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English 246  
Third World Literature  
Final Examination  
Fall 1996

Time: 2 Hours

Choose one of the following essay questions:

1. The issue of biculturalism is one that looms large in the works of some Third World writers. Some see themselves as suffering from rootlessness; others, like Rushdie, talk of "multiple rootings". Self-perception certainly reflects on an author's position vis-à-vis the hegemonic canon.

In your opinion, what is these authors' agenda: is it to defamiliarize the Anglo-American canon by reacting to, and opposing, it? Or is to effect a happy coexistence between two cultures and value systems? What are their stylistic and thematic means to their end(s)? Answer the above questions in separate sections covering four of the following authors: Achebe, Coetzee, Walker, Morrison and Garcia Marquez.

2. Several of the writers you have read probe the image of Africa in their works. All are involved in an active critique of colonialism and colonialist discourse, though in different ways. Explore some of those ways, and state whether or not you have been able to glean appreciable differences between the Western and African perspectives on the continent. Discuss three authors.

