

**Autumn 2018  
Short Course Programme  
COURSE INFORMATION**

**LITERATURE**

**Women Writing Africa**

Sarah Anthony MA

**4 weeks**

**Fridays**

**Course code:** 18TON356

16, 23, 30 November; 7 December.

10.30am – 12.30pm

**Course fee:** £60

**This course looks at texts by contemporary women writing from or about Africa. We will look at three novels from the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, along with a selection of poetry and non-fictional writing.**

This four week course gives a brief introduction to contemporary women's writing from and about Africa. *Nervous Conditions* is a semi-autobiographical novel by Zimbabwean author Tsitsi Dangarembga. First published in the United Kingdom in 1988 it focuses on the story of a Shona family in post-colonial Rhodesia during the 1960s. *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2006) by Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, examines the effects of the Biafran War of the 1960s, and *We Need New Names* (2013) by expatriate Zimbabwean NoViolet Bulawayo, tells of the life of a young girl, first as a 10-year-old in Zimbabwe, and later as a teenager in the Midwest United States. Through these three novels and a selection of poetry (to be provided as handouts), we will explore themes such as gender, colonialism, war, politics and identity.

**Required reading**

Week 1: Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (1988)

Week 2: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2006)

Week 3: Selected Poems (handout)

Week 4: NoViolet Bulawayo, *We Need New Names* (2013)

**Additional information**

This course is suitable for beginners, intermediates or advanced students. It allows you to spend time exploring a subject for interest, among like-minded people, without formal assessment.

## **Intended learning outcomes**

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- understand and engage with some of the socio-political and national concerns explored in contemporary African literature.
- explore those concerns through a specifically gendered angle.
- interpret literary texts in a critical way, illustrating arguments with carefully chosen examples.
- demonstrate knowledge through the construction of critical arguments and present and defend those arguments.

## **About the tutor**

Sarah Anthony studied for her Master's degree with the Open University specialising in postcolonial nineteenth century literature. For the last thirteen years she has taught undergraduate students and adult learners in courses ranging from Shakespeare to the postmodern. She currently teaches for the University of Kent and the WEA.



## Short Course Programme General information, terms & conditions

### How to book a place

These courses are usually very popular so you are advised to apply as soon as possible. Places cannot be held without payment of the course fee.

- Online Booking is preferred. Please visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge)
- By post to us at the address below, using the application form in the programme booklet. Please note that you will not receive an acknowledgment of your paper application; your payment will usually be processed when the course becomes financially viable, otherwise we will notify you of cancellation approximately seven days prior to the course. A paper application affirms acceptance of our terms & conditions.

### Course cancellation

As these short courses are self-financing, each course can only proceed if there are sufficient enrolments. Therefore, if a course is cancelled due to insufficient enrolments we aim to notify applicants approximately one week before the course start date; if there is no suitable alternative course, we will refund the appropriate course fee in full. The University of Kent reserves the right to cancel a course for this or any other reason in which case the relevant course fee will be refunded in full. We advise that you do not buy books or other course materials until that particular course has been confirmed as taking place: please contact us if you are unsure.

If you find it necessary to cancel your place on a course, please let us know as soon as possible. Refund requests, including the reason, should be made by email or in writing to us at the address below. We reserve the right to retain all or part of the course fee if you request a refund after 14 days of your online booking being made or paper application being received. Discretionary, partial refunds may be made, after the deduction of an administrative handling fee as follows:

- a course fee of up to and including £42 will incur an administrative handling fee of £10.00
- a course fee of £43 and over will incur an administrative handling fee of £12.50.

### The University reserves the right to:

- a) exclude any student if the student's presence is making it difficult for the class to function properly
- b) cancel or amend the length of any course if the circumstances so warrant.

Neither the University of Kent, nor its staff, can be held responsible for any damage, loss or injury, however sustained, suffered by participants attending courses. Insurance is the student's responsibility.

### University Centre Tonbridge

For details of our other courses, news, events and location visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge) .

- Parking. There is plenty of public pay and display car parking locally, but please note that only selected car parks permit parking in excess of four hours; detailed information is available from [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk) . No parking is available here on site.
- Refreshments are not provided; food and drink can be purchased from any of the nearby café outlets - we are closely situated to the High Street and town centre. A hot drink vending machine is usually available on the ground floor of this building.

### Mailing List and data protection

Those attending our courses are automatically added to our database and kept informed about new courses. This information is not released to outside organisations. Please write to us if you do not wish your details to be kept on our database.

***Please contact us if you have any queries or would like to register your email address to receive our course information updates. We look forward to welcoming you here soon.***

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