

ENGL 3369*

CARIBBEAN DIASPORA LITERATURES



Wifredo Lam, "The Jungle"

Spring 2015

Tuesday and Thursday.
10am-11:30am

Instructor:
Dr. Kavita Singh

Questions? Write:
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It may call to mind beaches, reggae, and voodoo, but the Caribbean is also a nexus of rich literary production. This course will introduce students to fiction, poetry, drama, and other genres of literary creation from the Caribbean and the Caribbean diaspora in Europe and North America. We will explore how colonization and anticolonial resistance has demanded innovations in form and language in Caribbean writing. How cultural and literary creativity has emerged despite a history of enslavement, repression, and alienation. How the far-flung diaspora impacts the development of national Caribbean literatures, making this regional tradition also inherently global. And throughout, we will ask how gender and sexuality are represented, suppressed, or voiced through and with these dominant themes, confronting the violence and productivity of both inherited practices and of newly created ones.

Authors studied may include: V.S. Naipaul, Maryse Condé, Dionne Brand, Derek Walcott, Aimé Césaire, Kamau Brathwaite, Simone Schwarz-Bart, Jose Martí, Earl Lovelace, Shani Mootoo, Pauline Melville, and Nicholas Guillen.

*Petitionable for WGSS