

English 7328 / 8328
Major Authors, African American Literature
Fall 2017, Tuesday 5:30-8:30
Meets in Patterson Hall 221

Dr. V. Mitchell
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Overview:

This course focuses on three of the most acclaimed contemporary American novelists: Edward P. Jones, Dolen Perkins-Valdez, and Jesmyn Ward. We will consider the political and cultural contexts of the writers, as well as critical debates which inform our understanding of their texts. The course is designed both for non-specialists and for those wishing to build a foundation for more advanced work in African American literature and culture.

Texts:

Jones, Edward P. *All Aunt Hagar's Children*. 2006. Amistad, 2007. ISBN: 0-06-055757-5.

Jones, Edward P. *Lost in the City*. 1992. Amistad, 2003. ISBN: 0-06-056628-0.

Jones, Edward P. *The Known World*. 2003. Amistad, 2004. ISBN: 0-06-055755-9.

Perkins-Valdez, Dolen. *Balm*. 2015. Amistad, 2016. ISBN: 978-0-06-231866-4.

Perkins-Valdez, Dolen. *Wench*. 2010. Amistad, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-06-170656-1.

Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones*. 2011. Bloomsbury, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-60819-626-5.

Ward, Jesmyn. *Men We Reaped*. 2013. Bloomsbury, 2014. ISBN: 978-1-60819-765-1.

