Contemporary Women’s Writing HL3024  
Lecturer: Dr Wernmei Yong Ade  
Semester 2 AY 2020-2021  
Wednesday 230-530pm, HSS Auditorium

The goal of this course is to promote critical engagement with, and appreciation of, the works of women writers of fiction post-1970. To this end, this course explores a range of contemporary women’s writing, primarily focusing on these texts as exemplary of “women’s writing”. We will thus be dealing with the politics of gender identity, female desire, sexuality, and how these intersect with class, race, nation and other ideological formations. We will also address the texts as exemplary of contemporary writing, dealing with narrative language and structure, new experimental forms of writing, postmodern reality, as well as the construction of the shattered/split postmodern subject.

Course Schedule:

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<th>Wk</th>
<th>Texts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 Jan 13</td>
<td>Muriel Spark, <em>The Driver’s Seat</em></td>
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<td>Week 2 Jan 20</td>
<td>Toni Morrison, <em>Sula</em></td>
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| Week 3 Jan 27 | Fairy Tales Re-visioned I  
Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber*  
Emma Donoghue, *Kissing the Witch*  
Anne Sexton, *Transformations*     |
| Week 4 Feb 3  | Fairy Tales Re-visioned II  
Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber*  
Emma Donoghue, *Kissing the Witch*  
Anne Sexton, *Transformations*     |
<p>| Week 5 Feb 10 | Jeanette Winterson, <em>Written on the Body</em> |
| Week 6 Feb 17 | Amanda Lee Koe, <em>Ministry of Moral Panic</em> |
| Week 7 Feb 24 | Elfriede Jellinek, <em>The Piano Teacher</em>  |
| Week 8 Mar 3  | Recess Week                              |</p>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9  Mar 19</td>
<td>Jessica Hagedorn, <em>Dogeaters</em></td>
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<td>Week 10 Mar 16</td>
<td>Bernadine Evaristo, <em>Girl, Woman, Other</em></td>
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<td>Week 11 Mar 23</td>
<td>Sharnush Parsipur, <em>Women Without Men</em></td>
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<td>Week 12 Mar 30</td>
<td>Han Kang, <em>The Vegetarian</em></td>
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<td>Week 13 April 6</td>
<td>Overview and Exam Briefing</td>
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**Method of Instruction**

3-hour seminar

**Student Assessment**

2,800 – 3,000 word term essay: 40%
Class participation: 10%
Closed-book examination: 50%

**Core texts to purchase:**

Note: the NTU bookstore will not stock these texts. You will have to purchase them on your own. I highly recommend Book Depository. They do take at least two weeks to deliver so please place your orders early.

Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber*
Muriel Spark, *The Driver’s Seat*,
Emma Donoghue, *Kissing the Witch*
Elfriede Jelinek, *The Piano Teacher*
Toni Morrison, *Sula*
Jessica Hagedorn, *Dogeaters*
Jeanette Winterson, *Written on the Body*
Bernadine Evaristo, *Girl, Woman, Other*
Amanda Lee Koe, *Ministry of Moral Panic*
Han Kang, *The Vegetarian*

**Core texts be provided by lecturer:**

Anne Sexton poems
Leong Liew Geok poems
Sharnush Parsipur, *Women Without Men*