

**Course Description:**

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 texts:

*Kindred*—Octavia E. Butler

*Middle Passage*—Charles Johnson

*Wench*—Dolan Perkins-Valdez

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*—Harriet Jacobs

*Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom*—William and Ellen Craft

*The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*—Frederick Douglass