



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

LANG 451.01  
LLAC 614.02

**Global Women's Voices**

Winter 2023  
MW 15:30-16:45

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor's Name: Dr. Safaneh Mohaghegh Neyshabouri**

**Office location: SS1226**

**Office hours: Please use Calendly link on D2L**

**Telephone number: Please email**

**E-mail: safaneh.mohagheghney@ucalgary.ca**

**Land Acknowledgement**

The University of Calgary resides upon the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. The University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and that the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Moh'kins'tsis", which we now call the City of Calgary.

*ii' taa'poh'to'p*, the Blackfoot name of the University of Calgary's [Indigenous Strategy](#), was bestowed and transferred in ceremony by Kainai Elder, Andy Black Water on June 21, 2017. The name signifies a place to rejuvenate and re-energize while on a journey. Traditionally, these places are recognized as safe, caring, restful - and offer renewed energy for an impending journey. In a traditional naming ceremony, transitioning into the new name is a journey of transformation towards self-actualization.

**Course Description**

This course looks into a number of texts by contemporary women writers from the global south. The texts focus on women's experiences of patriarchy, marriage, sexuality, displacement and environmental issues in different national contexts. The novels are written by women from South West Asia, Africa, East Asia and South America. This class is discussion heavy, and **it is important that you come to class and take part in the discussions having read the assigned readings.**

**Objectives and Outcomes**



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The main objectives of this course are, for students to:

- To become acquainted with the diverse range of contemporary Literature by women writers from the Global South
- To evaluate texts in comparative terms
- To formulate their analysis of a text using multiple sources and theories
- To demonstrate their understanding of a text through close reading
- Engage critically with texts that are award winning but somewhat marginal in scholarly analysis

**Distribution of Grades**

- 20% Discussion (two sections, each 10%)
- 20% Reflection paper/Creative work (two assignments, each 10%)
- 20% Paper Proposal
- 10% Presentation of Paper Proposal
- 30% Final Paper

**Grade Scale**

A+	97 – 100%	B+	84 – 87.99%	C+	71 – 74.99%	D+	58 – 61.99%
A	92 – 96.99%	B	79 – 83.99%	C	66 – 70.99%	D	50 – 57.99%
A-	88 – 91.99%	B-	75 – 78.99%	C-	62 – 65.99%	F	49.99% and below

**Required Texts**

- *The Sexual Life of an Islamist in Paris* by Leïla Marouane
- *Celestial Bodies* by Jokha Alharthi
- *The Book of Fate* By Parinoush Saniee
- *My Feudal Lord* by Tehmina Durrani
- *Homecoming* by Yaa Gyasi
- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adidhie
- *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende
- *Child of the Dark* by Carolina Maria de Jesus
- *Tender is the Flesh* by Agustina Bazterrica
- *The Vegetarian* by Han Kang



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## Course Notes:

### Assignment Submission Policy:

- All assignments must be submitted to Dropbox on D2L. The assignments must be submitted in word or Pdf format. Please keep in mind that it is your responsibility to make sure you have access to D2L and to solve any technical issues you may have.
- The Deadline for any assignment is the minute before midnight of the due date, as specified in the outline.
- In case of any condition that inhibits timely submission of an assignment, students are encouraged to contact me before the due date and request an extension of the deadline. Any such requests sent after the deadline will not be granted. **Extensions are only given once for an assignment and cannot be renegotiated.** The penalty for late submission of assignments is 5% per day. Example: A work that is worthy of grade “A” (~92%) will be graded “A-” (~87%) if submitted one day late, and “B+” if submitted two days late. Late excuses will not be accepted for any reason. Assignments delivered more than five days later than the due date will receive “F”.

### Discussion: 20% of total mark

This course is discussion heavy, which means that collaborating with your teammates on discussion days is essential.

10% of the discussion mark is given to the student’s general participation in the discussion of texts.

10% of the discussion mark is given to each student’s leading of their selected text’s discussion. That is, each student should pick one of the texts (either novel or paper) and lead the class discussion on the assigned date of that text. For this, the student is expected to come up with 5 discussion questions, as well as a summary of the main points of the text (if it is a paper), or a short analysis of the text, characters, etc (if they choose a novel).

