Florida Atlantic University Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature Spring 2015

LIT 6934—31879—003 Comparative Caribbean Idea(I)s

3 credits

W 4-6:50 pm

CU 118

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Office Hours: W 2-3:30 pm and 7-7:30 pm + at other times by appointment

FAU Catalog Course Description (General) Special Topics (LIT 6934) 3 credits

Specialized aspects of literature, including non-British or non-American Anglophone literature and world literature in English translation.

Course Description (For this version of the course): Students will read texts with the Caribbean as their central focus. Most of the texts have been written by authors from the Caribbean (the majority from the Spanish and the French islands), yet the ideas generated by this idealized, tropical, luxuriant space have reverberated throughout world literature. Edenic joy quickly gives way to the horrors that slavery and indentureship would bring to this strategic geographic location. The tensions generated by the coming together of various races, ethnicities, cultures, religions, classes, and languages have become key issues that have led to the perpetuation of ideas and ideals related to the Caribbean. In this course, we will examine recurring themes related to this space as well as some of the ideological debates regarding identity formation (creolization, hybridity, sexuality, religious beliefs, and gender) and the commodification of island culture.

This course will be conducted in English. All of your written and oral work (short paper, journals, outlines, annotated bibliography, exam, and research paper) will be in English. A great deal of work went into selecting significant texts with available translations. You are required to read them in English.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Identify literary movements and periods in the French and Spanish Caribbean.
- 2) Demonstrate comprehension of such movements against world historical and political events.
- 3) Recognize the significance that in spite of the linguistic differences, crucial ideas circulate throughout the region
- 4) Analyze literary texts by focusing on critical theories.
- 5) Apply research-writing techniques in papers composed applying the MLA style sheet.
- 6) Evaluate the critical method of peers when presenting a theoretical article.

Required texts (order placed at the FAU Bookstore). Whenever possible, I will try to place copies of these in Reserve in the library as well.

Alejo Carpentier. The Kingdom of This World

Mary Prince. The History of Mary Prince: A West Indian Slave Related by Herself

Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda. Sab and Autobiography

Jacques Roumain. Masters of the Dew

Myriam Warner-Vieyra. Juletane

Aimé Césaire. A Tempest

Marie Chauvet. Love, Anger, Madness

Julia Álvarez. In the Name of Salomé

Mayra Santos-Febres. Sirena Selena

Other required readings (in the order they appear on the schedule): Available either on our Blackboard (BB) site under "Assigned Readings," on reserve at the library (LY), or online (web).

Cristopher Columbus: "First Voyage of Columbus." (BB)

- Alejo Carpentier. Prologue. The Kingdom of This World. (BB)
- Antonio Benítez Rojo. Introduction. The Repeating Island. (BB)
- Helen Pyne-Timothy. "'To Be Free Is Very Sweet'..." The Woman, The Writer... (BB)
- Lydia Cabrera. "Tatabisako." Women's Fiction from Latin America. (BB)
- Lydia Cabrera. "The Prize of Freedom." Beyond the Border. (BB)
- Nina M. Scott. Introduction. Sab and Autobiography. (in your book)
- José Martí. "Our America." (BB)
- Salomé Ureña de Henríquez. "In Defense of Society." (web)
- J. Michael Dash. "Postcolonial Caribbean Identities." The Cambridge History. (BB)
- J. Michael Dash. Introduction. Masters of the Dew. (in your book) (BB)
- Nicolás Guillén. "Sensemayá." (web)
- Luis Palés Matos. "Majestad negra." (in Spanish) (web)
- Luis Palés Matos. "Black Dance." (web)
- Nancy Morejón. "Black Woman." (web)
- F. Abiola Irele. "The Harlem Renaissance and the Negritude Movement. The Cambridge History. (BB)
- Betty Wilson. Introduction. Juletane. (BB)
- Rosario Ferré. "When Women Love Men." The Youngest Doll. (BB)
- Rosario Ferré. "How I Wrote..." The Youngest Doll. (BB)
- Frantz Fanon. "The Fact of Blackness." Black Skin, White Masks. (BB)
- Roberto Fernández Retamar. Caliban. (LY)
- Édouard Glissant. "Theater, Consciousness of the People." Caribbean Discourse: Selected Essays. (BB)
- Jean Bernabé, Patrick Chamoiseau, and Raphaël Confiant. In Praise of Creoleness. (LY)
- José Luis González. "Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country." Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country... (BB)
- Édouard Glissant. "Approaches." Poetics of Relation. (BB)
- Edwidge Danticat. "Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work." Create Dangerously... (in English) (BB)
- Daisy Cocco de Filippis. "Dominican Writers at the Crossroads." The Cultures of the Hispanic Caribbean. (BB)
- Ana Lydia Vega. "To Write or Not to Write." Philosophy and Literature in Latin America. (BB)
- Simone Schwarz-Bart. "Your Handsome Captain." (web)
- Mimi Sheller. "Creolization in Global Culture." Consuming the Caribbean. (e-book—LY)

