this will include typing directly in an assignment document on Google Docs. on an assignment portal on Brightspace, or another method specified by the instructor. Submission of an assignment outside of these specifications will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Policy on returning graded assignments: The primary methods of returning graded assignments will be via the assignment portal on Brightspace with feedback and/or the grade.

Late Assignment Policy: Aside from the Prompt Journal and Research Essay, after an assignment's due date, each late assignment will be docked 2% per day up until one week (7 days) after the due date, after which it will receive a grade of zero (0%).

- **Late assignments may not receive written comments or feedback.**

Policy on Extensions: Aside from for the Prompt Journal, Second Submission, extensions for term work will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If a student is aware in advance that an extension will be needed, they must provide the instructor with a valid reason at least one week before the due date, and a new due date may be negotiated.

In emergency circumstances within one week of the due date, the instructor must be made aware of the situation and valid reasons necessitating an extension immediately, and a new due date may be negotiated.

For late assignments to be accepted without being docked late marks, official documentation noting the student's inability to attend class and/or complete school work, such as a doctor's note or documentation of a personal emergency, may be necessary.

Statement on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility: Diversity is valued in this course. Students from a variety of different backgrounds and walks of life (ages, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, socioeconomic statuses, ethnicities, races, nationalities, religions, and cultures) are to feel included and welcome to share their thoughts and perspectives. Furthermore, students are encouraged to interpret their peers' perspectives and ideas with respect, and to see our course as a learning environment which values the input of people from diverse backgrounds and places of knowing.

A variety of measures will also be made to make our course materials accessible. To request additional measures or alternate assignment submission formats, please contact the instructor at johncoleman3@cunet.carleton.ca

Carleton University is located on the ancestral, unceded land of the Algonquin Nation.

Content Advisory: The texts assigned in this course sometimes engage with and directly depict difficult issues, including prejudice, injustices, oppression, violence, and uses of racist or derogatory language. Our class discussions will consider, through a critical lens, the impacts of the kinds of oppression represented in these texts. We will also consider how the texts' forms of representation can be understood as helping to highlight and critique oppression.

A Note on Andrea Levy's *Fruit of the Lemon*: The scheduled reading for the first few weeks of our course includes Andrea Levy's novel *Fruit of the Lemon*, in which there is direct representation of offensive racist language and perspectives.

Please note: in the prologue, and in chapters 8, 15, 16 and 26 of Levy's novel, there is racist and derogatory language, with chapter 15 depicting an especially difficult scene of hate-motivated violence.

Other Scheduled Texts: We are also scheduled to read NoViolet Bulawayo's "Hitting Budapest," a short story which depicts a young female character who has experienced sexual

abuse. “Hitting Budapest” also ends with graphic description of suicide.

Our reading also includes Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis*, a graphic novel which directly represents and contains frank depictions of the war, and gender-based and class-based violence and oppression, surrounding the Iranian Revolution in 1979.

Our discussions will focus on how these authors themselves do not as acts of oppression use derogatory terms or represent oppression, but rather to reflect on and critique forms of oppression.

If you have concerns about reading any triggering sections of our texts, feel free to email the instructor about this at johncoleman3@cunet.carleton.ca.

Policy on Racialized or Derogatory Language: As they may become the topic of discussions about our texts, the instructor will not vocalize racial epithets or other derogatory terms, and students are asked to comply with this policy. In class discussions and in written work, when quoting passages from assigned texts, please omit any racist or derogatory terms, or substitute them with a generic term such as “blank.”

If you have any questions about the best course of action to take in a given situation, email the instructor.

Policy on lost assignments: If a student claims to have submitted an assignment following specified instructions and the instructor has not received the assignment, the student must email the instructor an electronic version of the assignment within two hours of email request by the instructor.

Policy on communicating with the instructor: The instructor will be available by appointment for Office hours on Zoom. Outside of office hours, the instructor can be contacted by email; from Monday to Friday, the instructor will strive to reply to emails within 24 hours; emails received on weekends or holidays will be replied to on the following weekday that the university is open.

Statement on Accessibility: A variety of measures will be made to make our course materials accessible. To request additional measures or alternate assignment submission formats, please contact the instructor at johncoleman3@cunet.carleton.ca.

6. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Minimal Use – Basic Assistance Only

AI use in this course: Students may use AI tools for basic word processing functions, including grammar and spell checking (e.g. Grammarly, Microsoft Word Editor, Copilot)

Documenting AI use: It is not necessary to document the use of AI for the permitted purposes listed above. If you have questions about a specific use of AI that isn’t listed above, please consult your instructor.

Why have I adopted this policy? This policy ensures that student voices and ideas are prioritized and authentically represented, maintaining the integrity of the work produced by students while allowing basic support to enhance clarity, correctness, layout and flow of ideas. The goal of adopting a limited use of AI is

to help students develop foundational skills in writing and critical thinking by practicing substantive content creation without the support of AI.

As our understanding of the uses of AI and its relationship to student work and academic integrity continue to evolve, students are required to discuss their use of AI in any circumstance not described here with the course instructor to ensure it supports the learning goals for the course

Students can access resources related to citing Generative AI on the [MacOdrum Library website](#).

7. Statement on Academic Integrity

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as *‘presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.’* This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT)
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own
- failing to acknowledge sources with proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor.

The Associate Dean of the Faculty follows a rigorous [process for academic integrity allegations](#), including reviewing documents and interviewing the student, when an instructor suspects a violation has been committed. Penalties for violations may include a final grade of “F” for the course.

8. Statement on Student Mental Health

As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#))

- Crisis/Urgent Counselling Support: 613-520-6674 (Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1

Carleton Resources

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: call 613-238-3311, text 343-306-5550, or connect online at <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: call 613-722-6914 or toll-free 1-866-996-0991, or connect online at <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Good2Talk: call 1-866-925-5454 or connect online at <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: for online or on-site service <https://walkincounselling.com>

9. Requests for Academic Accommodations

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances*, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline)."