This course features a variety of modern and contemporary literature from the Western Hemisphere, focusing on North American and Caribbean texts. With an understanding that the very concept of the "New World" is predicated on the colonial enterprise, we will consider how literary works explore key topics in postcolonial studies such as the nation, ethnic and racial identities, historical memory, gender and sexuality, and socio-political power. We will engage with an array of theoretical and cultural discourses over the course of the semester. For example, you can expect to encounter scholarship on decolonization, performance, translation, religion, diaspora, and post humanism.