

Francophone Postcolonial Literature (M.St. Special Subject)

Michaelmas Term 2018

Students will meet for 4 sessions of 1.5 hours each. There will be a reading list of 2-3 texts to read for each session, and students are advised to have made a good start on the primary reading before term begins. At the start of term, students should have chosen two areas on which they will write essays (2500-3000 words each); they will do a short presentation (10-15 minutes) on one of the remaining two areas.

Week 2. Exoticism

Jennifer Yee, Christ Church

Set Texts (marked *) and additional recommended reading:

Segalen, Victor, *René Leys** [a novel set in China about exoticism] ; *Stèles* [prose poems about the nature of the self, inspired by Chinese poems] ; *Équipée* [a meditation on travel writing and the relation between the real and the imaginary, particularly sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 21, 25, 28]

Segalen, Victor, *Les Immémoriaux** (1907) [a novel about Tahitian culture ; an interesting point of contrast is Pierre Loti's much 'lighter' Tahitian novel, *Le Mariage de Loti* (1878), if you have time]

Segalen, Victor, *Essai sur l'exotisme** [his notes towards an unfinished, but very important, theoretical work]

[recommended edition : Victor Segalen, *Œuvres complètes*, Robert Laffont (2 vols) ; but the main works are available in separate editions as well]

Selected secondary reading:

Arnoux, Rosemary, 'Culture and Narrative Voices in *Les Immémoriaux*', *New Zealand Journal of French Studies* 16 : 1 (1995), 20-29

Boehmer, Elleke, *Colonial and Postcolonial Literature: Migrant Metaphors* (1995)

Bongie, Chris, *Exotic Memories: Literature, Colonialism, and the Fin de Siècle* (1991)

Forsdick, Charles, 'Honorons le temps dans sa voracité: Weathering the Exotic in the Work of Victor Segalen', *Romance Studies* 17: 1 (1999), 1-13

Forsdick, Charles, *Victor Segalen and the Aesthetics of Diversity: Journeys between Cultures* (2000)

Glissant, Édouard, *L'Intention poétique (Poétique II)* (1969), particularly ch. 'Telle aventure n'est pas arbitraire', pp. 89-96; *Poétique de la relation (Poétique III)* (1990), ch. 'Poétiques', pp. 35-48

Gontard, Marc, *Victor Segalen: Une esthétique de la différence* (1990)

Ha, Marie-Paule, *Figuring the East: Segalen, Malraux, Duras, and Barthes* (State University of New York Press, 2000)

Hsieh, Yvonne, 'Le problème de l'altérité dans *Les Immémoriaux* de Victor Segalen', *Études francophones* 13: 1 (1998), 43-54

Ollier, Marie, *L'écrit des dits perdus : l'invention des origines dans Les Immémoriaux de Victor Segalen* (L'Harmattan : 1997)

Said, Edward, *Orientalism* (1978); *Culture and Imperialism* (1993)

Schlick, Yael, 'On the persistence of a concept : Segalen's René Leys and the death(s) of exoticism', *Australian Journal of French Studies*, 35 :2 (1998)

Yee, Jennifer, 'Exotic Polyphony: Victor Segalen and *Les Immémoriaux*' in *Exotic Subversions in Nineteenth-Century French Fiction* (2008)

Young, Robert, *Colonial Desire: Hybridity in Theory, Culture and Race* (1995)

Week 3: Negritude and Resistance in African and Caribbean Literature and Thought

Jane Hiddleston, Exeter College (Staircase 8 room 5)

Set Texts:

Frantz Fanon, *Peau noire, masques blancs* (Paris: Seuil, 1995)

Léopold Sédar Senghor, 'Chants d'ombre' and 'Ethiopiennes' in *Œuvre poétique* (Paris : Seuil, 1990)

Aimé Césaire, *Et les chiens se taisaient: tragédie* (Présence Africaine, 1956)

Selected critical reading:

Arnold, A. James. *Modernism and Negritude: The Poetry and Poetics of Aimé Césaire*. Harvard University Press, 1981.

Aimé Césaire, *Discours sur le colonialisme, suivi de Discours sur la Négritude* (Présence Africaine, 1955)

Césaire, Aimé. *Nègre je suis, nègre je resterai: entretiens avec Françoise Vergès*. Albin Michel, 2005.

Davis, Gregson. *Aimé Césaire*. Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Gibson, Nigel, *Fanon: The Postcolonial Imagination* (Polity, 2003)

Gordon, Lewis. *What Fanon Said: a philosophical introduction to his life and thought*. Fordham University Press, 2015.