Recommended:

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: MLA, 2009.

**For a free and useful online resource: Purdue Online Writing Lab: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Grades:

Participation/Attendance (2% based on unannounced quizzes)	20 %
Short paper (close reading—writing in English, reading text in English) (2-3 pp.) (Jan. 27th)	6 %
Short paper 1 (revision of the close reading—in English) due a week after you receive it from me	4 %
Critical Journals—in English (2)	10 %
Oral Presentations (in English—based on critical readings applied to literary texts; 10 minutes)	10 %
Critique and supplement oral presentation (in English—5 minutes)	5 %
Outline—in lingua (February 24th)	5 %
Annotated Bibliography—in English (10 entries due February 24th)	10 %
Research paper—in English (17-22 pp. and due by 5 pm April 22 nd)	20 %
Final exam—in English (3 out of 4 questions) Wed., May 5th (4-7pm)	10 %

Grading Scale:

92-100 90-91	88-89	82-87	80-81	78-79	72-77	70-71	68-69	66-67	64-65	0-63
A A-	\mathbf{B} +	В	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

Participation/Attendance: In a graduate seminar, it is crucial to attend all classes and be ready to participate. Students are to engage in all discussions actively, critically, and respectfully. You are therefore expected to have completed all the assignments by the beginning of the class. (This certainly includes having the critical journal submitted ahead of time—by midnight the Monday prior to class on Wednesday). Be mindful of tardiness and over-extending the 10-minute break (this will adversely affect your grade). Absences will lower your grade as well. Participation cannot be made up.

Excessive absences (more than one without an excuse) or arriving late or leaving early and/or the resistance to participate in class will result in a lower grade. If you miss class, no participation points can be awarded for that day. There is NO make-up for participation, with the exception of the following, for which you will be awarded full participation for the day by providing proper documentation:

- University-recognized religious holy days*
- Doctor's visits
- Jury duty and other court-related appearances
- Death in the family
- Prior approved and properly documented University-sponsored activities that demand your presence

*For religious holy days, students must speak with me **prior** to missing class in order to receive participation points. Notifications **after** the religious holy day **will not** be accepted.

Short paper (2-3 pp.): I will provide the topic which is a close reading of an assigned passage from Mary Prince's text. Your paper must be written in English. Selected and minimal quotes from the text should be in English. Include a "Work Cited" page.

In order to help with the process of writing a short research paper, the student is first asked to provide a **complete** version of the paper (6%) by **JANUARY 27th.** I will review this version and return it with suggestions (includes MLA formatting as well as organization, content, accuracy, a work cited page, etc.). A grading rubric is available on our BB site. Students will be asked to return the revised version, as well as the commented first draft, **a week later**. This means I want **two** papers turned in to me (the first version and the revised one). That rewrite is 4% of the grade.

