

Dr. Bryan Johnson  
Office Hours: TTH 10:00-1:00; and by appointment

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**Course Description:** Seminar-style course that explores ideas of diasporas and both literal and cultural migrations. Primarily focused on non-Western cultures, this multidisciplinary course builds upon the University Fellows core curriculum and asks students to address the global challenges of postcolonialism within the framework of intellectual history.

**Course Prerequisites:** UFWT 101: The Heritage of Greece and Rome; UFWT 102: Christianity from Antiquity to the Renaissance; UFWT 201: Reformation, Revolution, and Enlightenment; UFWT 202: The Challenge of Modernity.

**Course Objectives:**

- Develop critical reasoning skills through reading significant texts and evaluating different viewpoints and arguments.
- Develop the ability to investigate an issue and construct a well-reasoned and coherent viewpoint.
- Learn to communicate ideas and arguments clearly and persuasively through written and spoken means.
- Understand the world through multiple perspectives and different world views.
- Explore religious and moral dimensions of critical issues.
- Appreciate how different disciplines advance understanding of cultures and civilizations and recognize the interconnectedness of the disciplines.
- Appreciate how non-Western cultures connect through migrations and diasporas.
- Understand the significance of contemporary postcolonial literature, philosophy, and history
- Become a part of a larger academic community.

**Texts:**

Frantz Fanon, <i>The Wretched of the Earth</i> (Martinique/Algeria)	Gloria Anzaldua, <i>Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza</i> (Mexico/U.S.)
Ahdaf Soueif, <i>The Map of Love</i> (Egypt)	Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>A Pale View of Hills</i> (Japan/England)
Orhan Pamuk, <i>Kar/Snow</i> (Turkey)	V.S. Naipaul, <i>A House for Mr. Biswas</i> (Trinidad & Tobago/U.K.)
Jean Rhys, <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i> (Dominica)	Leslie Marmon Silko, <i>Ceremony</i> (U.S.)
J. M. Coetzee, <i>Waiting for the Barbarians</i> (S. Africa)	

**Course Requirements:** A mid-term, a final exam, one seminar essay, and class participation, which includes leading seminars.

**Class Participation:** There are two components to this semester's class participation grade. First, there's the usual Fellows participation requirement: come to class prepared to discuss the assigned works, and to share your ideas and have them challenged by others. In addition to this, each of you will be required to run a week's worth of class discussion. I will handle the first few weeks of the semester, but the remaining weeks will be divided between and among Fellows. In teams of two, Fellows will be responsible for leading discussion for two class periods. These teams will not lecture (although teams may make brief presentations); instead, teams will decide how we will approach the readings for that week. Teams will consult with me beforehand on their ideas and strategies.

**Grading Distribution:**

Seminar Essay (10-12 Pages)	30%
Participation, Attendance	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

**Grading Scale:**

A = 93-100	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62
B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = below 60

**Assignments:**

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the day specified on the assignment sheets. Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade for each day they are overdue. All essay submissions must be original with sources clearly and correctly documented using MLA style guidelines.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is required at all class meetings, and your success in the course is predicated upon your active presence in the classroom. Students who miss more than two weeks of class (4 classes for TTH) will receive an "FA" for the course. Students who must be absent for University business should notify me early in the semester. If you are late to class, you will not be admitted and you will be counted absent.

**Academic Integrity:**

As stated in the Samford University catalog, "students, upon enrollment, enter into voluntary association with Samford University. They must be willing to observe high standards of intellectual integrity; they must respect knowledge and practice academic honesty." Unless specified otherwise, students are expected to do their own independent work, and to refrain from cheating, copying or plagiarizing the work of others. When drawing from various resources for assignments, students must provide citations, footnotes and bibliographic information.

**Classroom Etiquette:**

- (1) Do not speak, read, sleep, or be disruptive in any way when someone else is speaking.
- (2) Telephones and headphones are not allowed in class. Each time your phone interrupts class, I will deduct one point from your final grade.
- (3) As it states in the *Student Handbook*, "Student use of cell phones, messaging devices and other electronic devices (for example, recording devices, music players, PDAs, computers) is prohibited in classes unless specifically permitted by the instructor."
- (4) Be careful not to dominate class. The quality and appropriateness of your comments is more important than the amount of speaking.

**Accommodation:**

Samford University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their request by contacting Disability Support Services located in Counseling Services on the lower level of Pittman Hall, or call #726-4078. A faculty member will grant reasonable accommodations only upon written notification from Disability Support Services.

### **Adjustment to Daily Schedule:**

Inclement weather or other events beyond the control of the University that might cause risk or danger to students, faculty, and staff may occasionally result in changes to normal University operations, including cancellation of classes or events; the calendar schedule may be adjusted.

### **Course Schedule:**

#### **Week One**

August 30 Course Introduction • Rudyard Kipling, “The White Man’s Burden” (1899)  
Sept. 1 **Postcolonialism(s): Theory and Practice**  
Homi Bhabha, from *The Location of Culture* (1994) (PDF)

#### **Week Two**

Sept. 6 Michael Hardt & Antonio Negri, from *Empire* (2000) (PDF)  
Sept. 8 Edward Said, from *Orientalism* (1978) • from *Culture and Imperialism* (1993) (PDF)

#### **Week Three**

Sept. 13 Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, “Can the Subaltern Speak” (1988)  
Sept. 15 Chandra Mohanty, “Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses” (1984) (PDF)

#### **Week Four**

Sept. 20 **Emerging “Nations” and the Fragmented Self**  
Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966)  
Sept. 22 Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966)

#### **Week Five**

Sept. 27 Naipaul, *A House for Mr. Biswas* (1961)  
Sept. 29 Naipaul, *A House for Mr. Biswas* (1961)

#### **Week Six**

Oct. 4 Naipaul, *A House for Mr. Biswas* (1961)  
Oct. 6 **Mid-Term Exam**

#### **Week Seven**

Oct. 11 **Fall Break**  
Oct. 13 **Hybridization, Alienation, Revolution**  
For class screen *The Battle of Algiers* (Pontecorvo, 1966) and *Caché* (Haneke, 2005)  
Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)

#### **Week Eight**

Oct. 18 Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)  
Oct. 20 Soueif, *The Map of Love* (1999)

#### **Week Nine**

Oct. 25 Soueif, *The Map of Love* (1999)  
Oct. 27 Soueif, *The Map of Love* (1999)

#### **Week Ten**

Nov. 1 Pamuk, *Kar/Snow* (2002)  
Nov. 3 Pamuk, *Kar/Snow* (2002)

**Week Eleven**

- Nov. 8           **Borderlands and New Frontiers**  
                  Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (1980)  
Nov. 10           Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (1980)

**Week Twelve**

- Nov. 15           Ishiguro, *A Pale View of Hills* (1982)  
Nov. 17           Ishiguro, *A Pale View of Hills* (1982)

**Week Thirteen**

- Nov. 22           For class screen *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada* (Tommy Lee Jones, 2005)  
                  Silko, *Ceremony* (1977)  
Nov. 24           **No Class—Thanksgiving**

**Week Fourteen**

- Nov. 29           Silko, *Ceremony* (1977)  
Dec. 1            Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (1987)

**Week Fifteen**

- Dec. 6            Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (1987)  
Dec. 8            Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (1987)

**Final Exam: TBA**