

Fall/Winter 2019-2020

AP/EN 3410A 3.0 (F)

Caribbean Literature

Course Director:

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Office: 6th Floor, Kaneff Tower

Delivery Format:

Seminar

Time:

Thursday 11:30AM-2:30PM

Description:

Distinguished by an exacting climate and geography, a complex history of inter-colonial conquest, and the interaction and coexistence of multiple peoples, cultures, and languages, the Caribbean has given rise to a rich body of intellectual and literary production. Caribbean thinkers have led fundamental debates about liberation, identity, and national consciousness while experimenting with and creating original forms of expression. This course offers a broad survey of pan-Caribbean literature and culture from the mid-twentieth century to the present. In an attempt to explore the region's linguistic and cultural range, we will read novels, short stories, poetry, essays, and films from Anglophone, Francophone, and Hispanophone authors (in English translation) that cover major topics in Caribbean culture: the colonial legacy, decolonization and independence, oral tradition and music, exile and diaspora, globalization and ecology. We will read these works with an eye to their particular historical, environmental context and to the literary and artistic practices with which they engage.

Category:

C

Historical Requirement:

N/A

Requirements:

5 response papers, 2 pages each (30%)
Oral presentation (15%)
Research essay, 6-8 pages (25%)
Final test (20%)
Class participation (10%)

Reading List:

(The following texts are available at the York University bookstore)
Cesaire, Aime. *A Tempest*. New York: Editions du Seuil, 1992.
Diaz, Junot. *The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2007.
Selections of writing from David Dabydeen, George Lamming, Derek Walcott, Kamau Brathwaite, Martin Carter, Rajkumari Singh, Mahadai Das, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Edwidge Danticat, Pedro Mir, Jamaica Kincaid, Earl Lovelace, Christian Campbell, and Ana Lydia Vega will be made available online or in class.

Open To:

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