

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
OLT 122: STUDIES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE OUTLINE

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AIM OF THE COURSE

The module aims at introducing students to the literature situation in Africa (historical background, genres, recurrent themes, and major writers).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this module, the student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- 1- The history, trends, and recurrent themes of the African literature
- 2- The history and culture of East Africa
- 3- The traditions and written literature
- 4- The cross-cutting issues in African literature
- 5- to broaden the scope of literature presented to middle school students
- 6- to encourage students to find a common humanity with Africans from several countries
- 7- to create a respect for non-western cultures through reading the literature of individual Africans
- 8- To demonstrate the ability to summarise novels of some African writers;
- 9- To locate African literature in its historical and cultural background.
- 10- To analyse and write a critique of a variety of forms of literary text
- 11- Define general characteristics of traditional East African cultures
- 12- To produce a concise biographical note on a chosen African writer.
- 13- To produce a competent piece of work in a long essay format on African literature

- 14- To demonstrate familiarity and competence with internet search engines when seeking for information on a given topic related to African literature
- 15- To work effectively in groups when debating on a given topic
- 16- To carry out a substantial piece of individual, self-directed work, with help from a supervisor

COURSE PLAN

- 1- Introduction
- 2- Oral literature
- 3- Pre-colonial literature (francophone Africa, Anglophone Africa and Portuguese speaking Africa)
- 4- Colonial African literature (francophone Africa, Anglophone Africa and Portuguese speaking Africa)
- 5- Postcolonial African Literature (francophone Africa, Anglophone Africa and Portuguese speaking Africa).
- 6- Conclusion

References

- 1- Cook D (1977). *African literature: a critical view*. London: Longman
- 2- Amuta C (1989). *The Theory of African literature: implications for practical criticism*. London: Zed Books
- 3- Dathorne OR (2009). *African literature in the twentieth century*. Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press
- 4- Ngugi Wa Thiong'O (1997). *Writers in politics: a re-engagement with issues of literature & society*. Oxford: James Currey Publishers
- 5- Gérard AS (1981). *African language literatures: an introduction to the literary history of Sub-Saharan Africa*. London: Longman Publishing Group.
- 6- Julien E (1992). *African novels and the question of orality*. Indiana: Indiana University Press.
- 7- Griffiths G. (2000). *African Literatures in English: East and West*. London: - Addison-Wesley Longman Ltd

Assessment strategy

The assessment will consist of an annual examination and a course work.