

**Contemporary Women's Writing HL3024**  
**Lecturer: Dr Wernmei Yong Ade**  
**Semester 2 AY 2020-2021**  
**Wednesday 230-530pm, HSS Auditorium**

The goal of this course is to promote critical engagement with, and appreciation of, the works of women writers of fiction post-1970. To this end, this course explores a range of contemporary women's writing, primarily focusing on these texts as exemplary of "women's writing". We will thus be dealing with the politics of gender identity, female desire, sexuality, and how these intersect with class, race, nation and other ideological formations. We will also address the texts as exemplary of contemporary writing, dealing with narrative language and structure, new experimental forms of writing, postmodern reality, as well as the construction of the shattered/ split postmodern subject.

**Course Schedule:**

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Texts</b>
Week 1 Jan 13	Muriel Spark, <i>The Driver's Seat</i>
Week 2 Jan 20	Toni Morrison, <i>Sula</i>
Week 3 Jan 27	Fairy Tales Re-visioned I Angela Carter, <i>The Bloody Chamber</i> Emma Donoghue, <i>Kissing the Witch</i> Anne Sexton, <i>Transformations</i>
Week 4 Feb 3	Fairy Tales Re-visioned II Angela Carter, <i>The Bloody Chamber</i> Emma Donoghue, <i>Kissing the Witch</i> Anne Sexton, <i>Transformations</i>
Week 5 Feb 10	Jeanette Winterson, <i>Written on the Body</i>
Week 6 Feb 17	Amanda Lee Koe, <i>Ministry of Moral Panic</i>
Week 7 Feb 24	Elfriede Jelinek, <i>The Piano Teacher</i>
Week 8 Mar 3	Recess Week

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Texts</b>
Week 9 Mar 19	Jessica Hagedorn, <i>Dogeaters</i>
Week 10 Mar 16	Bernadine Evaristo, <i>Girl, Woman, Other</i>
Week 11 Mar 23	Sharnush Parsipur, <i>Women Without Men</i>
Week 12 Mar 30	Han Kang, <i>The Vegetarian</i>
Week 13 April 6	Overview and Exam Briefing

### **Method of Instruction**

3-hour seminar

### **Student Assessment**

2,800 – 3,000 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*  
Muriel Spark, *The Driver's Seat*,  
Emma Donoghue, *Kissing the Witch*  
Elfriede Jelinek, *The Piano Teacher*  
Toni Morrison, *Sula*  
Jessica Hagedorn, *Dogeaters*  
Jeanette Winterson, *Written on the Body*  
Bernadine Evaristo, *Girl, Woman, Other*  
Amanda Lee Koe, *Ministry of Moral Panic*  
Han Kang, *The Vegetarian*

### **Core texts be provided by lecturer:**

Anne Sexton poems

Leong Liew Geok poems  
Sharnush Parsipur, *Women Without Men*