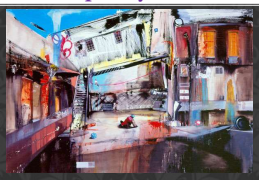
ENL 4517

Contemporary Literature



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Concentration on short story, nonfiction, drama, poetry, and the novel (novella) since 1930's; a variety of cultures, genders, races, and writing styles with emphasis on the importance of class discussions, written assignments and vocabulary developments

TEXTS

Laurie G. Kirszner & Stephen R. Mandell, ***Literature: Third Edition***, Harcourt Brace College Publishers: Fort Worth

C, Hugh Holman & William Harmon, **A Handbook to Literature, 6th Edition**, Macmillan Publishing Company: New York

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week I: **Course Introduction; Definition of Contemporary Literature**

Week II - III: **Nadine Gordimer's** *"Once Upon a Time"* (1991); assignment 1

(1923 – 2014)

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

Week IV - V: John Updike's "A & P" (1961); **assignment 2**

(1932 – 2009)

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

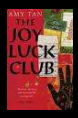
Weeks VI - VII: Tillie Olsen's "I Stand Here Ironing" (1961); assignment 3

(1912 – 2007)

Week VIII: Midterm week

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

Week IX - X: Amy Tan's "*Two Kinds*" (1989); **assignment 4**



Week XI : **Group Presentation**

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

Week XII: **Kathryn Stripling Byer's** *"Wildwood Flower"* (1992)**; Haigu poems selection**; **The Beatle's** *"Let It Be"* (1970); **Michael Jackson's** "Heal the World" (1991); Andy William's "Love story" (1971) VS Ed Shereen's "Shape of You" (2017); Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain" (2011) VS Faydee & Ahzee's "Burn It down" (2016); **assignment 5**

(1944 - 2017)

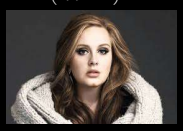
(1943 -)

(1960 – 1970)

(1958 – 2009)

(1927-2012)

(1991-)


(1988 -)

(1997 -)

COURSE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

Week XII: Academy Award Film / Grammy Music Award with popular cultures

Week XIII - XVI: **Project presentations**

Week XVII: Final

EVALUATION

Attendance and participation	10%
Assignments (5)	25%
Group presentations (1)	15%
Project presentation (1)	30%
Final	20%

DEFINITION OF CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

- Contemporary literature is literature with its setting generally after World War II.

DEFINITION OF CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

- Contemporary literature is also known as post-modern literature. It includes literature written after World War II through the present and includes several unique identifying characteristics. Although difficult to comprehensively define, some of the most obvious characteristics include multiple narrators, literature that comments upon itself, a mixture or pastiche of subjects and genres, and experimentation with form and structure.

DEFINITION OF CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

What makes contemporary literature challenging to define is the vast difference among samples of literature. This is due in part to the many years that this period of literature covers. Additionally, the lack of a definite style makes contemporary literature read differently depending on the reader and the writer.