Hiddleston, Jane, *Decolonising the Intellectual: Politics, Culture, and Humanism at the End of the French Empire* (Liverpool, 2014)

Kesteloot, Lilyan. *Césaire et Senghor: un pont sur l'Atlantique*. L'Harmattan, 2006.

Jack, Belinda, *Negritude and Literary Criticism* (Greenwood, 1996)

Miller, Christopher, *Theories of Africans: Francophone Literature and Anthropology in Africa* (Chicago University Press, 1990)

Noland, Carrie. *Voices of Negritude in Modernist Print* (Columbia University Press, 2015)

Senghor, Léopold Sédar. *Ce que je crois: négritude, francité, et civilisation de l'universel*. Grasset et Fasquelle, 1988.

Week 5: History and Life-Writing in North African Literature

Jane Hiddleston, Exeter College (8.5)

Set texts:

Driss Chraïbi, *Le Passé simple* (Paris: Denoël, 1954)

Assia Djebar, *L'Amour, la fantasia* (Paris: Albin Michel, 1995)

Boualem Sansal, *Rue Darwin* (Paris: Gallimard, 2011)

Selected secondary reading:

Assia Djebar, *Femmes d'Alger dans leur appartement* (Paris: Albin Michel, 2002)

Assia Djebar, *Ces voix qui m'assiègent* (Paris: Albin Michel, 1999)

Frantz Fanon, *Les Damnés de la terre* (Paris: Gallimard, 1961, 1991)

Nicholas Harrison, *Postcolonial Criticism: History, Theory, and the Work of Fiction* (Cambridge: Polity, 2003)

Kenneth Harrow, *The Marabout and the Muse: New Approaches to Islam in African Literature*. (Portsmouth: Heinemann, 1996)

Jane Hiddleston, *Assia Djebar: Out of Algeria*. Liverpool University Press, 2006

Winifred Woodhull, *Transfigurations of the Maghreb: Feminism, Decolonisation and Literatures*. University of Minnesota Press, 1993

Debra Kelly, *Autobiography and Independence: Selfhood and Creativity in North African Postcolonial Writing in French* (2005)

Dinah Assouline Stillman, 'A Rustle in History: Conversations with Boualem Sansal', *World Literature Today* (September 2012)

Lucy Brisley, 'Melancholia and Victimhood in Boualem Sansal's *Le Village de l'Allemand: Ou Le journal des frères Schiller*', *Research in African Literatures* 44.1 (2013)

Week 6: Caribbean Literature

Jennifer Yee, Christ Church

Set Texts (marked *) and additional recommended reading:

Chamoiseau, Patrick, *Chronique des sept misères** (1986), *Solibo magnifique** (1988), *Texaco* (1994)

Condé, Maryse, *Traversée de la mangrove** (1989), *Desirada* (1997)

Selected secondary reading:

Britton, Celia, *The Sense of Community in French Caribbean Fiction* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2008)

Chamoiseau, Patrick, Bernabé, Jean and Confiant, Raphaël, *Eloge de la créolité* (Paris : Gallimard, 1990)

Chamoiseau, Patrick, Confiant, Raphaël, *Lettres créoles* (Paris : Gallimard, 1999)

Condé, Maryse, 'O Brave New World', *Research in African Literatures*, 29 (Autumn 1998) 1-7

Condé, Maryse, 'Order, Disorder, Freedom, and the West Indian Writer', *Yale French Studies*, 83: 2 (1993), 121-35

Glissant, Edouard, *Le Discours antillais* (Paris: Gallimard, 1996)

Haigh, Samantha, ed., *An Introduction to Francophone Writing Guadeloupe and Martinique*, 1st edn. (Oxford and New York: Berg, 1999)

McCusker, Maeve, "This Creole culture, miraculously forged": the contradictions of *créolité*, in *Francophone Postcolonial Studies: A Critical Introduction* ed. by Charles Forsdick and David Murphy (London and New York: Arnold, 2003)

McCusker, Maeve, *Patrick Chamoiseau: Recovering Memory* (Liverpool University Press, 2007)

Milne, Lorna, *Patrick Chamoiseau : espaces d'une écriture antillaise* (Amsterdam : Rodopi, 2006)

Pfaff, Françoise, *Entretiens avec Maryse Condé* (Paris: Éditions Karthala, 1993)

Sansavior, Eva, *Maryse Condé and the Space of Literature* (Oxford: Legenda, 2012)

Suk, Jeannie, *Postcolonial Paradoxes in French Caribbean Writing: Césaire, Glissant, Condé* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2001)