



BABCOCK UNIVERSITY

School: EAH
Department: LANGUAGES AND LITERARY STUDIES
Semester/Session: 1ST SEMESTER/ 2017/2018 SESSION
Course code: ENGL 431-Women Writers in Africa Day of class: Mondays, Wed
No of units: 3 Venue for class: EAH106
Lecturer: Prof. Mobolanle E. Sotunsa Office Address: Rm 015 EAH

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OUR VISION STATEMENT

A first-class Seventh day Adventist institution, building servant leaders for a better world.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Building leadership through Christian education; transforming lives, impacting society for positive change.

To achieve our mission, we are committed to:

- Achieving excellence in our teaching, research program, and service delivery
- Imparting quality Christian education
- Instilling Christ-like character to the members of our community

OUR CORE VALUES

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| • Excellence | our culture |
| • Integrity | our promise |
| • Accountability | our moral |
| • Servant leadership | our strength |
| • Team spirit | our dignity |
| • Autonomy and responsibility | our passion |
| • Adventist heritage | our commitment |

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Babcock University's philosophy is anchored on the harmonious development of the intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual potential of our students, inspiring stable and notable character needed for effective leadership and service in the society.

CORPORATE IMAGE STATEMENT: A centre of excellence for character development and scholarship; a society responsive, responsible and accountable institution in matters of commitment and action.

1. **Bulletin description of course:** This course identifies and defines the place of women in African literature. It attempts an analysis of the thematic concerns of those writers on the one hand and the critical attitudes to them on the other.

2. **Further description of course by the teacher.** This course will expose students to the major women writers in Africa. General issues about feminism and womanism- the

alternative African women theories will be examined. Major thematic concerns of women writers in Africa will be expounded and text analysis, including analysis of characters, themes and will be carried out.

Course Content: The major concepts that will be discussed in this course includes: gender, feminism, womanism, African women,

Course Objectives: At the end of this course students will be able to:

- a. identify women writers in Africa and classify them into various ideological positions
- b. undertake literary analysis of texts of major women writers in Africa
- c. recognise the major thematic concerns of African women writers
- d. understand the place and responsibilities of women in the African society within a Christian perspective

Required Textbooks/Journal:

1. Sotunsa Mobolanle (2008)*Feminism and Gender Discourse: The African Experience* Asaba Publications, Lagos.
2. Akorede Y and Asiyanbola A (ed) (2010). *The Feminist- Womanist Dialectics*. Sonouu D’Afrique Porto Novo Republic of Benin for Lyette Books Bedford and Essex, U.K
3. Sotunsa Mobolanle and Yacob- Haliso Olajumoke (eds) (2012) *Women in Africa: Contexts, Rights, Hegemonies* BUGAS and Jedidah Publishers, Lagos.

CREATIVE TEXTS:

As contained in the Outline

Course Requirements:

Class Attendance: “Every student is required to attend classes regularly and punctually unless ill or prevented by some recognized emergency. Students who absent themselves from class more than three weeks during the semester shall merit F grade. Authorized leave of absence from campus does not excuse the student from classes, or relieve the student of the required course work’ (BU *academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 13*).

Participation: Students are to actively engage in topic discussion and sharing of idea in class.

Tardiness/Conduct of Students in Class: lateness to class is unacceptable; students are not allowed to operate their cell phones, IPod and other electronic mobile gargets during classes, except with the permission of the teacher. Eating and chewing of bubble gums and drinking (water exempted) is also not allowed except with the permission of the teacher. Very importantly, students are required to dress in compliance with the university dress code and wear their identity cards while in class.

Short Devotionals/Prayer: Spiritual nurture is a part of whole person development, and team spirit is our strength; thus, every student is required to participate in the devotional exercise and prayer in class.

Submission of Assignment: All assignments must be submitted on or before the time line given in class. No late submissions will be entertained.

Late assignment: assignment could be turned in earlier, but not later than the deadline set by the teacher.

Guideline for written work: All assignments should be typed written in New Romanfont, 12 points and double spaced except for indented quotations. **In-text** references must be made and all references also reflected at the **Works Cited** portion at the end of the assignment .Plagiarism and mere copying from internet is not encouraged. It will attract penalties.

Academic Integrity/Honesty: “Babcock University has a zero tolerance for any form of academic dishonesty. Morality and spiritual, the institution is committed to scholastic integrity. Consequently, both students and staff are to maintain high, ethnical Christian levels of honesty. Transparent honest behaviours is expected of every student in all spheres of life. Academic dishonesty include such things as plagiarism, unauthorized use of notes or textbooks on quizzes and examinations, copying or spying the text or paper of another student (formal or take home), talking to another student during examination, academic matter would automatically result in a failing grade for the examination and suspense, or outright dismissal from the university. Academic dishonesty issues are referred to SPEAM (senate panel on examination and academic misconduct) who investigates and makes recommendations to senate. Penalties for examination and academic misconduct are spelt out in the *student’s handbook* and in other regulations as published from time to time” (BU *academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 18*).

