

Apprehending contemporaneity: A globalised gaze upon Postcoloniality and Diaspora through Chimamanda Adichie’s literature

Overview

This course departs from the premise that there is an evident necessity to better understand the world in which we live. Since most nation-states in the World System (WALLERSTEIN, 1974) were once colonies, it becomes crucial to theorize and discuss the consequences of Coloniality that persist in the 21st Century. How does colonial oppression continue after colonisers leave? Why is decolonisation difficult to be consolidated, even after political independence? This course proposes to enable its participants’ critical view towards possible answers to these questions, as readings and debates intend to lead to the understanding of participants’ own selves and societies through comparison. To achieve this goal, concepts will be studied and applied to literary representations of postcolonial individuals and communities.

Theoretically speaking, there will be a focus on concepts such as, Globalisation, Postcoloniality and Diaspora. Their study leads to what I call “Cultural Decolonisation”, i.e., a repositioning of postcolonial individuals and societies that seek to deal with the effects of colonial cultural oppression in their minds, spirits and imagination (BRAGA, 2019). Such repositioning often takes place in experiences of mobility. Therefore, the course will also focus on the diasporic facet of our present condition named Postcoloniality. Currently represented in literature, Postcoloniality is a condition characterised by intense negotiations originated in processes of direct colonization comprising rejection, acceptance or reappropriation of values left by colonisers (BRAGA, 2019).

The approach to the concepts mentioned will be made from the analysis of stories written by worldwide known, award-winning Nigerian writer Chimamanda Adichie, enriched with illustrations from Brazilian culture. Since Nigeria, Brazil and India went through colonisation in the past, the course will provide a substantial comparative framework to Indian participants

Dates	July 25-29, 2022. Number of participants for the course will be limited to fifty.
Modules	<i>Module 1: Introductory concepts</i> <i>Module 2: “Postcolonialisms”</i> <i>Module 3: Diaspora theory</i> <i>Module 4: Postcolonial diasporic literariness- what is it?</i> <i>Module 5: Cultural Decolonisation today: a proposal</i>
You Should Attend If...	You are a UG/ PG, or Doctoral student. Faculty members and corporate professionals, interested in Post-Colonial Discourse, may also attend.
Fees	The participation fees for taking the course is as follows: Participants from abroad : US \$200. Indian Students(UG/PG): Rs.1000; Research scholars(M Phil/PhD): Rs.2000; Faculty/others (Academic Institutions): 3000 . The above fee is towards participation in the course, all instructional materials, lunch, tea, and snacks etc. Accommodation and the travel expenses should be paid by the participants. Accommodation in the guest house may be provided on a space available basis with early reservation. Mode of payment: Please contact the Course Co-ordinator.

The Faculty



Dr Claudio R. V. Braga is an Associate Professor and researcher in literatures in English at the University of Brasilia (UnB), Brazil, in which he also advises MA and PhD candidates. His postdoctoral research was concluded in 2017 at the Universities of Leeds (UK) and São Paulo (Brazil). As a result of it, he published *A literatura movente de Chimamanda Adichie* in 2019 (UnB University Press) and edited *Almas de África no mundo* (2019), both books in Portuguese. His research includes the fields of postcolonial literary studies and diaspora literatures, with a specific focus on contemporary African literatures in English. Braga's interests lie in exploring new approaches to the representations of Postcoloniality, cultural decolonisation and diasporic mobility. He received his doctoral degree in Comparative Literature in 2010 (UFMG/Brazil), having done part of his PhD research in the University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) in the previous year. In addition to teaching and advising at UnB, Dr Braga organizes academic events, takes part in national and international conferences, and is a co-investigator in the Mayombe Research Group, having published articles in Brazil and abroad.



Dr Shri Krishan Rai is an Associate Professor at Department of Humanities and Social Sciences of National Institute of Technology Durgapur, WB, India. He has got three books and thirty research papers to his credit to date. His current interests include contemporary theories. cinema, and religion

Course Co-ordinator

Dr. Shri Krishan Rai
Department of Humanities and Social
Sciences
National Institute of Technology Durgapur
Durgapur, WB, India.
PIN 713209
Phone: 0343-2753482
M. 9434788019
E-mail: srikrishanrai4@gmail.com
www.nitdgp.ac.in