

**ENGL 3360 Survey of African American Literature**  
**Cedric Tolliver**

This course introduces students to various genres of writing in the African American literary tradition. We will study slave narratives, autobiographies, poetry, novels, short stories, and drama. These works of literature represent aesthetic responses to and reflections on particular historical moments in the United States: antebellum, post-Reconstruction, interwar, and post-World War II. Our literary-historical approach will focus on understanding how African Americans have contributed to and signified on major literary and artistic movements such as realism, naturalism, modernism, and postmodernism. Throughout the course, students will develop attentive reading, critical thinking, clear writing, and persuasive presentation skills to discuss the themes constituting this literary tradition.