Syllabus

Minor Transnationalism: Apartheid Literature and - 44834

Last update 26-10-2014

HU Credits:  2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: English

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Louise Bethlehem

Coordinator Email: louise.bethlehem@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 15-16:00

Teaching Staff:
  Dr. Louise Bethlehem
Course/Module description:
Course Description
This course runs in conjunction with the European Research Council Project: “Apartheid—The Global Itinerary: South African Cultural Formations in Transnational Circulation 1948-1990.” The regime of racial discrimination known as “apartheid” routinely breached the separation that it names. Whereas apartheid South Africa was deeply isolationist in the international arena, emergent research links it to the Cold War and decolonization. This course investigates how the global contest over the meaning of apartheid and of resistance to it occurs on the terrain of literature and culture. It seeks to understand how apartheid served as an apparatus of transnational cultural production through looking at case histories focussed on the literary oeuvre of Peter Abrahams and Alan Paton, and on the musical trajectories of Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela. It considers these works and producers in the light of existing theoretical paradigms such as “the Black Atlantic,” “minor transnationalism,” “polysystem theory,” and “Indian Ocean Studies.” At the same time, through historicizing this cultural corpus, it seeks to foreground the uniqueness and longevity of cultural syncretism in the South African context.

Course/Module aims:
Aims
The course aims to familiarize participants with the case histories under consideration. It seeks to expand the participants’ ability to use central paradigms that attempt to account for literary and cultural transfer. It elaborates core lexical concepts central to these paradigms such as “black Atlantic,” “minor literature,” “the dominant,” and aims to introduce new terms such as “thick convergence.” It seeks to amplify the historical competence of participants regarding syncretic determinants of South African musical and literary culture.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
* Identify core concepts at the heart of models of cultural diffusion: Black Atlantic, Minor Transnationalism, Global Imaginary, Literary Dominant, thick convergence.
* Demonstrate familiarity with apartheid-era cultural production and its diffusion.
* Analyse new case studies or regional studies in accordance with this methodology.

Attendance requirements(%):
100
Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Weekly seminar

Course/Module Content:

INTRODUCTION: RESEARCH RATIONALE
Week 1 Tuesday 28.10.14
Bethlehem, Louise

UNIT 1: THE BLACK ATLANTIC
Week 2 Tuesday 4.11.2014
http://www.uib.no/sites/w3.uib.no/files/attachments/gilroy-black_atlantic.pdf

Week 3 Tuesday 11.11.2014
http://www.jstor.org/stable/3819986
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/south_atlantic_quarterly/v100/100.1piot.html

Week 4 Tuesday 18.11.2014
http://www.jstor.org/stable/852491

Week 5 Tuesday 25.11.2014
http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.0499697.0039.102
Week 6 Tuesday 2.12.2014
**Sizemore-Barber, April. 2012. The Voice of (Which?) Africa: Miriam Makeba in
UNIT 2 MINOR TRANSGLOBALISM

Week 7 Tuesday 9.12.2014

See also Jana Evans Braziel’s comments at: http://www.umass.edu/complit/aclanet/janadele.htm

This title is available through the library as an electronic book. Please access it online using the library catalogue.

Week 8 Tuesday 16.12.2014

Stable URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/4618384
Optional:
(Electronic reserves).

Week 9 Tuesday 23.12.2014
This title is available through the library as an electronic book. Please access it online using the library catalogue.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17533170600607306

Week 10 Tuesday 30.12.2014
THEORY FROM THE SOUTH: TOWARD SYNTHESIS
Week 11 Tuesday 6.01.2014
Optional:

Week 12 Tuesday 13.01.2014
Open panel of lexical terms with course participants
(The Dominant; Civil Religion, etc.)
Week 13 Tuesday 20.01.2014
Guest presentation: Dr. Rotem Giladi.

Week 14 Tuesday 27.01.2014
Guest presentation: Dr. Rotem Giladi.

Required Reading:
Readings are detailed in the Course Module description on a week-by-week basis.

Additional Reading Material:
N/A

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 30 %
Participation in Tutorials 10 %
Project work 30 %
Assignments 30 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
Requirements
Weekly participation is obligatory. Each student will be required to give a short oral
presentation on a cultural or literary figure or a lexical or theoretical term arising from the class discussions. Each student will be required to write a short written response to a bibliographic item of relevance to the material in the framework of the [Interactive Bibliography] forum. Students will set topics for final papers in consultation with Dr. Bethlehem by December 15th, 2014. Ideally, the paper should build on the oral and written assignments for the course.