

G41.2834 U.S. Fiction after 1940

This course will examine trends in U.S. Fiction after 1940 through readings of six novelists whose works will be treated as case studies in the larger dynamics of genre and literary history. We will read the following novels: Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*; Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*; Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49*; Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony*; Toni Morrison, *Beloved*; Philip Roth, *The Human Stain*. Each week will also include readings in the literary history of the period and considerations of different theoretical approaches to the study of U.S. fiction. Students will be required to contribute to the course blog each week and to prepare a conference-style proposal and paper.

Students should read *Invisible Man* in its entirety before the first class meeting on May 18.