WINTER SEMESTER 1988
SPANISH 376/CAAS 406
“CARIBBEAN LITERATURE”

An interdisciplinary focus on Caribbean issues and the idea of civilization. Based upon the theoretical premises of Frantz Fanon, C.L.R. James, Fernández Retamar, Edward Said, Tzvetan Todorov, Homi Bhabha, Francis Barker, and Peter Hulme, we will explore the so-called Lesser and Greater Antilles. Emphasis will be placed upon the complex roles played by several factors in determining the reality and our consciousness of the myriad islands and countries of the Caribbean Basin: the pre-Columbian Caribbean, colonial and imperial Europe, traditional and modern Africa, the USA of the 20th Century and certain contemporary Central-American nations. As well, we will take a close look at ideas like identity and self-definition, assimilation, acculturation, and transculturation in the context of the European, African, and Amerindian encounters on Caribbean soil. Against this historical, anthropological, political, and cultural backdrop, we will then analyze excerpts from selected literary works by Guillén, Padilla, Césaire, Brathwaite, Lovelace, Wilson, Juminer, and Nancy Morejón. Whenever possible, African and Afro-American parallels will be drawn.

Class Format Lectures, presentations, and roundtable discussion, plus video, slides, and film shows.

Course Requirements 2 midterms, and a term paper. For the paper, students will concentrate on a topic, an area (Spanish Caribbean, English Caribbean, etc), or a writer of greatest interest to them.

Required Texts KINKO’S package prepared by instructor

Professor: Josaphat B. Kubayanda, Ohio State University

For further information, please contact Professor Walter D. Mignolo
4222 MLB 4-5249