Grievance Procedure

“Students who believe in their academic rights have been infringed upon or that they have been unjustly treated with respect to their academic program are entitled to a fair and impartial consideration of their cases. They should do the following to affect a solution:

1. Present their case to the teacher(s) concerned.
2. If necessary discuss the problem with the head of department
3. If agreement is not reached at this level, submit the matter to the school dean
4. Finally, ask for a review of the case by the Grievance Committee
5. A fee is charged for remarking of scripts. If a student’s grievance is upheld after an external examiner has remarked the script, the grade would be credited to the student. The lecturer will be given a letter of reprimand and will asked to refund the fees to the student. If the student’s grievance is not sustained, the student will be given a letter and original grade retained” (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 18*)

Teaching/learning methodologies: This course will adapt the following methodologies

- A. Teaching- Please note that students are encouraged to form notes. Come to the class with both your notes and jotters.
- B. Class group presentations- You will be divided into groups to make presentations on pre assigned topics/texts

Course assessment/evaluation

Continuous Assessment:

Class Attendance:	5%
Quizzes & tests:	10%
Assignments:	10%
Mid-Semester Exam:	15%
Final Semester Exam:	60%

Grade scale

Currently, the point grading system adopted by the University Senate translates as follows:

Grades	Marks- Quality	Range Points	Definition
A	80-100	5.00	Superior
B	60-79	4.00	Above Average
C	50-59	3.00	Average
D	45-49	2.00	Below Average
E	40-44	1.00	Pass
F	0-39	0.00	Fail

Incomplete Grade: an incomplete grade may only be assigned to a student upon request, due to an emergency situation that occurred within that semester, which prevented completion of an/some assignments, quizzes or examination. Such students would complete a contract form, obtained from the registrar, after agreement with the teacher. The form must be signed by the teacher, the student, the HOD, the dean, the registrar and the senior Vice Chancellor (SVP) before contract begins. The original copy of the incomplete form will be sent to the registrar with copies to the teacher, the student, the HOD, the dean, and the SVP. An incomplete grade (I) reverts to the existing grade if contract is not completed by the end of the following semester. (Including summer semester, except for examinations) (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 20*).

sFurther readings:

Emecheta, Buchi “Feminism with a small f” in *Landmark and New Essays in Literary & Linguistic Theories and Analysis* Akporobaro et al. (eds), Princeton Publishing, Lagos pp 340-356

Nwapa, Flora “Women and Creative Writing in Africa in *Landmark and New Essays in Literary & Linguistic Theories and Analysis* Akporobaro et al. (eds), Princeton Publishing, Lagos pp 357-374

Students with disability

“Babcock University seeks to provide a conducive environment for optimal living and learning experience. While the university is working towards facilities that accommodate persons with disabilities, provisions will be made for students with disabilities under the following conditions. Students with disabilities are to:

1. Report to students support services for assessment, and to obtain a clearance/recommendation at the commencement of the semester or as soon as disabling incidence occurs.
2. Show the clearance/recommendations to relevant university officials at the commencement of the semester or as soon as disabling incidence occurs.
3. Maintain ongoing contact with students support services” (BU *Academic Bulletin 2012-2015 p. 20*).

Proposed daily/weekly outline of schedule:

Date	Topic	Class Activities	Assignments Due
Mon, Sept. 4, 2017	Discussion of course	Introduction and sharing of	

	outline	expectations about the course	
Wed, Sept.6, 2014	Feminism and the Origin of Gender Discourse	Note taking and discussions	Assignment on listing women writers due
Mon, Sept. 11, 2014	The Evolution of Womanism	Note taking and discussions	
Wed, Sept. 13, 2014	Distinguishing Characteristics of Womanism	Note taking and discussions	
Mon, Sept. 18, 2014	Ideological positions of African female writers in Gender Discourse	Note taking and discussions	
Wed, Sept. 21, 2017			
Mon, Sept. 25, 2017	Gender politics in African Literature	Note taking and discussions	
Wed, Sept. 27, 2017	Common challenges of African Women as Portrayed in Literature	Note taking and discussions	
Mon, Oct 2, 2017	Discussion of text- Flora Nwapa- <i>Efuru</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group one assignment due
Wed, Oct. 4, 2017			
Mon, Oct. 9, 2017	Marima Ba's <i>So Long a Letter</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group two assignment due
Wed, Oct. 11, 2017			
Mon, Oct. 16, 2017	Buchi Emecheta's <i>Second Class Citizen</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group three assignment due
Wed, Oct. 18, 2017			
Mon, Oct. 23, 2017	Common Themes in African Women Writings	Note taking and discussions	
Wed, Oct 25, 2014	Mid-Semester Exams		
Mon Oct 29, 2017	Chimamanda Adichie <i>Purple Hibiscus</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group four assignment due
Wed, Nov 1, 2017			
Mon, Nov. 6, 2017	Tsitsi Dangarembga- <i>Nervous Conditions</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group five assignment due
Wed, Nov. 8, 2017			
Mon, Nov. 13, 2017	Nawal El Sadaawi <i>Woman at Point Zero</i>	Group presentation; Note taking and discussions	Group six assignment due
Wed, Nov. 15, 2017			
Mon, Nov. 20, 2017	Bessie Head- A	Group presentation;	Group seven assignment due

Wed, Nov. 22, 2017	<i>Question of Power</i>	Note taking and discussions	
Mon, Nov. 27, 2017	Revision		
Wed, Nov. 29, 2017			
Mon, Dec. 4, 2017	Examination		