History, Morality, Narration, and the Caribbean

Enrique Lima

Meetings on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. between June 8 and 29, 2016

Wednesday, June 8, 2016 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
University Hall Room 41B

Price: $110.00

This course examines the tortured history of the greater Caribbean as represented in William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!* and Junot Díaz' *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. These two major works of fiction—one written by a white Southerner in the early 20th century and the other by a Dominican immigrant at the beginning of the 21st—share many historical and literary concerns. Both works are sustained meditations on racialized slavery, plantation economies, the problem of narrating history, and the stifling influence of the past. The past, full of wonder and terror, savagery and beauty, is brought to life in these novels in order to understand the shackles it places on the present and the promise of freedom contained in the future.

Enrique Lima has taught literature at the University of Oregon and UC Berkeley. He has published in journals such as Modern Fiction Studies, Novel: A Forum on Fiction, and Comparative Literature. This is his second course with OLLI.

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