

2009 MAY TERM ON-CAMPUS COURSE PROPOSAL

2009

Date: December 3, 2008

Instructor: Marci L. Carrasquillo

If you are not teaching a May Term course, please indicate and return this form ASAP to the Registrar's Office.

_____ Not teaching.

If May Term 2009 is part of your load, is the course you are offering a new course or a repeat course?

New course: X _____ Repeat course: _____

Department(s) in which credit is to be awarded: English

Course number: 397

Course title: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Studies: The Partition of India

Is this course going to be designated a Cornerstone Course? X yes _____ no

If yes, which Cornerstone (also, make certain that the Director of Cornerstones, John Pauley, is emailed a copy of this form):

Cornerstone 7, Global Awareness

Is this course to be reserved for Freshmen and Sophomores? _____ yes X no

Course or program description to be printed in May Term book:

By the end of the nineteenth century, there was a rise in nationalistic movements in India that would lead, ultimately, to India's freedom from British rule and to the creation of a new nation, Pakistan. The 1947 partition of India led to great—and still unresolved—divisions: with the redrawing of India's borders, its people became divided psychologically as well as physically. In this course we will read Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, a work of fiction that addresses issues of physical and psychological fragmentation stemming from Partition. In addition to the primary text, students will read short memoirs and non-fiction essays on the partition by other well-known fiction writers of India and Pakistan, as well as theoretical works by scholars including Gayatri Spivak, Partha Chatterjee, and Homi Bhabha. Students will become acquainted with classic and contemporary postcolonial theory; they will gain a basic vocabulary central to postcolonial studies; and they will gain an understanding of the issues that led to the partition of India, as well as its impact on India and Indians today.

Are there prerequisites? _____ yes _____ X no

If "yes", what are they?:

Daily schedule choice (number in priority order):

- 1 Morning shift – 8:30-11:15 daily
- 2 Afternoon shift – 11:45-2:30 daily
- 3 Split shift – 8:30-9:45 and 12:45-2:00 daily

Preferred location:

AC 100 (or any room with a lot of blackboards and desks that are not bolted down)

Provide an explanation if your enrollment limit is to be other than 30 students. n/a

Course objectives (if not stated in description): SEE DESCRIPTION

Writing component (please be specific): Students will write twelve one-page reader response essays. Responses should address a central argument or idea from the day's reading(s). Students will be graded in terms of how completely they engage the readings as well as the quality of their response. Students also will write discussion questions.

Reading component (please be specific): Readings will include the following:

Primary

Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*

Alok Bhalla, *Partition Dialogues: Memories of a Lost Home* (selections)

Secondary

Paul Brians, "'Postcolonial Literature': Problems with the Term"

Stuart Hall, "When was 'the Post-Colonial'?: Thinking at the Limit"

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (selections)

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism* (selections)

Gayatri Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?" (other readings from Spivak TBD)

Homi Bhabha, *The Location of Culture* (selections)

Fredric Jameson, *Third-World Literature in the Era of Multinational Capitalism* (selection)

Aijaz Ahmad, *Jameson's Rhetoric of Otherness and the "National Allegory"* (selection)

Partha Chatterjee, *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World* (selections); *The Nation and its Fragments* (selections)

Specific methods of assessment (tests, essays, term paper, performance, etc.)

- Twelve one-page reader responses (5% each or 60% of the course grade)
- Ten discussion questions (2% each or 20% of the course grade)
- Participation (20% of course grade)

Special costs to the College, such as insurance, telephone, rental, etc: NONE

Additional cost to students other than textbooks (i.e., travel, insurance, meals, etc.) NONE

Email a copy of this form to:

Your Department Chair, Division Chair, and Mark Juffernbruch, the EPCC Chair as well as to John Bolen, the Registrar.

Your Department Chair and your Division Chair must approve of this proposal if it is a new course.

Department Chair Signature

Date

Division Chair Signature

Date