**The deadline to choose the discussion text is Jan 11.**

### Reflection paper/creative work: 20% of total mark

This assignment requires you to choose one of the novels studied in class by the due date, and write a reflection paper on it or do a creative piece on it. You are not to write a summary of the text. You can write an analysis if you like, in which case, the length does not matter as long as your argument is clear.



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However, this is an opportunity for you to use your imagination, or showcase your literary/artistic talent. You can write a poem/short story based on any of the texts. You can do drawing, or any other form of creative work. Just make sure you note what novel your work is based on.

You are free to draw upon your personal lives as this is an opportunity for you to investigate your own personal reaction to a story. Your overall quality of writing (including grammar and punctuation) affects your grade, but otherwise you are not expected to follow the standard conventions of academic writing.

Other than the general prose quality(if you chose to write), the only factor deciding your grade is the amount of investment that you put in the work. A piece of writing that only rehashes the story's plotline with sporadic comments about it being "good," "fun," "boring," "stupid," or "amazing," without demonstrating your personal engagement is not valued highly.

**Each reflection paper/creative work is 10% of your total mark.**

**The first reflection paper/creative work is due on Monday February 6, 11:59 pm.**

**The second reflection paper/creative work is due Monday March 29, 11:59 pm.**

**Paper Proposal: 20% of total mark**

Your paper proposal is due on March 20, D2L, 11:59 pm. The details and resources for writing a proposal are available on D2L.

**Presentation of Paper Proposal: 10% of total mark**

You are to present your proposal for your classmates on any of the sessions between March 27 to April 12. Only two students can present in each session, so pick your date and let the instructor know as soon as you can. The presentation should take no longer than 20 minutes.

**Final Paper: 30% of total mark**

**Your final paper is due April 30, D2L, 11:59 pm. The rubric for how they will be marked are available on D2L.**

Students are encouraged to start thinking about their subject for the final essay as soon as possible and discuss their ideas with the instructor if they are unsure.



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Undergraduate students: you can pick your own topic, based on one of the novels studied in the class. You must check your choice of topic with the instructor before writing on it. The final paper has to have at least one primary and Three secondary academic sources. The primary source is a literary/artistic work that is the main subject of analysis, and secondary sources are any academic works that you use to strengthen your argument, for example by providing evidence, historical context, or theoretical frameworks. If you are confused about the acceptability of a secondary source, contact instructor.

The paper should be between 1250 and 1750 words. This is approximately between 5 to 7 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman size 12 font, with one inch margins on all sides. This paper makes for 30% of your grade and is due on **April 30, D2L, 11:59 pm.** If for any reason you need an extension, you should notify me by email before the assignment is due, any such requests sent after the deadline will not be granted. Extensions are only given once and cannot be renegotiated. The penalty for late submission of assignments is 5% of the grade per day. Papers submitted more than five days later than the due date will receive "0". The format of your paper should be Pdf or Word (I can not open pages files.)

The essays are graded based on the rubric that is available on D2L.

Graduate Students: you can pick your own topic. Your primary source can be any of the texts from the class, or any novel of your own choosing by a female/non-binary/LGBTQA+ author from the global south. You must check your choice of topic with the instructor before writing on it. The final paper has to have at least one primary and five secondary academic sources.

The paper should be between 4000 and 6000 words. This is approximately between 16 to 24 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman size 12 font, with one inch margins on all sides. This paper makes for 30% of your grade and is due on **April 30, D2L, 11:59 pm.** If for any reason you need an extension, you should notify me by email before the assignment is due, any such requests sent after the deadline will not be granted. Extensions are only given once and cannot be renegotiated. The penalty for late submission of assignments is 5% of the grade per day. Papers submitted more than five days later than the due date will receive "0". The format of your paper should be Pdf or Word (I can not open pages files.)

### **Student-Instructor Communication**

Appropriate communication procedures are described in detail in the Student Code of Conduct Agreement. The instructor's preferred means of communication is first by email, then by a pre-arranged meeting time.



