This course will explore the possibilities of reading beyond the borders of national identities, home and place, race and ethnicity. It will also explore how we read certain texts, how certain literatures claim the human, the nation, the universe and how other literatures are positioned as other. We will look at how these two positionings are dependent on each other and whether it is possible to read beyond them. Do women belong to the nation? How is writing by women positioned along these fault lines? How do women write the nation? How do they write place, national identity, race ethnicity and gender. The course will take up writers whose work trouble these notions of human and other.

**Required readings**


**Recommended readings**


The recommended readings will be on reserve in the library.

**Assignment and Evaluation WS 302-4**

An oral class presentation on at least one of the novels in the course 30%  
A written version of the oral presentation 30%  
An essay (12-14 pages) 30%  
Class participation 10%

**Assignment and Evaluation WS 823-5**

An oral class presentation on at least one of the novels in the course 20%  
A written version of the oral presentation 35%  
An essay (15-20 pages) 35%  
Class participation 10%

**Prerequisites:**
Six credits in Women's Studies including WS 101 and/or WS 102.

*NOTE: The department of Women's Studies encourages clarity of thought and expression and good writing. Students will be evaluated on these skills in all courses given by the department.*