

# EN 8333: STUDIES IN SOUTHERN LITERATURE

# SOUTHERLY

# CURRENTS



This course focuses on literature and culture of the US South in the twenty-first century. We will cover a diverse selection of authors and texts, putting them in illuminating contexts by drawing on relevant theory and criticism informing the field of southern studies. We will read novels, short fiction, and poetry in addition to studying selections from cinema, comics, and serialized podcasts. The material will allow us to think through key issues and concepts that are shaping critical views of contemporary southern literature and culture: racial identity and conflict; gender and sexuality; historical and cultural memory; Gothic elements and influences; the “rough South”; climate fiction (“clif-fi”); and the US South in local, regional, national, and global contexts.

Texts: Jesmyn Ward, *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (novel); Natasha Trethewey, *Native Guard* (poetry); Hillary Jordan, *Mudbound* (novel); Dee Rees, *Mudbound* (film); Monique Truong, *Bitter in the Mouth* (novel); Kingsolver, *Flight Behavior* (novel); Josh Neufeld, *A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge* (graphic novel); Brian Reed, *S-Town* (podcast); selected short stories



**Dr. Ted Atkinson**  
**Fall 2018**  
**Thursdays, 5:00-7:50 PM**

