

High Point University
ENG 3910/WGS 3881: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.: Writing by Women of Color
Tue/Thur, 1:35-2:50 p.m., Fine Arts 113, Fall 2017



Dr. Kirstin L. Squint
214 Norcross Hall

Office Hours: Mon. 9:00-11:00 a.m.; Wed. 9:00-11:00 a.m.; Fri. 9:00-10:00

ksquint@highpoint.edu
(336) 841-9645

Required Texts:

Howe, LeAnne. *Shell Shaker*

Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*

García, Cristina. *The Aguero Sisters*

Truong, Monique. *Bitter in the Mouth*

There will also be a number of readings provided on Blackboard.

Catalogue Description: Examines the literature of diverse ethnic groups of the United States including, but not limited to, Native American, African American, Asian American and/or Latino/a cultures with special attention to historical, cultural, and intellectual frameworks. Four credits. Four credit hours. Prerequisites: ENG 2200

4th Hour: This course meets for fifty minutes three times per week or for seventy-five minutes two times per week. In the additional required time, students will complete regular online

assignments (using Blackboard, websites, podcasts, wikis, online media, and other resources) and occasional out-of-class assignments (film screenings, play performances, author readings, or similar activities).

Course Objectives:

- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between ethnicity and identity as represented in selected works of U.S. multi-ethnic literature.
- Demonstrate understanding of distinguishing themes and characteristics of U.S. multi-ethnic literature.
- Demonstrate understanding of historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts of U.S. multi-ethnic literature.
- Analyze literary devices and techniques employed by U.S. multi-ethnic authors.
- Demonstrate ability to write coherent, original literary analyses that effectively integrate secondary source materials by scholars in the field.

WGS Program Goals Fulfilled in this Course:

- Demonstrate fluency in feminist theories and methodologies and their applications to a number of different academic fields.
- Appreciate women’s contributions to society historically, culturally, and politically.
- Appreciate variations in women’s experiences across time, nations, and cultures.
- Analyze historical and contemporary systems of privilege and oppression, with special attention to ways gender intersects with race, class, sexuality, ethnicity, ability, region, and nationality.

Grading: Students will be assessed as follows:

Blogs: 20%
Discussion Boards: 10%
Midterm Exam: 20%
A/V Presentation: 10%
Final Exam: 20%
Research Paper: 20%

A: 90-100	A+ 98	C+ 78
B: 80-89	A 95	C 75
C: 70-79	A- 91	C- 71
D: 60-69	B+ 88	D+ 68
F: 59 and below	B 85	D 65
	B- 81	D- 61

Attendance Policy: This literature class is a community. As such, its success depends greatly on the participation of *all* its members – instructor *and* students. This course employs collaborative learning techniques – such as discussion, peer responses, and group work – to help students analyze texts and concepts. The structures, assignments, and assessment procedures of these courses encourage regular and active attendance. **There is a point at which a student’s**

absences simply prohibit him or her from being a true member of the class; i.e., from fully engaging in the course work. For this class, that point is *two absences* for the semester. Exceeding these numbers may result in involuntary withdrawal from the course.

Late Work Policy: Homework, essays, and other coursework should be turned in by the assigned due date. I will accept work up to 48 hours late; however, all late work will receive a 10% grade reduction. I will not accept work after this point. In general, quizzes and exams cannot be made up; however, in extreme cases, I may provide an opportunity for a makeup exam. In order to receive an opportunity to make up a test, I must be contacted **prior to or on the day of the exam** to schedule the makeup.

Statement on Academic Honesty and Responsibility:

In this class you will learn how to work with sources in informed and ethical ways. However, when a student's actions are meant to deceive the audience –when the actions constitute intentional plagiarism– then the student demonstrates a deep disregard for the academic processes that govern the construction and mediation of knowledge. Please review the University Honor Code in the Student Handbook. It remains your responsibility to engage in course work ethically and honestly.

Students with Disabilities:

Students who require classroom accommodations due to a diagnosed disability must submit the appropriate documentation to Disability Support in the Office of Academic Services, 4th Floor Smith Library. Requests for accommodations should be made at the beginning of a course. Accommodations are not retroactive. Contact us at <http://www.highpoint.edu/disabilitysupport/contacts/>, or call Dana Bright 336-841-9361, for additional information.