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The instructor will endeavor to respond to emails within three business days after receiving the message. If the student emails a question that is fully addressed by the syllabus, on one of the class recordings, or posted on D2L, the instructor will not reply. Therefore, if you don't receive a response within three business days, that probably means you can find the answer somewhere yourself. The instructor may respond to your email query with the request that you come meet with them via zoom to discuss. Please note, that the university's regular business hours are 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday and excludes recognized holidays. See the Academic Schedule for more details:

<https://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.



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#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

#### **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.



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**Class Schedule:**

Note: the details of each week's readings are tentative, and open to minor changes.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>Mon. Jan 9</b>	Introduction to class, syllabus, assignments	
<b>Wed. Jan 11</b>	<i>The Sexual Life of an Islamist in Paris</i> by Leïla Marouane	Choose your discussion text
<b>Mon. Jan 16</b>	Rosello, Mireille, "Queer Virginity: Leïla Maraoune's La Vie sexuelle d'un islamiste à Paris" in "Modern & Contemporary France," Volume 21, 2013 – Issue 2: Maghrebi-French Sexualities.  Provencher, Denis M, "Introduction: Maghrebi-French Sexualities" in "Modern & Contemporary France," Volume 21, 2013 – Issue 2: Maghrebi-French Sexualities.	
<b>Wed. Jan 18</b>	<i>Celestial Bodies</i> by Jokha Alharthi	
<b>Mon. Jan 23</b>	Rafseena M, and Ajit Kumar "Veiled Pain and Muted Pleasure in Jokha Alharthi's <i>Celestial Bodies</i>	
<b>Wed. Jan 25</b>	Lecture on Iranian women in Post-Revolutionary Iran	
<b>Mon. Jan 30</b>	<i>The Book of Fate</i> By Parinoush Saniee	
<b>Wed. Feb 1</b>	<i>The Book of Fate</i> By Parinoush Saniee	
<b>Mon. Feb 6</b>	<i>My Feudal Lord</i> by Tehmina Durrani	First reflection paper/creative work due
<b>Wed. Feb 8</b>	Rubina Iqbal "Breaking the Silence: Tehmina Durrani's <i>My Feudal Lord</i>	
<b>Mon. Feb 13</b>	<i>Homecoming</i> by Yaa Gyasi	
<b>Wed. Feb 15</b>	<i>Americanah</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adidhie	
<b>Mon. Feb 20</b>	Reading Week	





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<b>Wed. Feb 22</b>	Reading Week	
<b>Mon. Feb 27</b>	<i>Americanah</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	
<b>Wed. Mar 1</b>	Hallemeier, Katherine “To be from the Country of People who Gave”: National Allegory and the United States of Adichie’s “Americanah” in <i>Studies in the Novel</i> Vol. 47, No. 2 (Summer 2015), pp. 231-245	
<b>Mon. Mar 6</b>	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende	
<b>Wed. Mar 8</b>	Peter G Earle “Literature as Survival: Allende’s “The House of the Spirits” in <i>Contemporary Literature</i> Vol. 28, No. 4, <i>After the Boom: Recent Latin American Fiction</i> (Winter, 1987), pp. 543-554  Possible presentation topic : Magical Realism	
<b>Mon. Mar 20</b>	<i>Child of the Dark</i> by Carolina Maria de Jesus	Paper Proposal due
<b>Wed. Mar 22</b>	<i>Tender is the Flesh</i> by Agustina Bazterrica	
<b>Mon. Mar 22</b>	Sebastian Williams “Self-Consumption: Cannibalism and Viral Outbreak in Agustina Bazterrica’s <i>Tender is the Flesh</i> ” in <i>Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment</i> , isab007	Deadline for picking the date of your proposal presentation
<b>Wed. Mar 24</b>	<i>The Vegetarian</i> by Han Kang	
<b>Mon. Mar 29</b>	Caitlin E Stobie “The Good Wife? Sibling Species in Han Kang’s <i>The Vegetarian</i> ” in <i>Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment</i> , Volume 24, Issue 4, Autumn 2017, Pages 787–802	Second Reflection paper due
<b>Wed. Mar 22</b>	Catch up	
<b>Mon. Mar 27</b>	Presentation	
<b>Wed. Mar 29</b>	Presentation	
<b>Mon. Apr 10</b>	<i>No Class</i>	
<b>Wed. Apr 12</b>	Presentation	