

## 主要西方作者專題—New Voices from the Caribbean

Spring 2024

Monday 9:10-12:00, 人社二館 B103

Instructor: Prof. Jen-yi Hsu (許甄倚)

### Course Description:

This class will introduce students to postcolonial Caribbean literature. After the discovery of the New World by Columbus, the Caribbean experienced aboriginal genocides, slavery, colonialism, and the migration of indentured laborers from India and China after the abolition of the slave trade. All of these have drastically altered the ethnic makeup of the Caribbean, and despite the trauma of slavery and colonialism, they have produced a unique culture that celebrates hybridity and differences. We will read three novels written by two Caribbean female writers, whose works represent the "new voices" from the Caribbean region and raise profound questions about the relationship between nature and history, place and identity. Additionally, we will introduce students to new critical tools such as ecocriticism, queer ecology, disability studies, and posthumanism and learn how to apply these theories to our reading of Caribbean literature.

### Required Books:

\*\*\*Please join the Facebook group (Enter the name of the group: 112-2 主要西方作者專題) in which I will post weekly vocabulary lists, lecture slides, supplementary materials, and miscellaneous announcements related to the class.

- Shani Mootoo, *Cereus Blooms at Night* (1996)
- Monique Roffey, *The Mermaid of Black Conch* (2020)
- Monique Roffey, *Archipelago* (2012)

### Grading Policy:

- Attendance & Class Participation: 10% (leave of absence for illegitimate personal reasons will not be granted)
- Midterm exam: 40%
- Final exam: 40%
- Oral presentation: 10 % (Spend about 10 minutes explaining which parts of the novel that you like best, inspire or impress you. Why?)

### Course Schedule:

**Week1:** 2/19 Intro

Cereus Blooms at Night (1996)

**Week2:** 2/26 *Cereus Blooms at Night*, 1-80 (思妤、若慈、昱仰、奕璋)

**Week3:** 3/4 *Cereus Blooms at Night*, 81-160 (Chynara、心柔、郭彥均、博玄、奕璵)

**Week4:** 3/11 finish *Cereus Blooms at Night* (翊綦、宇謙、彭彥均、起辰)

**Week5:** 3/18 “Introduction: A Genealogy of Queer Ecologies” (in Catriona Mortimer-Sandilands and Bruce Erickson’s *Queer Ecologies: Sex, Nature, Politics, Desire*) (衍碩、采葳、睿心)

**Week6:** 3/25 Clare Barker, “ ‘Radiant Affliction’: Disability Narratives in Postcolonial Literature” (in *Literature and Disability*, edited by Clare Barker and Stuart Murray) (禹婕、佩珉、宣萱、聿芊)

**Week7:** 4/1 “Shani Mootoo” (in *The Queer Caribbean Speaks*) ; Belinda Deneen Wallace, “Queer Potentialities and Queering Home in Shani Mootoo’s *Cereus Blooms at Night*”

**Week8:** 4/8 (holiday)

**Week9:** 4/15 midterm

*The Mermaid of Black Conch* (2020)

**Week10:** 4/22 *The Mermaid of Black Conch*, 1-114 (冠呈、珉芊、奕熹、郁晴)

**Week11:** 4/29 finish *The Mermaid of Black Conch* (芷嵐、丞展、千惠、健成、鈺皓)

*Archipelago* (2012)

**Week12:** 5/6 *Archipelago*, 1-90 (梓淇、威穎、彥禹、張寧)

**Week13:** 5/13 *Archipelago*, 91-180 (靜思、新翔、景翎、和杏)

**Week14:** 5/20 *Archipelago*, 181-270 (婕瑀、喻文、博勛、佩珊)

**Week15:** 5/27 *Archipelago*, 271-360 (承緯、馨妤、靜玉、陳恩、禹翔)

**Week16:** 6/3 final exam

**Week17:** 6/10 (holiday)