

# LANG 3068 RACE IN LITERATURE

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 101650

**Coordinator** Christopher Peterson ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Christopher Peterson/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Christopher%20Peterson/))

**Description** In 2024, this subject is replaced by LANG 2058 Race in Literature. This subject explores a selection of modern literary works that focus on the question of "race." Readings will allow students to learn how notions of race have shifted over time, giving particular attention to how mixed-race people challenge dyadic conceptions of racial difference. Readings may include one or more national literatures, such as American or Australian literature.

**School** Humanities & Comm Arts

**Discipline** Literature

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 1 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 3 subject

## Restrictions

Successful completion of 60 credit points of study in currently enrolled program.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. critically discuss the representation of race in literature;
2. analyse critically the interaction between literary texts and shifting definitions of race in a culture.;
3. identify the historical contexts from which literary and cultural texts emerge;
4. demonstrate the intersection of the concepts of race, sexuality and gender; and
5. demonstrate advanced capacities in oral and written argument.

## Subject Content

The national literature or literatures studied in this subject will vary from year to year depending on the subject coordinator's area of expertise. Topics to be studied will address some of the following topics:

- 19th century white authors and race: exploration of how their literary production reflects their views on slavery; race and animality
- 20th century black authors and race
- the problem of racial "authenticity"; investigation of how people of mixed-race identity problematize the black/white division; legal prohibitions on miscegenation.
- "Nativism" and "Primitivism" in the 1920s: exploration of how race relates to gender and sexuality; the Jew as racial other.
- black/white conceptions of beauty; consideration of Cheng's notion of "racial melancholia."

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are

regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Essay	Tutorial Paper 500 words	25	N	Individual	Y
Essay	1500 words (5-6 pages)	35	N	Individual	Y
Final Exam	1500 words (5-6 pages)	40	N	Individual	Y