Gender and Identity in African Literatures (A005114)

Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>150 h</td>
<td>50.0 h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 2)  
English

- guided self-study 5.0 h
- seminar 10.0 h
- lecture 10.0 h
- self-reliant study activities 5.0 h
- group work 5.0 h
- lecture: plenary exercises 5.0 h
- microteaching 5.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Brinkman, Inge  
LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>crdts</th>
<th>offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject African Languages and Cultures)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in African Studies</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Programme African Languages and Cultures</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching languages

- English

Keywords

- Gender; Identity; Text and context in Africa

Position of the course

- Seminar

Contents

African literary texts in most cases are not meant as art for art’s sake and do not call for a purely aesthetic evaluation. In most cases, the artistic, creative values are combined with a strong relation with the wider socio-political context in which the texts are produced.

The issue of identity has been of crucial importance for the formation of this relation. African authors/performers intensely debated the meaning of the concepts ‘Africa’, ‘race’, ‘the nation’, and ‘ethnicity’. The choice of language has likewise been a factor in these identity formations.

Gender identity at times intersected with these debates, but in most instances has been treated as a separate issue. In this course we will make an attempt to bring these debates together. How do gender identities relate to Africa, race, the nation, ethnicity, language, and other identity categories?

In terms of case-studies the focus will be on the novel, but a wide range of texts will be offered, with examples from novels, autobiographies, short stories, historical narratives, etc.

Initial competences

- Bachelor degree in African Languages and Cultures or equivalent

Final competences

1. to have acquired an advanced and academically underpinned knowledge and

(Approved)
understanding of the relations between identity categories - in particular gender -
and text and context in Africa.
2 to have acquired a sophisticated insight in the theoretical and methodological
debates concerning representations of identity in African texts and contexts,
particularly from a gendered perspective.
3 to be able to set up a well-argued and critical analysis in coherent writing of gender
and other identity categories in African texts as framed in their contexts.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into
consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'.

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract.

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, group work, lecture, microteaching, seminar, self-reliant study activities,
lecture: plenary exercises

Learning materials and price
Selected compulsory reading. Course material will be provided in pdf on the course
site.

References
Apart from the compulsory reading materials, no specific references

Course content-related study coaching
Feedback in class, on appointment and/or by e-mail

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Participation, skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Periodic evaluation (70%):
1. Paper (65%)
2. Participation in plenary debate (5%)

Non-periodic, permanent evaluation (30%):
1. Each student offers a presentation, during one of the sessions (20%).
2. Weekly assignment.
4. Participation in discussions during the plenary sessions.
(2, 3, 4 together 10%)

Calculation of the examination mark
NPE: 30%
PE: 70%
Except in the case of proven force majeure during the permanent evaluation, such as
illness or other, there is no possibility for retake of the permanent evaluation part in the
second exam period: the mark the student has obtained for permanent evaluation in the
first exam session is simply copied to the second exam session.
The student can only be allowed to take part in the periodic exam (i.e. submitting a
paper) after having obtained a pass mark for the permanent evaluation (i.e. having
offered a presentation, having taken up the role of discussant, and having actively
participated in the plenary debates and exercises).

Facilities for Working Students
1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same
academic year is only possible for the periodic exam (paper)
3 Feedback can be given on appointment during or before office hours or by e-mail.

(Approved)
Extra information:
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and Philosophy, and http://www.fiw.ugent.be/flexibelstuderen.