

ARTS & IDEAS : The Postcolonial Francophone Arts Experience Dr. S. Malicote 232-2441
6:00-8:30 Tuesday p.m. Spring 08 malicote@unca.edu

SYLLABUS

I. Introduction : Indochina and decolonization: the environment raided

Week 1:

Jan 15 Introduction : Preliminary discussion : Artistic French myths & stereotypes of decolonization

Reading: FPS 1-14

Film : Régis Wargnier, « *Indochine* » Part I (with English subtitles)I (120 min) (shows the effects of colonization through the story of a rubber plantation and its inhabitants)

Week 2:

Jan 22 Historical overview : Short reports on decolonization and globalization in Asia, Africa, the Maghreb
(focus on environmental issues of decolonization and globalization)

Readings: FPS: 262 Marguerite Duras: *The Lover* (extr)

Film : « *Indochine* » Part II

II. Decolonization of the Maghreb : the Algerian war in postcolonial arts

Week 3 :

Jan 29 The Algerian War : postcolonial violence in art and literature (economic issues, environmental concerns of postcolonial Algeria)

Discussion : Readings : FPS: 66-76

Bensmaïa, *The Year of Passages* (excerpt from the novel, with discussion questi

Film : Gilles Portecorvu : « *The Battle of Algiers* » (documentary-drama with discussion of postcolonial arts & censorship in France).

Week 4:

Feb 5 Brief oral reports : The Maghreb and postcolonial Magrebin literature: Morocco; Tunisia; Algeria

Readings and discussion : FPS: 181-191

Rachid Mimouni, *The Honor of the Tribe* (excerpt from the novel)

Tahar Ben Jelloun : *The Consul's Room* (excerpt from the novel)

Film : « Gilles Portecorvu : *The Dictatorship of Truth* »: Arts, Ideas and Censorship (narration : Edward Said)
(the effect of globalization on postcolonial Algeria)

Week 5:

Feb 12 Women and the postcolonial arts

Reading and discussion : FPS: 202-210;

Assia Djébar : *Fantasia* (the nove; extr)

Film : Assia Djébar : « *La Noubia des femmes du Mont Chenoua* » (with English subtitles)

Discussion : Maghrebin women and the cinema in the postcolonial era (Part I): literature and cinema
(women and the environment in a veiled society)

Week 6:

Feb 19 Racism, sexism and the postcolonial arts

Reading : FPS 211-221

Memni, *The Impasse* (excerpt from the novel)

Film : Moufida Tlatli, « *The Silences of the Palace*»

Discussion: Magrebin women, sexism, economic concerns and the cinema in the postcolonial era (Part II):
music and cinema

II. Francophone African Postcolonial Literature and Cinema

Week 7 :

Feb 26 Written take-home examination due

Reading and discussion : FPS: 122-134

Sony Tansi : "I, the undersigned heart patient" (excerpt from the novel)

Film : Jean-Marie Teno : « *L'Afrique, je te plumerai !* » (120 min)

Discussion : Cultural genocide and the arts in postcolonial francophone Cameroon struggling with environmental degradation and globalization)

Week 8:

Mar 11 Brief oral reports: Postcolonial African arts experience: Cameroon ; Ivory Coast; The Congo

Reading and discussion: FPS 221-230

Mongo Beti : The Poor Christ of Bomba (excerpt from the novel)

(the environment and economy of a rural area before and after decolonization)

Film : Claire Denis, « *Chocolat* » Part I

Discussion: Claire Denis and the postcolonial feminist cinema: the role of indigenous music in a global society

Week 9:

Mar 18 France and postcolonial African arts

Reading and discussion: FPS 135-145; 155-165

Bernard Dadié : *A Black man in Paris (excerpt from the autobiographical novel)*

Film : Claire Denis, « *Chocolat* » Part II

Discussion: The French view of the African postcolonial arts experience vis a vis economic and environmental concerns

III. The Antilles and postcolonial literature and cinema

Week 10:

Mar 25 The Antillean postcolonial arts

Discussion of reading: Patrick Chamoiseau, *Texaco* Part I (first part of the novel) (artistic study of a shantytown's role in environmental and economic concerns of daily living)

Brief oral reports: Antillean postcolonial arts experience and the environment: Martinique and Guadeloupe (the visual arts); Haiti (the visual arts; the primitives)

Film et discussion :: « *Maryse Condé speaks from the heart* »

Week 11:

Apr 1 Reading and discussion: Patrick Chamoiseau, *Texaco* Part II (public policy, role of the poor in a globalized economy of modernization)

Film : Euzhan Palcy : *Black Shack Alley (the story of economic issues of the cane workers just prior to decolonization; exploitation of the poor)*

Discussion: The first woman film director from Martinique: Euzhan Palcy and her art form

Week 12:

Apr 8 Reading and discussion: FPS: 231-241

René Depestre: *A Rainbow for the Christian West (book-length poem)*

Short oral reports: The Antilles postcolonial arts experience: the example of Haiti today: the environment (reality and ideality in the context of aesthetics)

Film : « *René Depestre and Haiti* »

Discussion: Depestre, art and postcolonial politics of repression

Week 13:

Apr 15 Readings and discussion: FPS 112-121

Césaire: *Notebook of the Return of a Native Son (book-length poem)*

Discussion: Césaire, art, and postcolonial politics of engagement; study of the illustrations of Wilfrido Lam)

Film : « Bitter Cane » (*in Creole and English*)(*economic and environmental repression; documentary study of shantytowns today in Haiti*)

Week 14:

Apr 22 Reading and discussion: Suzanne Schwartz-Bart, *Your Handsome Captain (play; on-line)*

Discussion : Antillanité, créolité and the arts experience of the Antilles : a woman's view of economic exploitation and environmental issues; music and artistic expression

Week 15:

Apr 29 Presentation of final papers, projects, and dramatic readings

Week 16

May 6: Final Examination 6-8:30