

Contemporary Women's Writing HL3024
Lecturer: Dr Wernmei Yong Ade
Semester 2 AY 2015-2016

This course will explore a range of contemporary women's writing. Two seminars will be devoted to the study of each text; one seminar will focus primarily on the text as a exemplary of "women's writing", thus dealing with the politics of gender identity, female desire and sexuality, while the next will address the text as exemplary of contemporary writing, dealing with narrative language, postmodern reality and questions of historical representation, as well as the construction of the shattered/ split postmodern subject.

Course Schedule:

Wk	Texts
Week 1	Introduction
Week 2	<i>The Bloody Chamber</i>
Week 3	<i>The Bloody Chamber</i>
Week 4	<i>Dogeaters</i>
Week 5	<i>Dogeaters</i>
Week 6	<i>The Piano Teacher</i>
Week 7	<i>The Piano Teacher</i>
Week 8	Recess Week
Week 9	<i>The Driver's Seat</i>
Week 10	<i>Beloved</i>
Week 11	<i>Beloved</i>
Week 12	<i>Women Without Men</i>
Week 13	<i>Women Without Men</i>

Method of Instruction

3-hour seminar

Student Assessment

3000 – 3,200 word term essay: 40%

Class participation: 10%

Closed-book examination: 50%

Core texts to purchase:

Note: the NTU bookstore will not stock these texts. You will have to purchase them on your own. I highly recommend Book Depository. They do take at least two weeks to deliver so please place your orders early.

Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber*, Penguin, 9780140178210

Muriel Spark, *The Driver's Seat*, Penguin, 9780141188348

Elfriede Jelinek, *The Piano Teacher*, Serpent's Tail, 9781846687372

Toni Morrison, *Beloved*, Vintage, 9780099511656

Jessica Hagedorn, *Dogeaters*, Penguin, 9780140149043

Shahrnush Parsipur, *Women Without Men*, The Feminist Press, 9781558617537