This assignment will **not** be accepted via email. I will accept a late submission, in both instances, up to Friday, 5 pm; but 5 points for each late day will be deducted from the final grade.

Critical journals: Each student is to write and submit two (2) critical commentaries, in English, of assigned theoretical readings (marked with a star \$\sigma\$ on the schedule). You must explain how that particular theory or critical approach can be applied to the assigned literary selection of that week. I will set these up as journal entries through our Blackboard site and will be graded according to a rubric. Please follow MLA guidelines when citing from the texts, giving credit whenever you cite a passage. Spelling and grammar will be taken into consideration when assigning the grade. The commentary has to be more than a simple reaction (I liked/didn't like it or I didn't understand) to the material or a plot summary. Required length of each piece should be 250 words or one typed page per entry. The maximum is 300 words. Given the succinct nature of the writing, if you must quote, please do so sparingly and not as filler.

Please complete the journals by the **Monday night (11:59 pm)** before the Wednesday class. I will accept late work up to 4 pm Wednesday, but 5 (five) points per late day will be deducted from the grade. Spelling and grammar will be taken into consideration when assigning the grade. **NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS**.

Oral presentations: Each student will be responsible for presenting critically and succinctly, in English, at least one theoretical article (10 minutes) and establish a critical connection to a literary text (to the one assigned that week). I expect you to read all primary and critical texts every week—not just your assigned text—and be an informed participant at the graduate level, especially since they will be addressed in the unannounced quizzes and the final exam.

Critique and supplement to the primary oral presentation: There will be a respondent/commentator for each presentation (5 minutes) who will evaluate the Presenter, in English, and will fill in any salient points that will necessarily be left out because of the time limit. Under "Research Documents" in BB, there is a document that provides suggestions for preparing oral presentations as well as the critiques. We will also be using a rubric to evaluate the presentations.

Please understand that these cannot be made up.

Outline: (Due FEBRUARY 24th) It is to be based on your final research paper (follow MLA format) and in English. Guidelines are available under "Research Documents" on our BB site. You must work in consultation with me to select your topic. Students must set up appointments to meet with me in my office to discuss their final topic and selection of texts during the week of February 8-12.

The outline is related to the final paper and is intended to guide you in the process by offering guidance and suggestions as well as provide help with supporting documentation. Writing and research are not overnight processes. Under "Research Documents" on our Blackboard site, there are documents on how to write an outline MLA style as well as paradigms to help you figure out what may be the most judicious organizational plan.

This assignment will **not** be accepted via email. I will accept a late submission up until Friday 5 pm, but 5 points for each late day will be deducted from the final grade. **NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS.**

Annotated bibliography: (Due February 24th). It will consist of at least 10 entries, in English, and it will include primary text(s), but these are not part of the 10 entries. NO dissertation abstracts, unpublished dissertations or theses, reviews, notes, or websites. Please include at least 1 entire book (not just a chapter from a book and not just the introduction to the book). Please follow the most recent MLA guidelines (7th edition). Under "Research Documents" on our Blackboard site, there is a document with examples for writing the précis in the notation. NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS. Late work will be accepted, up until Friday 5 pm, but 5 (five) points per late day will be deducted from the earned grade.

Research paper: The research paper, in English, will be 17 pages minimum (excluding endnotes—not footnotes—and works cited pages) and a maximum of 22 pages (including endnotes and the works cited pages). It may be of a comparative nature. This can take various forms. You can discuss the works of two authors, but you must definitely adopt a critical or theoretical approach or a combination. Follow the most recent MLA guidelines. Due on APRIL 22nd. For every day late, up until Monday, APRIL 25th 5 pm, but there will be 5 points taken off per day late. NO EMAIL SUBMISSIONS.

Although I prefer that you write on texts read in class, I will be happy to discuss other possibilities with you. I need sufficient time to review the work if I am not familiar with it.

