

### **3301-Introduction to Literary Studies**

**Dr. Cedric Tolliver**

This course introduces students to literary studies through an extended consideration of the literary genre of tragedy. We will ground our work in the study of three tragic dramas: Sophocles' *Antigone*, Shakespeare's *Othello*, and Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. In addition to these dramas, students will study a range of contemporary literary theories, including psychoanalytic, feminist, Marxist, deconstructive, and postcolonial approaches to literature and culture. Ultimately, this course encourages students to employ literary theory to think critically and write about the questions of change and power raised in tragic drama. In sum, this course is about learning to read literary texts, conduct research, and write essays.