

**English 3326-M50**  
**African American Literature Since the Harlem Renaissance**  
**WEB**

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And dishwater gives back no images.  
—William Waring Cuney

**Description:**

This online course provides a forum for in-depth study of African American authors, focusing on relationships among them and comparing their aesthetics. We will examine both established and emerging writers, as well as canonical and lesser-known works. Along with exploring traditional readings, I will invite you to promote new readings and emerging contexts—especially with reference to the American Left, queer theory, postcolonial studies, and contemporary feminist theory.

**Tentative Primary Texts:**

Ann Petry, *The Street* (1946)  
August Wilson, *Fences* (1986)  
Toni Morrison, *God Help the Child* (2015)  
Britt Bennett, *The Mothers* (2016)  
Chanelle Benz, *The Gone Dead* (2019)  
Britt Bennett, *The Vanishing Half* (2020)  
Selected Black Arts Movement Short Stories  
Selected Black Arts Movement Poetry