Final exam: Our exam will consist of 4 questions, in English, similar to the ones you will encounter during your comprehensive written exams if you are in the LLCL Department. These questions will ask that you consider all of the studied literary texts as well as all of the critical readings. You will select 3 out of the 4.

The exam is scheduled for May 4th (4-7 pm) as per the University final exam schedule: http://www.fau.edu/registrar/pdf/Spring_2016_Final_Exam_Schedule.pdf

Late Assignment Submission Policy:

No assignments will be accepted via email. I have specified how long you will have to turn in a late assignment, but with 5 points taken off for each late day.

USEFUL INFORMATION:

University Writing Center:

If you need help with your writing, in English, FAU offers the University Writing Center as a resource. Please visit their website for more information: http://www.fau.edu/UCEW. Please make sure to do it with time and set up an appointment.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

INCOMPLETES

Are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

The use of cell phones and electronic devices is prohibited in class. All cell phones should be turned off *before* the start of class (not set on "vibrate," but turned OFF). If you have a medical or family emergency and need to receive a call during class, you should inform your instructor *before* class. Students without authorization who use cell phones and electronic devices in class may be dismissed from class and counted as being absent for the day. In order that the University may notify students of a campus-wide emergency, either the instructor's, or a designated student's cell phone will be set to vibrate during class.

Student E-Mail Policy

Effective August 1, 2004, FAU adopted the following policy:

"When contacting students via e-mail, the University will use only the student's FAU e-mail address. This will ensure that e-mail messages from FAU administration and faculty can be sent to all students via a valid address. E-mail accounts are provided automatically for all students from the point of application to the University. The account will be disabled one year post-graduation or after three consecutive semesters of non-enrollment."

E-mailing Your Instructor

Please use your FAU account when e-mailing your instructor. If you use a personal e-mail account (e.g., hotmail, yahoo, g-mail, etc.) your instructor will not know whether the message is junk mail, and therefore, will not respond. FAU e-mail is considered by the university to be official communication, and you should therefore address your instructor appropriately (e.g., Dear Ms., Mr., Sr., etc.), sign your name, and use a respectful tone. Instructors will not respond to e-mails that do not address them directly, and/or are not signed, and/or are not sent from your official FAU e-mail address.

Americans with Disabilities Act

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and follow all OSD procedures. OSD has offices across three FAU's campuses—Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter—however disability services are available for students on all campuses.

In accordance with the OSD's rules and regulations, students must turn in an Exam Sign-Up Sheet at least one week before the date on which each exam is scheduled. Please contact OSD for more information.

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001.

http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001 Code of Academic Integrity.pdf

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code.

The FAU Code of Academic Integrity describes the expectations for students' ethical academic conduct and the procedures for charging a student with a violation of the Code. It also outlines the procedures for students to appeal such charges.

Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Cheating

- i. The unauthorized use of notes, books, electronic devices or other study aids while taking an examination or working on an assignment.
- ii. Providing unauthorized assistance to or receiving assistance from another student during an examination or while working on an assignment.

- iii. Having someone take an exam or complete an assignment in one's place.
- iv. Securing an exam, receiving an unauthorized copy of an exam or sharing a copy of an exam.

(B) Plagiarism

- i. The presentation of words from any other source or another person as one's own without proper quotation and citation.
- ii. Putting someone else's ideas or facts into your own words (paraphrasing) without proper citation.
- iii. Turning in someone else's work as one's own, including the buying and selling of term papers or assignments.

(C) Other Forms of Dishonesty

- i. Falsifying or inventing information, data or citations.
- ii. Failing to comply with examination regulations or failing to obey the instructions of an examination proctor.
- iii. Submitting the same paper or assignment, or part thereof, in more than one class without the written consent of both instructors.
- iv. Any other form of academic cheating, plagiarism or dishonesty.

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code.

