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ANG-7142/LIT-7113 : POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES IN COMPARISON

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### Course Description

While the figure of the cyborg has entered the cultural imaginary primarily through science fiction, the medical humanities ask us to consider the phenomenology of experience of those bodies whose functionality is maintained by surgical and technological means. The point of departure of the Winter 2025 iteration of this seminar, *Postcolonial Cyborgs*, is Donna Haraway's contention that "Cyborg imagery can suggest a way out of the maze of dualisms in which we have explained our bodies and our tools to ourselves" (*Simians, Cyborgs, and Women* 100-101) such as male/female, self/other, mind/body, civilized/primitive, to name only a few. This seminar examines the notion of the cyborg as a productive theoretical concept, first introduced in Haraway's "A Cyborg Manifesto," and, following Gill Haddow in *Embodiment and Everyday Cyborgs*, as a lived reality in a range of literary genres including science and speculative fiction, the realist novel, magical realism, and the memoir.

### Pedagogical Approach

This course incorporates both seminar presentations and roundtable discussions; vigorous debate and the fielding of ideas based on a careful consideration of the work(s) under discussion each week are encouraged. The study of each novel will combine the close reading of the work with critical insights gained through the study of relevant theory and criticism. English will be the language of all seminars and presentations. Students registered in LIT-7113 will have the option of completing their evaluations in French.

### Evaluation

Critical Response	15%
Short Essay Presentation	35%
Research Essay	50%

### Required Texts

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Klara and the Sun* (ISBN: 9780735281264)

J. M. Coetzee, *Slow Man* (ISBN: 9780143037897)

Riva Lehrer, *Golem Girl: A Memoir* (ISBN: 9781984820327)

Amitav Ghosh, *The Calcutta Chromosome* (ISBN: 9780380813940)

Octavia Butler, *Wild Seed* (ISBN: 9781538751480)

Lauren Beukes, *Moxyland* (ISBN: 9780316267915)

- Required texts will be available at *La Maison Anglaise*, Place de la Cité. Additional readings will be posted on the course site (*Portail*).
- Plagiat / voir *Règlement des études de l'Université Laval* : <http://www.lit.ulaval.ca/index.php?id=493>
- Centre de prévention et d'intervention en matière de harcèlement : <https://www.ulaval.ca/services-ul/harcelement.html>
- Politique relative au calendrier de publication des résultats : 30 % de la note globale devra avoir été attribuée et communiquée aux étudiants deux jours ouvrables avant la date d'abandon sans échec et sans remboursement. Seuls les cours à formule particulière, ayant été approuvés par les directions d'unité, seront exemptés de cette politique, ce qui devra faire l'objet d'une mention dans le plan de cours.

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#### Échelle de conversion de notes (1<sup>er</sup> cycle)

<b>Excellent :</b>	A+ = 94-100	A = 89-93	A- = 85-88	<b>Passable :</b>	D+ = 61-64	D = 55-60
<b>Très bon :</b>	B+ = 82-84	B = 78-81	B- = 75-77	<b>Insuffisant :</b>	E = 0-54	
<b>Bon :</b>	C+ = 72-74	C = 68-71	C- = 65-67			