

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

**Sem. 4.TG : Modern and Contemporary Literature : Contemporary African Novels (2AN1441)**

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5
<b>Pilier principal M A - littératures</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5
<b>Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5
<b>Pilier secondaire M A - littératures</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

**Période d'enseignement:**

- Semestre Printemps

**Equipe enseignante**

Prof. Emma Depledge

**Contenu**

This course will explore a selection of contemporary African novels by focusing on the work of female writers from Nigeria. The course spans the 1960s to the year 2020 and encourages students to think about continuities and discontinuities between women's writing in the 1960s and 70s and in the post-2000 period. You will be introduced to canonical writers, like Buchi Emecheta and Flora Nwapa, as well as emerging writers such as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Abi Daré and Chinelo Okparanta. The novels we will study will be placed in the historical contexts in, for, and about which they were written. We will consider the legacy of colonial occupation and of the Biafran war, as well as topics such as afropolitanism, diaspora literature, Afro-feminism, motherhood and marriage, religion and religious conflict, abuse and rape, the representation of queer sexualities, and the position of women in Nigerian society and literary history.

**Forme de l'évaluation**

For BA students:

You will be asked to produce a (short) presentation in which your critically review a novel (15%) and to write a 10-page essay after the semester ends (85%)

For MA students:

You will be asked to produce and deliver a 10-minute (argumentative) oral presentation (15%) and to write a 15-page essay after the semester ends (85%)

Rattrapage = a 20-page essay on a new topic (100%)

**Documentation**

Electronic copies of some texts will be provided on Moodle, but you are asked to purchase copies of the following, which are widely available in inexpensive paperback or ebook editions. I do not mind which editions you purchase:

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Purple Hibiscus (2003)  
Sefi Atta, Everything Good Will Come (2004)  
Chinelo Okparanta, Under the Udala Trees (2015)  
Abi Daré, The Girl with the Louding Voice (2020)

**Pré-requis**

Students are strongly advised to complete first year modules, especially An Introduction to Literature in English, before taking this course.  
Regular attendance (no more than two unexcused absences)  
Active participation  
Completion of all reading assignments

**Forme de l'enseignement**

Seminars / webinars

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#### **Objectifs d'apprentissage**

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Analyse different representations of religion, gender and cultural identity presented in different texts
- Communicate editorial rationale
- Compare the work of different male and female writers
- Observe themes and narrative techniques used in Nigerian novels
- Differentiate between different narrative voices
- Explain the relationship between historical events and conflicts and the emergence of female writing in Nigeria
- Interpret the relationship between the form and content of texts
- Evaluate editorial rationales

#### **Compétences transférables**

- Categorise complex information
- Anticipate problems
- Communicate ideas to experts and non-experts
- Explain rationale
- Synthesise complicated information
- Work as part of a team
- Assemble a critical review of a Nigerian novel
- Defend choices