Course Description
This course is an introduction to African literature. Indeed, it is a course that introduces you to the work of four of the most widely-read African authors – Amos Tutuola, Chinua Achebe, Pepetela, and J.M. Coetzee. After first questioning the meaning of the very term “African literature,” we go on to highlight and examine some of the most salient features and issues surrounding African literature – most explicitly, those relating to colonialism, the novel form in Africa, languages of Europe as literary languages of Africa, the tension between traditionalism and the African novel, and the relationship between politics and the African novel.

Learning Outcome
By the end of the course, you should be able both to appreciate another dimension in the scale and diversity of writing in English. That is to say, you should be able to articulate some of key problems with using the phrase “African literature,” express some of the salient features of African literature, and give informed comment on some of the key issues confronting African literature. Finally, by the end of this course you should be able to produce a well-reasoned essay.

Reading List
Amos Tutuola, *Palm-Wine Drinkard*
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*
Pepetela, *The Return of the Water Spirit*
J.M. Coetzee, *Foe*

Assessment
Tutorial Preparation/Participation  10%
Tutorial Presentation  20%
In-Class Essay  20%
Formal Essay  50%