

ENGL 444 Fall 2006 Women Writers of Color
Instructor: Kelly C. Walter Carney kcwaltercarney@vanguard.edu

Grades will be based on:

Attendance/Participation	15	Culture Presentation	15
Article Responses	15	Major Paper	40
<i>Colonize This</i> Essay	15	Total Points:	100

Our theoretical discussions will be directed by student interest and response, as reflected in the **Article Responses**. You are expected to post responses to the class forums before class sessions in which we discuss Anzaldua's *Making Faces, Making Soul (MFMS)* or Hernandez' *Colonize This*. Forums are located at:
<http://www.vanguard.edu/VULIFE/forums/420/ShowForum.aspx>.

You need to respond to at least two articles, including both an original comment, discussing perhaps a favorite passage, a point of confusion, or a connection to another reading, as well as two responses to your colleagues' comments. (This totals at least 6 postings). The online conversation should be complete by 10:00 p.m. the night before our class discussion.

Each student will write a "***Colonize This Essay***," in which they analyze some elements of their own experience through the lens of feminist theory. Clearly, these essays are to be modeled on those in *Colonize This*, and reflect the confluence of personal and theoretical perspectives. These papers will be 3-5 pages in length. Follow the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

Each student will make a **Culture Presentation**, in which they describe some aspect of African American, Latina, or Native American culture as it pertains to women and analyze it using the theoretical tools acquired during this course. Presentations will be 15-20 minutes long, including time for discussion. Potential topics vary widely: one could talk about food, African American church hats, Quinceñeras, Matriarchal family structures, child welfare regulations, forced sterilizations, immigration issues, Native American pottery and basketweaving, and so on. If you want to use PowerPoint (which can be helpful), please e-mail your PowerPoint slides to the professor the night before, so that they can be ready for you the next morning.

The Major Paper should be just that: a theoretical approach to one or more of our texts, involving research and detailed analysis. This paper should be approximately 15 pages long, using MLA Format and turned in according to the guidelines for electronic submissions.

Guidelines for Electronic Submissions: Documents should be saved in MSWord format and sent to vugrading@gmail.com by 8:00 pm on the due date. The documents should be named thus: lastname444FA06CT and lastname444FA06MP, for the *Colonize This* Essay and major paper, for example. The last name that should be used is the student's, not the instructor's. Please do not submit papers with generic titles like "English paper" or "definition paper." All documents should follow MLA format: that is, headers containing the student's name, date of submission, and course should be included, as

should page numbers. Do not send any correspondence, other than paper submissions, to this address. If you wish to e-mail me regarding the class, questions about our reading, etc., please use the vanguard e-mail address.

Late Work is strongly discouraged. All take-home materials (papers, worksheets) will drop a letter grade for each calendar day that they are late. Make-up exams are at the discretion of the instructor.

Plagiarism is a form of theft that I take very seriously. In my classes, the first instance of plagiarism generally results in a failing grade for that assignment; further plagiarism can cause you to fail the class and/or be reported to the dean's office.

According to the Student Handbook, "Either cheating or plagiarism (presenting as one's own, the words or opinions of others), is regarded as a serious violation of both the academic and moral standards of VUSC.... The dean of the program and the Vice President for Student Affairs are to be notified in instances of academic dishonesty. A student commits plagiarism if submitted as his/her work: Part or all of an assignment copied from another person's assignment, notes, or computer file. Part or all of an assignment copied or paraphrased from a book, magazine, pamphlet, or website. A sequence of ideas transferred from another source which the student has not ... integrated and reorganized and to which he/she fails to give proper acknowledgement.

A student is an accomplice in plagiarism if he/she: Allows his/her paper or other assignment, in outline or finished form, to be copied and submitted as the work of another. Lends his/her computer disk to another student or otherwise allows his/her computer files to be copied for the purposes of plagiarism. Prepares a written assignment for another student and allows it to be submitted as another's work" (61-62).

Required Texts for this class include: Paula Gunn Allen, *The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions* (0807046175); Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera* (1879960567); Gloria Anzaldua *Making Face, Making Soul/ Haciendo Caras: Creative and Critical Perspectives by Women of Color* (1879960109); Octavia Butler, *Kindred* (0807083690); Ana Castillo, *The Mixquiahuala Letters* (0385420137); Sandra Cisneros, *Woman Hollering Creek* (0679738568); Mary Crow Dog, *Lakota Woman* (0060873897); Joy Harjo, *How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems 1975-2001* (0393325342); Daisy Hernandez and Bushra Rehman, *Colonize This: Young Women of Color on Today's Feminism* (1580050670); Audre Lorde, *Sister Outsider* (0895941414); Ntozake Shange, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* (0684843269).

