Slavery Reimagined: The Neo-slave Narrative

ENGL 4372.M50 Dr. Shelby Crosby

Online

In this course we will examine the nineteenth century through the lens of the neo-slave narrative. A neo-slave narrative is a contemporary narrative of slavery that uses race, gender, notions of home/place and sexuality as reference points to discuss the enduring legacy of slavery. This class will interrogate how twentieth and twenty-first century Black authors re-imagine and give voice to the enslaved. As a class we will interrogate notions of freedom, resistance, power and literacy.

Tentative course texts:

Kindred—Octavia E. Butler
Middle Passage—Charles Johnson
Wench—Dolan Perkins-Valdez
Flight to Canada—Ishmael Reed
Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl—Harriet Jacobs
The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave—Frederick Douglass