

Introduction to Namibian Literature

Syllabus:

| Session | Topics & Texts | Tasks |
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| 1 | Organizational Information | |
| 2 | Introduction to Namibia | |
| 3 | Oral Traditions 1 – Walter Ong, from <i>Orality and Literacy: The Technologizing of the Word</i> 2 – Ruth Finnegan, from <i>Oral Literature in Africa</i> 3 – Sigrid Schmidt, from <i>Tricksters, Monsters and Clever Girls: African Folktales</i> | - study texts 1 & 2 - acquaint yourself with text 3 |
| 4 | Oral Traditions in Performance 4 – Selected Stories of the Nama and Damara (taken from Schmidt, <i>Tricksters, Monsters and Clever Girls</i> , nos. 3, 5, 14, 23, 43, 45) 5 – Herero tale (taken from Daymond et al., <i>Women Writing Africa</i>) | - practice the performance of 4 & 5 |
| 5 | German Colonial Rule 6 – Edward Said, from <i>Orientalism</i> 7 – Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, from <i>Philosophie der Geschichte/Philosophy of History</i> 8 – Margarethe von Eckenbrecher, from <i>Was Afrika mir gab und nahm/What Africa gave me and took from me</i> 9 – Hans Grimm, “Die Geschichte vom alten Blut und von der ungeheuren Verlassenheit“ | - study texts 6 & 7 - read texts 8 & 9 |
| 6 | How to do a Presentation | |
| 7 | Literature during Occupation (1920-1990) I 10 – Helmut K. Angula, <i>The Two Thousand Days of Haimbodi Ya Haufiku</i> 11 – Charles Burnett, dir., <i>Namibia, the Struggle for Liberation</i> | - experts’ presentations |
| 8 | Literature during Occupation (1920-1990) II 12 – Joseph Diescho, <i>Born of the Sun</i> 13 – Joseph Diescho, <i>Troubled Waters</i> | - experts’ presentations |
| 9 | Literature during Occupation (1920-1990) III 14 – Henning Melber, from <i>it is no more a cry</i> | - experts’ presentations |
| 10 | Film Session | |
| | Christmas Holidays | |

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| 11 | Contemporary Namibian Plays & Poetry 15 – Vickson Tablah Hangula, <i>The Show isn't over until...</i> 16 – Poems from <i>In Search of Questions: A Collection of New Namibian Poems</i> | - read text 145& collection from 16 |
| 12 | The Subaltern, Feminism, and the Postcolonial 17 – Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, “Can the Subaltern Speak?” 18 – Sara Suleri, “Feminism and the Postcolonial Condition” | - study texts 17 & 18 |
| 13 | Female Voices 19 – Neshani Andreas, <i>The Purple Violet of Oshaantu</i> 20 – Elizabeth Khaxas, from <i>Between Yesterday and Tomorrow</i> | - read texts 19 & collection from 20 |
| 14 | Wrapping Up | |