ANTH 367  Social, Cultural, and Media Studies  4  
COURSE NAME/NUMBER  FACULTY/DEPARTMENT  UFV CREDITS  
Culture and Theory of Diaspora  
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE  

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
This seminar course investigates the phenomenon of diaspora in modern, postcolonial, and global contexts. Examining an interdisciplinary literature from the social sciences and humanities, students will become familiar with the social features of diaspora and the cultural expression of the diasporic condition through a consideration of theoretical, literary, and ethnographic texts. Particular attention will be given to the local nuances of diaspora in Canada and Europe.

Note: This course is offered as ANTH 367 and ENGL 367. Students may take only one of these for credit.

PREREQUISITES: 45 university-level credits
COREQUISITES: 
PRE or COREQUISITES: 

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces: 
(b) Cross-listed with: ENGL 367 for further credit.
(c) Cannot take: ENGL 367 

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60  
STRUCTURE OF HOURS: 
Lectures: 30 Hrs
Seminar: 
Laboratory: 
Field experience: 
Student directed learning: 
Other (specify): Varies by instr 30 Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION: 
Length of course: 
Hours per day: 

OTHER: 
Maximum enrolment: 25
Expected frequency of course offerings: Annually. (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)  
☒ Yes  ☐ No  

TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  

Course designer(s): Nicola Mooney & Summer Pervez
Department Head: Eric Spalding  Date approved: May 2010
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UPAC)  Date of meeting: May 21, 2010
Curriculum Committee chair:  Date approved: May 21, 2010
Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte  Date approved: May 21, 2010
Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (UPAC) approval  Date of meeting: September 3, 2010
LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify, interpret, and explain the concept of diaspora in a theoretically informed and critically aware manner within an interdisciplinary context
- explain the history, geography, and sociology of several selected contemporary global diasporas
- explain how the experience of diaspora is negotiated in literary, artistic, and popular cultural forms
- analyze, deconstruct, and theoretically assess the experience of diaspora across a variety of social, political, and economic contexts
- demonstrate an advanced and transferable knowledge of the phenomenon of diaspora in modern, postcolonial and global contexts through reading, writing, discussion, presentation, critical review and research

METHODS:  (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)

Lectures, discussion, audiovisual media, student presentations.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

☐ Examination(s)  ☑ Portfolio assessment  ☐ Interview(s)

☐ Other (specify): Methods to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:  [Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]

Potential Texts - Books
Avtar Brah Cartographies of Diaspora (Routledge, 1996)
Jana Evans Brazel Diaspora: An Introduction (Wiley, 2008)
Robin Cohen Global Diasporas: An Introduction (UWashington, 1997)
Peggy Levitt & Sanjeev Khagram The Transnational Studies Reader (Routledge, 2007)
Nicholas Van Hear New Diasporas: (UWashington, 1998)
Steven Vertovec Transnationalism (Routledge, Key Ideas 2009)

Potential Texts - Articles
Arjun Appadurai “Disjuncture & Difference in the Global Cultural Economy”
Brian Keith Axel “The Context of Diaspora”; “The Diasporic Imaginary”
Bhabha, Homi “The Commitment to Theory”
James Clifford “Diasporas”
Paul Gilroy "The Black Atlantic as a Counterculture of Modernity"
Stuart Hall “Cultural Identity and Diaspora”
Ulf Hannerz “Notes on the Global Ecumene”
Gautam Malkani “Mixing and Matching”
R. Radakrishnan “Ethnicity in an Age of Diaspora”
Renato Rosaldo “Border Crossings”
Salman Rushdie “Imaginary Homelands”
William Safran “Diasporas in Modern Societies: Myths of Homeland and Return”
Edward Said “Reflections on Exile”
Saskia Sassen “Spacialities and Temporalities of the Global: Elements for a Theorization”
Nina Glick Schiller “Blood and Belonging: Long Distance Nationalism and the World Beyond”
Charles Taylor “Modernity and Difference”

Potential Texts - Literature
Anita Rau Badami Can You Hear the Nightbird Call (2007, Viking Canada)
Shauna Singh Baldwin English Lessons and Other Stories (2008 [3rd Reprint], Goose Lane Editions)
Frank Birbalsingh Jahai: An Anthology of Indo-Caribbean Fiction (2000, TSAR)
Lien Chao & Jim Wong-Chu Strike the Wok: An Anthology of Contemporary Chinese Canadian Fiction (2003, TSAR)
George Elliott Clarke Eyeing the North Star: Directions in African-Canadian Literature (1997, McClelland & Stewart)
Rishma Dunlop & Priscila Uppal Red Silk: An Anthology of South Asian Canadian Women Poets (2004, Mansfield)
Hanif Kureishi 01 Hanif Kureishi Plays (1999, Faber & Faber)

Gautam Malkani Londonstani (2008, Harper Collins)
Shyam Selvadurai Storywallah! (2005, Mariner Books)
SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION: [An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]
Critical review  35%
Presentation and report  25%
Essay  40%

COURSE CONTENT: [Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

Weeks 1 & 2:  
Conceptualizing Diaspora: How have diverse social and literary scholars theorized diaspora?  
(e.g. Bhabha, Brah, Clifford, Vertovec)

Weeks 3 & 4:  
Reasons for Migration: What are the economic, political and social forces that instigate and shape human experiences of movement?  
(e.g. Appadurai, Hannerz, Sassen, Taylor)

Weeks 5 & 6:  
Diasporic Communities: How do migrants move and settle amid plural and heterogeneous social contexts, and how do they give voice to these experiences?  
(e.g. Axel, Badami)

Weeks 7 & 8:  
Diaspora and Difference: What are the intersections of migration, refugeeism, transnationalism and diaspora with other forms of social difference (religion, ethnicity, race, class, gender, sexuality) in diaspora narratives?  
(e.g. Gilroy, Hall, Kureishi, Radakrishnan; excerpts from Storywallah!)

Weeks 9 & 10:  
Cultures of Diaspora: How does the experience of diaspora influence the production of literary, artistic, and popular cultural forms?  
(e.g. Malkani, Rushdie; excerpts from Storywallah!)

Weeks 11 & 12:  
Diaspora Identities and Belonging: How do notions of home, belonging, citizenship, and identity evolve in diasporic contexts, and how are they expressed?  
(e.g. Rosaldo, Said, Safran, Schiller; Baldwin)

Week 13:  
Conclusions