**KSA 3204 KISWAHILI LITERATURE AND THE WOMAN CU 4 CH 60**

**Course Objectives**

1. To enable students appreciate the origin of differences in gender

2. To enable students appreciate the role of a woman in society

3. To enable students understand the role of literature in raising the status of women

4. To help students appreciate the problems women face because of their gender

**Course Description**

This course provides learners with general knowledge of gender issues and literature. It includes: the theoretical background of feminist theory,( the conception of engendering, the creation of patriarchy, women and literary production, the contributions of Lacan, Kristeva to feminist literary theory; Marxist and feminist criticism(class and gender), feminist poetics in perspective and practical criticism of the point of view o and the portrayal of women characters in Kiswahili literature.

## Course Outline

- Theoretical background on Feminist Theory

The conception of engendering

The creation of patriarchy

Reading as a woman

Writing as a woman

Women and literary production

The contribution of Lacan and Deconstruction demystification of the ‘Phallic word’ as a privileged signifier

Contribution of Kreteva to Feminist Literary Theory

Marxist and Feminist Criticism (Class and Gender)

Feminist Poetics in perspective

Practical Criticism

Point of view and the portrayal or women characters in:

Kiswahili novels

Kiswahili plays

Kiswahili poetry

Kiswahili films

Kiswahili news papers

Taarab, popular music and theatre

Oral literature

Advertisements

Other works of art

Paintings and drawings

Makonde art and other “vinyago”

**Mode of Delivery**

* Lectures
* Group Discussion
* Role Play

**Mode of Assessment**

* Course work and Oral presentations will contribute 30%
* Final Examination will constitute 70%

**References**

Dipio, D. (1998): *Theory and Criticism of Literature*. Department of Distance Education

– Makerere University, Kampala

Dorsch, T.S. (1965): *Classical Literary Criticism,* Penguin, London

Jaffeson, A. and Robey, D. (eds) (1991): *Modern Literary Criticism*, B.T.Bladford,

London

Kimani, N. and Chimerah, R. (1999): *Ufundishaji wa Fasihi: Nadharia na Mbinu*, JKF,

Nairobi

Wamitila, K.W. (2002): *Uhakiki wa Fasihi*, Phoenix, Nairobi