

Kapi'olani Community College – Spring 2016
English 272F, Women Writers on Women: Filipina Women Writers
MW 12:15-1:30, Manele 103, CRN 34114
(This syllabus is subject to change. Updated Jan. 10.)

Maiana Minahal, Instructor, Writing and English, Kahikoluamea Department

E-mail: mminahal@hawaii.edu (BEST way to reach me)

Office hours: check Minahal class and office hours schedule

Office location and mail drop-off tray: Olona 207, office phone number: (808) 734-9829

Google voice number: (415) 562-5231

Welcome to English 272F!

This course is designed to introduce you to fiction, poetry, drama, creative nonfiction, comics, performance, and interdisciplinary work by Filipina women in the Philippines, in Hawai'i, and in the diaspora. This is a writing intensive (WI) course which requires sixteen pages (4000 words) of polished writing by the end of the semester. Since writing is a process, you will revise drafts of your papers before final submission. We will learn about the experiences of Filipina women through their writing; some of the themes the literature will cover are culture, colonization, immigration, language, socioeconomics, and social justice. Please come to each class prepared with your materials, participate in all class activities, ask questions, complete all assignments, and work with me and your fellow students to achieve. I look forward to a fun and productive semester!

Maiana Minahal: I prefer that you address me as “Ms. Maiana,” “Ms. Minahal,” or “Ms. M.” while I am your teacher. I address students by first name or nickname; please let me know if you prefer otherwise.

A little info about me: I have been teaching at KCC for four years now; I taught previously at the University of California at Berkeley, at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and at several community colleges and community-based non-profit organizations in the Oakland/San Francisco Bay Area. My areas of academic interest include contemporary multi-ethnic poetry of the U.S., social justice, queer and feminist writing, and Philippine American literature. I have 20 years of teaching experience, and came to this profession as a published poet and multi-media artist dedicated to encouraging literacy and creativity in marginalized communities.

Currently, I serve or have served as KCC's faculty advisor for:

- the Filipino American Student Club
- the LGBTQ Student Club (formerly the Gay Straight Alliance/ Queer Straight Alliance)
- the journal of creative arts, *Le'ahi*

Please feel free to discuss with me your own academic interests or any questions you have about student clubs and campus activities.

Best ways to reach me outside of class:

- Email to mminahal@hawaii.edu
- Text to (415) 562-5231
- Google chat or call me during my office hours, or physically come in.

I usually respond to emails/texts within 24 hours. Please do not expect a response to be sent before 9am or after 5pm on a weekday, during a weekend or holiday, or during the times that I am teaching class.

Individual appointments are available in addition to my office hour schedule, either in person, on the phone, or via Google chat. Please do not hesitate to talk to me about any of your concerns, or to get help with assignments during office hours.

Course Description:

ENG 272F is a study of the images of women as reflected in the works of selected women writers with a focus on women's issues such as domesticity, autonomy, ethnicity, and psychological and physical constraints.

Course Objectives/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of ENG 272F, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze a work of literature as a reflection of its cultural and historical context.
2. Identify major themes in a work of literature, and explore their implications.
3. Analyze structure; explain how form contributes to meaning.
4. Evaluate the artistic merits of literary works and the artistic achievements of writers.
5. Use literary evidence to support interpretations and ideas regarding literary works.
6. Produce clear and effective written responses using literary terms to analyze literary work.
7. Describe the cultural diversity of world views expressed in literary works.
8. Identify some of the major women writers of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.
9. Examine the major issues and motifs regarding women in literature.
10. Write papers on different literary problems related to women in literature.

UH Writing Intensive Hallmarks:

1. The course uses writing to promote the learning of course materials.
2. The course provides interaction between teacher and students while students do assigned writing.
3. Writing contributes significantly to each student's course grade.
4. The course requires students to do a substantial amount of writing--a minimum of 4000 words, or about 16 pages.

Overview of Course Assignments

1. Homework and in-class work, 15%

We will read, discuss, and analyze poems, stories, and plays. We will learn the historical and sociopolitical context and background, and analyze the structure of the works looking at the elements of poetry (imagery, rhythm, etc.), fiction and plays (characterization, conflict, etc.).

2. Four (4) assigned papers, 60%

You will write and revise four out-of-class papers (4 pages minimum each), for a total of 16 pages. (Due dates: Feb 10, March 14, May 4, May 11)

3. Attend at least 3 Filipino cultural events, 5%

These events can be on campus (KCC's Filipino Student club holds events on campus) or in the community (I will announce various community events throughout the semester).

4. Presentation on Filipina writer, 10%

15 minute in-class presentation. (Dates: April 11, April 18, April 25)

5. Service learning project, 5%

Conduct a survey of Filipino students at KCC.

6. Community project, 5%

Help publicize Filipina Women Writers panel and reading at Hawaii Books and Music Festival (April 30-May 1).

Grading Scale: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; below 60% = F.

Required Texts

- Villanueva, Marianne. *Ginseng and Other Tales from Manila*.
- Hagedorn, Jessica. *Dogeaters*.
- Ed. Carbo & Tabios. *Babaylan*.
- Barry, Lynda. *One! Hundred! Demons!*
- Minahal, Maiana. *Legend Sondagyo*.
- Reyes, Barbara Jane. *Diwata*.
- Suzara, Aimee, *Souvenir*.
- Monrayo, Angeles. *Tomorrow's Memories*.
- Bueno, Amalia. *Home Remedies*.

Plus other readings that will be distributed in class.

