"The Empire writes back," wrote Salman Rushdie, in a rich, vibrant English prose that is a legacy of British occupation of his native India. English--spoken throughout the planet by close to a billion people and by twice as many non-native speakers as native ones--has ceased to be the linguistic instrument solely of the English. English literatures flourish far beyond Albion and even the United States. ENGLISH 5753 will examine the general phenomenon of literary globalization as well as the postcolonial and translingual conditions of many authors who write in English. The course will focus on notable narrative works from Australia, Canada, India, Ireland, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, and South Africa. Except for Chinua Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart* (1958), a seminal postcolonial text, all of the novels were published within the past three decades and will challenge our own abilities to confront contemporary texts without the encrustation of extensive scholarly and critical commentary.

September 4        Introduction

September 11  Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* (1958)

September 18   *Things Fall Apart*; David Malouf, *An Imaginary Life* (1978)

September 25      *An Imaginary Life*

October 2      Amitav Ghost *The Shadow Lines* (1988)

October 16  
**First Paper Due**

*Disgrace*

October 23  

October 30  

November 6  

November 13  

November 20  

November 27  
*The Reluctant Fundamentalist*; Teju Cole, *Open City* (2011)

December 4  
**Second Paper Due**

*Open City*

December 10-11  
Student Study Days

December 18  
**Final Exam** 5:00-7:30 p.m.
ENGLISH 5753 is a graduate-level course in literary studies. Students are expected to have read their assignments carefully by the date specified and to come to class prepared for active engagement in analysis of the texts. The professor is pleased to share his insights into the works being studied, but he finds no pleasure—and no point—in summarizing their contents to students who have not done the reading. He is glad to teach and gladder to learn, from students who come to class prepared for the day's topic and consistent effulgence.

Each member of the class, including the professor, is assumed to be *primus inter pares* (first among equals) and willing to take responsibility for collective enlightenment. To anchor class discussion of readings, please bring a copy of the assigned reading to each session. In addition to reading the texts assigned to everyone in the class, members of the class will be pursuing separate projects relevant to world literatures in English.

As a courtesy to everyone, cell phones, iPods, video games, radios, and other electronic distractions must be turned off throughout each session. Once class has begun, please remain seated until its conclusion. Attendance for the entirety of each session is required, and more than three absences, for whatever reason, will result in a lowered grade.

In addition to assigned readings, class attendance, a final exam, and active, informed, and scintillating contributions to class discussions, each student will be responsible for one oral presentation and two original papers relevant to the topic of world literatures in English. The oral presentation, approximately 20 minutes, should be informed, stimulating, and pertinent. The papers should be pellucid, persuasive, and in the hands of the professor by the date due. The final grade will be a function of everything, with the following approximate weighting: paper #1 = 25%; class work = 15%; paper #2 = 30%; final exam = 30%.

During his office hours or by appointment, Professor Kellman is available for questions, comments, or further discussion. He also welcomes telephonic and electronic communications. To facilitate further thoughts about our subject, to provide a practical
means for conveying occasional information about course procedures, and to share supplemental information about world literatures in English, the course maintains a Blackboard site that each member of the class should consult at least once a week.

UTSA issues the following official caveat: "The University expects every student to maintain a high standard of individual integrity for work done. Scholastic dishonesty is a serious offense that includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other work, plagiarism (the appropriation of another's work and the incorporation of that work in one's own work), and collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit)."