ALL assignments that you turn in to your instructor for a grade must be your own work. This means that the use of translator programs, excessive help from tutors or anyone else on graded assignments constitutes academic dishonesty. If your instructor suspects that an assignment completed outside of class is not entirely your own work, your instructor has the right to ask you to redo that assignment in his or her presence during office hours.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY ON ANY ASSIGNMENT AND/OR EXAM IS GROUNDS FOR FAILURE IN THE COURSE.

By remaining enrolled in this course past the end of Drop /Add, you are agreeing to:

- · uphold The Academic Honor System of Florida Atlantic University, and
- accept accountability for the course requirements, the course expectations, and the attendance policy stated in this
 document.
- attend the final exam which takes place as scheduled by the University.

Important Dates: Go to the following link to the FAU academic calendar to find important dates http://www.fau.edu/registrar/pdf/acadcal1516.pdf

COURSE SCHEDULE: I reserve the right to revise the course schedule. Any changes will be announced via BB, email, and/or in class.

IN CLASS: TO DO or TURN IN:

	Texts highlighted in green = critical reading available to English/Comp Lit MA students			
1/13	Introductions. Review syllabus and BB	Bring copies of a Comp Lit MA reading list		
W 1	Sign up for presentations /critiques	with Caribbean authors/ texts highlighted.		
		These can be found on BB under		
		"Research Documents."		

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15: Last day to drop/add course without consequences

1/20 W 2	Santo Domingo / Saint-Domingue / The Haitian Revolution / Marvelous Realism	Read Columbus: "First" (BB)
	Cristopher Columbus: "First Voyage to the New World"	Read The Kingdom (bookstore)
	Alejo Carpentier. The Kingdom of This World	Read the Prologue (BB)
	Alejo Carpentier. Prologue. The Kingdom of This World	Read Antonio Benítez Rojo. Introduction. The Repeating Island. 1-39, 317. (BB)
	Benítez Rojo. Introduction	
1/27	Slavery / Abolitionism / Autobiography	Close Reading due (2-3 pp.)
W 3	Mary Prince. The History of Mary Prince: A West Indian Slave	Information under "Research
	Narrative	Documents"
	Pyne-Timothy. "'To Be Free"	Read The History of Mary Prince (web)
	Visit the S.E. Wimberly Library (LY 3) 5:30-6:50 pm	Read Helen Pyne-Timothy. "To Be Free Is
	Led by Mr. Ken Frankel	Very Sweet': Voicing and the Caribbean
		Woman Writer" The Woman, the Writer 11-21. (BB)
2/3	Slavery / Orality	Read Sab (bookstore)
W 4	Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda. Sab	
		Read Nina M. Scott. Introduction. Sab and
	Nina M. Scott. Introduction.	Autobiography. xi-xxvii and 149-50. (BB)
	Lydia Cabrera. "Tatabisaco"	Read the two short stories by Cabrera (BB)
	Lydia Cabrera. "The Prize of Freedom"	

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8: Last day to do a complete withdrawal and receive a 25% tuition adjustment

2/10	Independence Ideals / "The Fatherland" / Nationhood/	☆Read "Our America." José Martí Reader.
W 5	National Identity	120-29 and 317. (BB)
	José Martí. "Our America"	
		Read the poem by Ureña de Henríquez.
	Salomé Ureña de Henríquez. "In Defense of Society"	(web)
	http://bookmaniac.org/poetry/antologia/salome-urena-de-	
	henriquez/en-defensa-de-la-sociedad/	☆Read J. Michael Dash. "Postcolonial
	Control and the second	Caribbean Identities." The Cambridge
	Dash. "Postcolonial"	History. 785-96. (BB)