Course Schedule:

W 30 August Course Intro

Theory:

F 1 September	Anzaldua	<i>Making Face, Making Soul</i> (MFMS):
	Smith	"Racism and Women's Studies," (25-29)
	Uttal	"Inclusion without Influence," (42-46)
	Lugones	"Hablando cara a cara," (46-55)
W 6 September	Anzaldua	<i>MFMS</i> :

Tijerina "Notes on Oppression and Violence," (170-173)
 Jordan "Where is the Love?" (174-178)
 Bell "Talking Back," (207-212)
 F 8 September Hernandez *Colonize This*
 Family and Community: A Litany for Survival

African American:

M 11 September Background: African American History
 W 13 September Audre Lorde *Sister Outsider*
 "Poetry is Not a Luxury" (36-39)
 "The Transformation of Silence..." (40-44)
 "Scratching the Surface..." (45-52)
 "Uses of the Erotic..." (53-59)
 "The Master's Tools..." (110-113)
 F 15 September Audre Lorde *Sister Outsider*
 "Age, Race, Class, and Sex..." (114-123)
 "Eye to Eye..." (145-175)
 M 18 September Octavia Butler *Kindred*
 W 20 September Octavia Butler *Kindred*
 F 22 September Octavia Butler *Kindred*
 M 25 September Octavia Butler *Kindred*
 W 27 September Octavia Butler *Kindred*
 F 29 September Ntozake Shange *For colored girls...*
 M 2 October Ntozake Shange *For colored girls...*
 W 4 October TBA

Theory:

F 6 October Anzaldua *MFMS:*
 Cliff "Objects Into Subject," (271-290)
 Viramontes "'Nopalitos'," (291-296)
 Harris "Developing Unity..." (304-316)
 M 9 October Anzaldua *MFMS:*
 Molina, "Recognizing, Accepting..." (326-334)
 Christian "The Race for Theory" (335-345)
 Rebolledo "The Politics of Poetics" (346-356)
 W 11 October Hernandez *Colonize This*
 Our Mothers: Refugees from a World on Fire
 F 13 October Hernandez *Colonize This*
 Going Through Customs

Latina:

M 16 October Background: Latino/a history
 W 18 October Gloria Anzaldua *Borderlands/La Frontera*
 M 23 October Gloria Anzaldua *Borderlands/La Frontera*
 W 25 October Gloria Anzaldua *Borderlands/La Frontera*
Colonize This Essay Due

F 27 October	Ana Castillo	<i>The Mixquiahuala Letters</i>
M 30 October	Ana Castillo	<i>The Mixquiahuala Letters</i>
W 1 November	Ana Castillo	<i>The Mixquiahuala Letters</i>
F 3 November	Sandra Cisneros	<i>Woman Hollering Creek</i> Pages 3-20, 27-40
M 6 November	Sandra Cisneros	<i>Woman Hollering Creek</i> Pages 43-62, 84
W 8 November	Sandra Cisneros	<i>Woman Hollering Creek</i> Pages 68-83, 114-136
F 10 November	TBA	

Theory:

M 13 November	Anzaldua	<i>MFMS</i>
	Walker	“Definition of Womanist” (370)
	Minh-ha	“Not You/Like You...” (371-375)
W 15 November	Hernandez	<i>Colonize This</i> Talking Back, Taking Back

Native American:

F 17 November	Background:	Native American History
M 20 November	Paula Gunn Allen	<i>The Sacred Hoop</i> “Grandmothers of the Sun...” pages 13-29 “When Women Throw Down Bundles...” pages 30-42 “Where I Come From is Like This” pages 43-50 “How the West Was Really Won” pages 194-208
W 22 November	Paula Gunn Allen	<i>The Sacred Hoop</i> “The Sacred Hoop...” pages 54-75 “The Ceremonial Motion of Indian Time” Pages 147-154 “Who is Your Mother?” pages 209-222
M 27 November	Mary Crow Dog	<i>Lakota Woman</i>
W 29 November	Mary Crow Dog	<i>Lakota Woman</i>
F 1 December	Mary Crow Dog	<i>Lakota Woman</i>
M 4 December	Joy Harjo	<i>How We Became Human</i> Pages 29-51, 65-85, 175-198
W 6 December	Joy Harjo	<i>How We Became Human</i> Pages 89- 171
F 8 December	TBA	Major Paper Due
M 11 December	TBA	
W 13 december	10:30-12:30	Culture Presentations