

Contemporary Women Writers of the Caribbean



The course will focus on the works of four women novelists from different literary-linguistic traditions within the Caribbean. We will read works by Dominican-American writer Julia Alvarez; Guadeloupean author Maryse Conde, Haitian novelist and essayist Edwidge Danticat, and Antiguan short story writer and novelist Jamaica Kincaid. The works of these authors address the forces that shape the lives of women in their countries of origin, the deep history of the islands, including the destruction of the original inhabitants, the Middle Passage, the long struggle for independence, and for democracy. Their works aim to capture women's contributions to the culture of survival within these island nations and the importance of family, community, and storytelling. We will also read some of the important women poets from the Caribbean such as Jamaicans Lorna Goodison and Sufiya Sinclair.

ENGL 487/587

Ziba Rashidian

MW 11:00-12:15 VF