



**Instructor:** Mark Crimmins

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**Course Number:** ENG329H5S

**Course Title:** Contemporary British Fiction

**Course Description:** This course will examine work by six contemporary British authors: Julian Barnes's postmodern masterpiece, *A History of the World in 10 ½ Chapters*; Martin Amis's first novel, *The Rachel Papers*; Monica Ali's celebration of immigrant life in London, *Brick Lane*; Nicola Barker's analysis of the magical qualities of a media event in *Clear: A Transparent Novel*; Ian McEwan's memorable narrative of one day in the life of a London brain surgeon, *Saturday*; and Zadie Smith's examination of how we search for meaning through popular culture, *The Autograph Man*.

**Required Reading:**

Martin Amis: *The Rachel Papers* (1973); Julian Barnes:

*A History of the World in 10 ½ Chapters* (1989); Zadie Smith: *The Autograph Man* (2002); Monica Ali: *Brick Lane* (2003); Nicola Barker: *Clear: A Transparent Novel* (2004); Ian McEwan: *Saturday* (2005).

**First Authors to be Studied:** Amis, Barnes, McEwan

**Method of Instruction:** Lecture and discussion

**Method of Evaluation:**

2 Short Papers:	20% each
Test:	15%
Final Exam:	35%
Participation	10%