HPU Writing Center:

The Writing Center provides writing assistance for students at any level of study – from freshman to graduate – at any stage in the writing process, from invention through revision. The Writing Center staff will be available in a variety of locations around campus during various hours throughout the day, Monday through Friday. Go to <https://highpoint.mywconline.com/> to make an appointment. Appointments can only be made through the online portal. Appointments will be available starting August 28, 2017 for the Fall 2017 semester.

Writing Center tutors do not proofread or edit students' papers *for* them, but they do work *with* students to help them develop strategies for improving their writing in light of their respective assignments, instructors, and writing styles. For more information, contact Writing Center Director, Dr. Leah Schweitzer at lschweit@highpoint.edu or 336-841-9106.

Get Research Assistance 24/7:

Need help developing a research question? Finding and evaluating information? Citing sources? Ask a librarian! HPU's excellent librarians can help you develop your research and information literacy skills. They're available at Smith Library (open 24/7) and the UC Learning ComTues

(open 24/5). You can also call, email, text, or chat with a librarian online 24/7. Check out the HPU Libraries' website at <http://library.highpoint.edu> to contact a librarian, to find resources through the library catalog, to access library databases, and more.

Title IX:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are civil rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. High Point University is in compliance with Title IX procedure and policy. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, contact Jerry Trew, HPU Director of Title IX (Slane 333, 841-9457, jtrew@highpoint.edu).

SACS Accreditation

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that you work two hours outside of class for every hour inside of class. This class meets for 90 minutes twice a week for a total of 180 minutes, so expect your outside workload to be about 360 minutes per week.

Tentative Course Schedule (Check Blackboard daily for updates.)

Week 1 (8/21-8/25)

Tue: Introduction to the course

Homework: Read pp. 1-51, *Shell Shaker*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 52-96, *Shell Shaker*

4th Hour Reading: "Grandmother of the Sun: Ritual Gynocracy in Native America"

Week 2 (8/28-9/1):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 97-143, *Shell Shaker*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 144-188, *Shell Shaker*

Blog #1 due by midnight

Week 3 (9/4-9/8):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 189-221, *Shell Shaker*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 3-51 *Beloved*

4th Hour Reading: "Postmodern Blackness"

Week 4 (9/11-9/15):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 52-100 *Beloved*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading

Homework: Read pp. 101-156 *Beloved*
Blog #2 due by midnight

Week 5 (9/18-9/22):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 157-196 *Beloved*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 199-256 *Beloved*
Blog #3 due by midnight

Week 6 (9/25-9/29):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 257-324 *Beloved*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading/Discuss Midterm Exam
Homework: Read pp. 3-50 *The Aguero Sisters*
4th Hour Reading: from *Borderlands/La Frontera*

Week 7 (10/2-10/6):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read 51-103 *The Aguero Sisters*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Prepare for Midterm Exam
Blog #4 due by midnight

Week 8 (10/9-10/13)

Tue: **Midterm Exam**
Homework: Read 104-156 *The Aguero Sisters*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 157-202 *The Aguero Sisters*
Blog #5 due by midnight

Week 9 (10/16-10/20): FALL BREAK

Week 10 (10/23-10/27):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 203-260 *The Aguero Sisters*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 261-300 *The Aguero Sisters*
Blog #6 due by midnight

Week 11 (10/30-11/3):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 3-49 *Bitter in the Mouth*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 50-101 *Bitter in the Mouth*
4th Hour Reading: “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory”

Week 12 (11/6-11/10):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading/Discuss Research Projects
Homework: Read pp. 102-139 *Bitter in the Mouth*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 140-201 *Bitter in the Mouth*
Blog #7 due by midnight

Week 13 (11/13-11/17):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 202-241 *Bitter in the Mouth*

Thur: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Read pp. 242-282 *Bitter in the Mouth*
Blog #8 due by midnight

Week 14 (11/20-11/24):

Tue: Discuss assigned reading
Homework: Work on research projects
Blog #9 due by midnight

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY: NO CLASS THURSDAY 11/23

Week 15 (11/27-12/1):

Tue: Library Research Day
Homework: Continue research/Prepare Presentations

Thur: **A/V Presentations**
Homework: Complete Research Papers
Blog #10 due by midnight

Week 16 (12/4-12/8):

Tue: **A/V Presentations**/Final Exam Review
Homework: Study for Final Exam
Research Papers due by midnight

Final Exam: Monday, 12/11, 12:00-3:00 p.m.