

Course description

Descriptif du cours

Department : English

Instructor (s): Pr. Lobna Ben Salem

Academic year: 2021-2022

Level: Masters 1

Course title: Anglophone Literature

Course outline:

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Mapping the city: Corporeal cartography

Week 3: *Mekwerekwere* and racism in disguise

Week 4: Country/city divide: the fallacy

Week 5: characters and abjection

Week 6: Magic realism as a political critique

Week 7: Breaking the AIDS curse

Week 8: Language and publication anxieties

Week 9: gendered spaces: Black female identity “on the move”

Week 10: global precarity

Week 11: the last chapter: Refelwe’s *rite of passage*

Week 12: *Welcome to our Hillbrow*: a confluence of postmodern space and time

Week 13: postmodern techniques: second person narrator, stream of consciousness, achronology, metafiction,

Week14: round-up session

Course objectives:

This course explores literature written in South Africa following the negotiated transition to democracy in that country in 1994, in particular, Phaswane Mpe's novel *Welcome to our Hillbrow* (2001).

The course provides knowledge about:

- cultural, thematic, and aesthetic representations in Post-Apartheid Black Literature.
- Postmodern textual strategies and the way they serve postcolonial concerns. Various artistic devices are used; in character development such as unconventional points of view, sarcastic humor, irony, and stream of consciousness; and in plot development such as suspense, foreshadowing, symbolism, and extended metaphor.
- The effect of *Globalization and Multiculturalism* on the conception of Black identity.

Method of evaluation:

- Final exams

References:

- Attree, Lizzy. 2005. "Healing with Words: Phaswane Mpe." <http://jcl.sagepub.com/cgi/reprints/sidebar/40/3/139?ck=nck&frameset_url=http%3A%2F%2F> Accessed: 23.01.2016.
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- De Certeau, [Michel](#). *The Practice of Everyday Life*. University of California Press, 2011.
- Gaylard, Rob. 2005. "Stories and storytelling in Phaswane Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*." <<http://www.uwc.ac.za/arts/auetsa/gaylard.htm>> Accessed: 21.04.2015.
- Harris, B. 2002. "Xenophobia: A new pathology for a new South Africa". In D. Hook and G. Eagle (eds.). *Psychopathology and Social Prejudice*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press, 169–84.
- Hunt, Emma. "Post-Apartheid Johannesburg and Global Mobility in Nadine Gordimer's *The Pickup* and Phaswane Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*." *New South African Writing*. (2006): 103-122.
- Langdon, Jo. "Magical Realism and Experiences of Extremity". *Current Narratives*. Volume 1. Issue 3. (2011): 14-24.

Matsinhe, David Mario. "Africa's Fear of Itself: the ideology of *Makwerekwere* in South Africa". *Third World Quarterly*. Volume 32. Issue 2 . (2011): 295-313.

Pier Paolo Fracinelli. "Precarious Cosmopolitanism in O'Neill's *Netherland* and Mpe's *Welcome to our Hillbrow*". *Comparative Literature and Culture*. Volume 15. Issue. 5. (2013): 1-10.

Rafapa, L. J. and Freddy Mahori. "Exorcising the ghost of the past: The abandonment of obsession with apartheid in Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*". *TYDSKRIF VIR LETTERKUNDE*. Vol. 48 (2). 2011:155-170.

Rafapa Lesibana and Kgomotso Masemola. "Representations of the National and Transnational in Phaswane Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*". *Alternation* 21, 2(2014) 83 – 98.

Tarka Fai, Gilbert. "Post-apartheid South Africa and Patterns of Violence in J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace* and Phaswane Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*". *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*. Vol. 4, No. 8. (2014):155-162.

Van Bever Donker, Maurits. "Welcome to Our Hillbrow: Learning to 'learn to live' in the wake of apartheid". *Dissidences: Hispanic Journal of Theory and Criticism*. Vol. 4, Issue 8. (2012).