LIT 4351 Major African Writers
“Narrative Form and Postcolonial Identity”
Dr. Michael Grafals
Coming Spring 2021!

Course fulfills Late and Elective requirements

A central concern in postcolonial African fiction is the need to create a sense of identity against Western and colonialist discourses that threaten the flourishing of African identities. But narratives that construct African identity also come up against ambiguities and tensions of class and gender differences embedded within national identities. This course surveys African literature by focusing on fictions that negotiate the complexity and ambiguity of African identity in a postcolonial context. We will study retellings of the Epic of Sunjata, Chinua Achebe, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, Tsitsi Dangarembga, the films of Ousmane Sembène, Zakes Mda and Yaa Gyasi.