Class website: laulima.hawaii.edu

All class handouts will be available through our class website on **Laulima**. On the Laulima homepage, please read the posted "Updates and Announcements," watch the [Laulima orientation video](#), and click on the "[Things that every Laulima user should know](#)" for system requirements.

You can access Laulima through the MyUH portal or directly at laulima.hawaii.edu. Log onto your MyUH account, click on "Laulima" (upper right), then click on the "Eng-272" tab (at the top). In the sidebar on the left, click on "Resources" to view and download class handouts, including the course calendar. Click on "Gradebook" to see completed or missing assignments, and points.

Also, you should log onto and check your **UH email** account regularly, since I (and KCC) will send important class and campus announcements to your official hawaii.edu email address. You can access your UH email through the MyUH portal or directly at google.hawaii.edu.

Attendance & Participation

Participation includes participating in class discussions and interacting with one another over the course of the semester. It is important that you come to class on time, since class

activities start on time. (If I am more than 15 minutes late to class, you are free to go.) If you must arrive to class late or have to leave in the middle of class, please do so as quietly as possible so as to not disturb the learning environment of your classmates. It is your responsibility to catch up on any work that you missed. Each class builds on and continues the conversation and thinking that we started from the previous session, so students often feel lost after missing even just one class.

Late work

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class, since these prepare you to contribute meaningfully to class discussion. Since I am not able to distinguish between a “valid” or “non-valid” reason for turning in a late assignment, all late homework, for whatever reason, will automatically be deducted by 50% (this includes not presenting your homework assignment during the class session).

Papers will be deducted by 10% for each class day they are late. If you are experiencing a medical or family emergency, please make sure you speak with me and have documentation.

Unofficial Course Withdrawal

If you are having serious problems that are interfering with your ability to complete the coursework, please speak with me as soon as possible and bring a doctor’s note or documentation of a family or medical emergency. If you stop attending class without officially withdrawing, you will get an F for the course. The last day for withdrawal is March 29.

Typing is required for all out-of-class papers and homework.

Plagiarism

Using someone else’s words or ideas as if they were your own is plagiarism and will result in an automatic “F” for the course. Copying someone else’s work, or failing to identify sources from reference books is **cheating**. If you are in doubt whether you are plagiarizing, ask first.

Student Conduct

A college campus is a community with specific behavior expectations designed to allow all students, faculty, and staff to flourish. Please read the Policies in the KCC Catalog and the UH Student Conduct Code. Any manifestation of alcohol or drug abuse, sexual harassment, sexual assault, academic dishonesty, discrimination, etc. will be dealt with in accordance with the Student Conduct Code.

I expect all students to behave themselves in a fashion appropriate to an academic classroom setting. Because students are expected to help each other, especially by responding to writing in progress, it is essential that you respect classmates by actively listening, cooperating on group tasks, remaining in the classroom until the session ends, and expressing positive attitudes. **If you are being disruptive** in class or violating the Student Conduct Code, I will give you **one** verbal or written warning. If the behavior

continues, you will have to leave the classroom, 50 points will be deducted, and you may face further disciplinary action.

Electronic devices

Please silence and de-activate any electronic devices before entering the classroom, and make phone calls outside of the classroom. Please do not text or respond to text messages during class time. If you bring laptops to class, use them only for work related to class. If you use electronic devices in class for other purposes, you will be marked as absent for the day, 50 points will be deducted, and your device may be confiscated during the class period.

Important note to all students

If you are a student with a documented disability and have not voluntarily disclosed the nature of your disability so that we may coordinate the accommodations you need, you are invited to contact the Disability Support Services Office (DSSO) in 'Ilima 107, ph.734-9552, or email kapdss@hawaii.edu for assistance. For students whose primary disability is Deaf or hard of hearing, contact the KCC Deaf Center in Manono 102, ph. 734-9210 (V) or 447-1379 (videophone). Please note: you will need to contact Kapi`olani CC's DSSO or Deaf Center to request accommodations in a Kapi`olani CC course even if you've already registered or are receiving services at another UH campus's disability support program.

KCC's Title IX Disclosure

Kapi`olani Community College (KCC) faculty are committed to supporting our students and upholding gender equity laws as outlined by Title IX. To know more about Title IX please visit KCC's Title IX Website: <http://tinyurl.com/titleixkapcc>.

Reporting: If a student chooses to confide in a faculty member or if a faculty member observes an incident regarding an issue of sexual violence, sexual harassment, domestic and intimate partner violence, stalking, gender-based discrimination, and gender-based bullying and hazing, **faculty are required by federal law to report these issues** to KCC's Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Ivelisse - [\(808\)734-9522](tel:8087349522), kapvcsa@hawaii.edu, 'Ilima 205.

Confidentiality: If a student does not wish to formally report an incident to a faculty member, but wishes to speak to someone confidentially about any of the behaviors listed above, the student can speak to the confidential space counselors on campus: Dr. Lori Ferreira, Mental Health Counselor – [\(808\) 734-9585](tel:8087349585), lori808@hawaii.edu, 'Iliahi 113 or Cathy Wehrman, Student Affairs Counselor - [\(808\) 734-9504](tel:8087349504), cwehrman@hawaii.edu, 'Iliahi 201.

Filing a complaint: If you have experienced or observed discrimination or harassment you may make a formal complaint by contacting the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Ivelisse at [\(808\) 734-9522](tel:8087349522). You may also report concerns online at <http://tinyurl.com/KCCconcern> or contact KCC security at 734-9900.