Gosser Esquilín 8

2/17	To die Colonia (No. 1)	Gosser Esquilin 8
Sec. 611.43. 20	Indigénisme / Marxism	Read Masters (bookstore)
W 6	Jacques Roumain. Masters of the Dew Dash. Introduction. Masters	Read J. Michael Dash. Introduction. <i>Masters of the Dew</i> . 1-21. (BB or in your book)
2/24 W 7	Negrismo / Négritude Poems by Guillén: "Sensemayá" http://poetsofthecaribbean.blogspot.com/2013/01/guillens- sensemaya.html Luis Palés Matos: "Majestad negra" http://bailingualist.blogspot.com/2012/12/majestad-negra-by-luis- pales-matos-with.html Luis Palés Matos: "Black Dance" http://thedialect.wordpress.com/2009/08/08/danza-negra/ Nancy Morejón: "Black Woman" http://caribbeanwriters.tumblr.com/post/22752809339/mujer- negra-nancy-morejon Abiola Irele. "The Harlem Renaissance"	Read the poems by Guillén, Palés Matos, and Nancy Morejón. (web) Read F. Abiola Irele. "The Harlem Renaissance and the Négritude Movement." The Cambridge. 759-84. (BB) OUTLINE DUE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE
3/2 W 8	Black Skins / White Masks / Return to Africa Myriam Warner-Vieyra. Juletane	Read Juletane (bookstore)
	Betty Wilson: Introduction. Juletane	Read Betty Wilson. Introduction. Juletane. vii-xxv. (BB)
	Rosario Ferré. "When Women Love Men"	Read Ferré's "When Women" 133-45 (BB)
	Rosario Ferré. "How I Wrote"	
	Fanon. "The Fact of Blackness."	Read Ferré's article "How I Wrote" 147-51. (BB)
		Read Frantz Fanon. "The Fact of Blackness." Black Skin, White Masks. 109-40. (BB)

7-13 MARCH—SPRING BREAK—NO CLASSES

3/16	Revisiting Shakespeare 1	Read A Tempest
W 9	Aimé Césaire. A Tempest	
		Read Édouard Glissant. "Theater,
	Édouard Glissant. "Theater, Consciousness of the People."	Consciousness of the People." Caribbean
		Discourse: Selected Essays. 195-220. (BB)
	Bernabé, Chamoiseau, Confiant. In Praise of Creoleness	
		Read Bernabé, Chamoiseau, Confiant.
		In Praise of Creoleness (LY)

Gosser Esquilín 9

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3/23	Revisiting Shakespeare 2	Read Caliban (LY)
W 10	Roberto Fernández Retamar. Caliban	
	González. "Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country."	Read José Luis González. "Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country." Puerto Rico: The Four-Storeyed Country and Other Essays. 1-30. (BB)
3/30	Dictatorships	Read Love (bookstore)
W 11	Marie Chauvet. Love	(0000000)
	Glissant. "Approaches."	Read Glissant. "Approaches." Poetics of Relation. 3-42 + 211-15. (BB)
4/6	Migrations / Insularity	☆Read In the Name of Salomé (bookstore)
W 12	Julia Álvarez. In the Name of Salomé	Tream In the Traine of Salome (bookslote)
	Edwidge Danticat. "Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at	☆Read Danticat's essay 1-20 (BB)
	Work"	Read Daisy Cocco de Filippis, "Dominican
	TOTAL	Writers at the Crossroads." 149-60. (BB)
	Cocco de Filippis. "Dominican"	
	and the second of the second o	Read Ana Lydia Vega: "To Write or Not to
	Vega. "To Write or Not"	Write." 125-31 + 227. (BB)

FRIDAY, APRIL 8: Last day to drop or withdraw without receiving an "F"

Migrations / Masters Simone Schwarz-Bart. Your Handsome Captain	Read Your Handsome Captain (web)
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/callaloo/ (Callaloo 40, 1989)	

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 RESEARCH PAPER DUE BY 5 PM

4/20 W 14	Consuming Goods (Music) and Bodies Mayra Santos-Febres. Sirena Selena	Read Sirena Selena (bookstore)
	Sheller. "Creolization"	Read Mimi Sheller. "Creolization in Global Culture." Consuming the Caribbean. 174-203 and 220-21. (e-book—LY)
5/4 W 15	FINAL EXAM—in English (select 3 out of 4 questions) 4-7 pm	