

**ENGLISH 220B:**  
**CONTEMPORARY ANGLOPHONE LITERATURE:**  
**Contemporary Anglophone Lebanese Fiction**

**Spring 2021–22**

**Tues., Thurs.: 2 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. in 339 Fisk Hall**

**DR. SYRINE C. HOUT**

**Office Hours: Wed. 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. & by appointment**

**201 Fisk Hall; ext. 4116; e-mail: [sh06@aub.edu.lb](mailto:sh06@aub.edu.lb)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course explores six post-war (post-1990) Anglophone Lebanese novels published in the last two decades (1998-2020) – by four male and two female writers originally from Lebanon who have witnessed at least some atrocities of the Lebanese Civil War (1975–90) during their formative years (childhood and adolescence) and/or the 2006 summer war between Lebanon and Israel. Albeit very different in style, these diasporic narratives will be read in relation to an array of interrelated themes, namely the 9/11 terrorist attacks on US soil and their impact on Arabs in America, exile, memory, homeland, nostalgia, nationalism, trauma, sexuality, militarization of the youth, personal versus collective identities, socio-economic class, gender and power relations, religion and sectarianism, and political conflict and war.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. To have basic knowledge of the evolution of the post-civil war Lebanese novel, from 1990 until 2020
2. To identify generation-specific themes and concerns
3. To develop close reading skills
4. To consult secondary sources about related themes/texts
5. To offer individual interpretations of the texts both orally and in writing

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION:**

Attendance: 10%; Oral Participation: 20%; Midterm: 20 %; Presentation: 20%; Research Paper: 30%

## **COURSE POLICY:**

Attendance is required. More than 7 unexcused absences result in automatic withdrawal from the course. Students are responsible for any materials covered during their absence. Cheating and plagiarism result in automatic failure on the assigned task. Further, students caught cheating will be referred to the Student Affairs Committee for further disciplinary action.

**Resources: All books are available at the Antoine Bookshop on campus.**

## **WEEKLY READINGS:**

### **January**

Th, 20: Course Introduction

T, 25: General Lecture

Th, 27: Rabih Alameddine, *I, the Divine*

### **February**

T, 1: Same

Th, 3: Same

T, 8: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

Th, 10: Rawi Hage, *De Niro's Game*

T, 15: Same

Th, 17: Same

T, 22: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

Th, 24: Nada Awar Jarrar, *Somewhere, Home*

### **March**

T, 1: Same

Th, 3: Same

T, 8: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

Th, 10: **MIDTERM**

T, 15: Karim Dimechkie, *Lifted by the Great Nothing*

Th, 17: Same

T, 22: Same

Th, 24: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

T, 29: Rayyan Al-Shawaf, *When All Else Fails*

Th, 31: Same

## **April**

T, 5: Same

Th, 7: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

T, 12: Nathalie Ab-Ezzi, *Paper Sparrows*

Th, 14: Same

T, 19: NO CLASS

Th, 21: NO CLASS

T, 26: Same

Th, 28: Same & **PRESENTATIONS**

## **RESEARCH PAPERS DUE ON MONDAY, 9 MAY 2022**

### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Please refer to AUB Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.aub.edu.lb/pnp/generaluniversitypolicies/Documents/StudentCodeConduct/StudentCodeConduct.pdf> , in particular section 1.1, which concerns academic misconduct including cheating, plagiarism, in-class disruption, and dishonesty. Please be aware that misconduct is vigorously prosecuted and that AUB has a zero tolerance policy. Course policy is that **credible evidence of cheating will result in course failure.**

**Recommended Accessibility Statement to Acknowledge the Unique Learning Needs of Students with Disabilities:**

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please inform me immediately so that we can privately discuss options. In order to help establish reasonable accommodations and facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office:

[accessibility@aub.edu.lb](mailto:accessibility@aub.edu.lb); +961-1-350000, x3246; West Hall, 314.

**Non-Discrimination**

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at [www.aub.edu.lb/titleix](http://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix) . To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Trudi Hodges at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or [titleix@aub.edu.lb](mailto:titleix@aub.edu.lb) . An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at [www.aub.ethicspoint.com](http://www.aub.ethicspoint.com)