

## ENGL 4451: Women and Literature: Power, Patriarchy, & Feminism

### **Course Description:**

In this course, we will examine and critique the evolving representations of women in literature. Reading women's literature spanning from the seventeenth century through the twentieth century, we will explore how women authors have resisted the hegemonic patriarchal culture that they inhabit. We will think through the following issues: representations of power; the matrix of race, class, and gender; definitions of womanhood; and, finally, survival.

### **Required Texts:**

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*—Harriet Jacobs—9780674002715—or download free at [www.docsouth.unc.edu](http://www.docsouth.unc.edu)

*House on Mango Street*—Sandra Cisneros—9780679734775

*Kindred*—Octavia E. Butler—9780807083697

*Hobomok. A Tale of Early Times*—9780813511641

*Gate to Women's Country*—Sherri S. Tepper—978-0553280647 or a Kindle version

"The Yellow Wallpaper"—Charlotte Perkins Gilman—uploaded to eCourseware

"Desiree's Baby" & "The Story of an Hour"—Kate Chopin—uploaded to eCourseware

"A Room of One's Own"—Virginia Woolf—uploaded to eCourseware

"In Search of Our Mother's Gardens"—Alice Walker—uploaded to eCourseware

"The Cult of True Womanhood"—Barbara Welter—uploaded to eCourseware