

## Syllabus for Fall 2024

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In person format requested at Arsher Hall, Wilmington

Day for Class Preferences: Thursday morning 10:45-noon;, Tuesday afternoon. 12:45-2;

Wednesday 12:45-2.

Please place my class at a time so as it doesn't complete with other popular literature instructors. I will be glad to be flexible about teaching times to avoid this happening again.

Title for the Class: The Genius of Salman Rushdie in Three Novels:  
September 3 through December 6

*Midnight's Children ( Booker Prize) 1981*

*Moor's Last Sigh ( Whitbread Prize) 1998*

*Victory City (2023)*

In the class, we will examine the creative genius of a writer in three different novels that span Rushdie's life. He relies upon Satire and Magical Realism to tell his story, often using modern social problems within the storyline. These novels also take us into the world of India and other Middle Eastern countries and religious traditions.

In full disclosure, I am not an expert in the literary analysis of Salman Rushdie. We will be discovering his genius together; however, I do know how to analyze texts and written discourse. This will serve as the basis of our class study; however, I will present classes that are prepared, researched and challenging in both content and critique. We will often have discussions in groups and some lecture from me to get us going for the day. I believe in providing well-researched information to spur discussion and learning. I tend to change formats from day to day to keep the class from just sitting and listening, but to encourage participation. I use powerpoint form to present information and lead the class activities.

Rushdie is complicated, given the trajectory of his life and his Islamic heritage. We will not be reading *Satanic Verses*, perhaps his more controversial writing. Instead, we are reading three of his 15 novels that show his writing genius and social critique around the world. He uses the writing techniques of Magical Realism to enhance the story's narrative; we will explore this technique as he uses it in each novel.

I have included a very brief reading list for the class. This will change as we get closer to the course opening. Given the 1<sup>st</sup> novel's length, I will ask the class to come to class having read the 1<sup>st</sup> 10 chapters of *Midnight's Children*.

List of Days	Class Content	Reading for Next Class
Week 1	Intro to Rushdie and reading schedule----  <i>Midnight's Children</i> and Magical Realism.	
Week2		
Week 3		
Week 4		
Week 5	Beginning <i>The Moor's Sigh</i>	
Week 6		
Week 7		
Week 8		
Week 9	Beginning. <i>Victory City</i>	
Week 10		
Week 11	Probably Thanksgiving—No class	
Week 12		
Week 13		