Global/Transnational Fiction (ENGL 3780.090)
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This online course will look at some of the ways writers from around the world have used stories to think about identity and belonging in a rapidly changing world. We’ll read novels and stories from a variety of cultures and narrative traditions—from Nigeria to Zimbabwe, Sudan, Iran, India, China, Japan and the US and Britain—to explore how contemporary fiction experiments with narrative structure, perspective, voice and tone to capture the social, political, and ethical challenges of the modern world. Art and stories, these writers suggest, help us make sense of complex social realities, giving us new ways to understand ourselves and our worlds, and offering insight into the experiences of people who may seem different from us. But though these works often raise serious concerns, they exhibit a narrative exuberance, ironic wit, and playful glee in their storytelling, reminding us that the pleasure of stories is as important as the work we do with them. Please note: These are delightful but also challenging works that deal with all aspects of the human experience, from love to cruelty. Some of them include frank representations of violence and sex.

Texts:
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Purple Hibiscus*
Yu Hua, *To Live*
Aminatta Forna, *Happiness*
Marjane Satrapi, *The Complete Persepolis*
Kiran Desai, *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard*
Sayaka Murata, *Convenience Store Woman*
Ovo Adagha & Chris Brazier, ed., *One World Two*
And other stories, essays, and films