

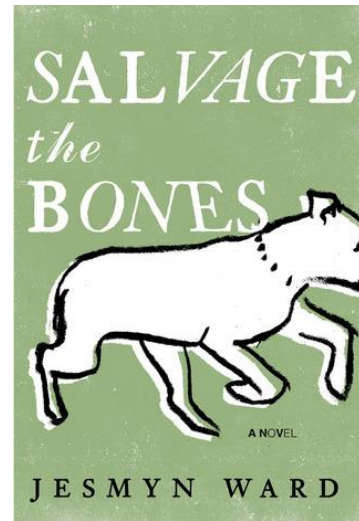
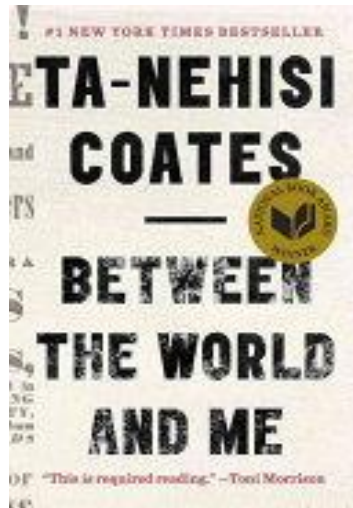
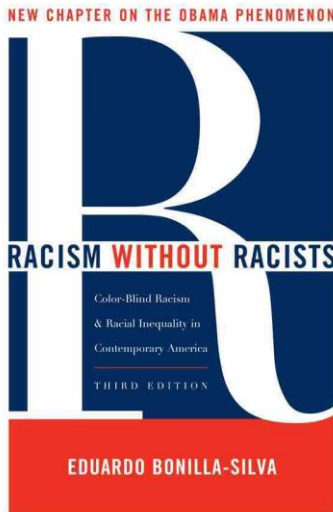
EN 4990/6990

Racism Without Racists
Contemporary African American
Literature in a (post) racial era

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Course Description:

This course will examine the literary works of authors whose works address race and racial identity written during our contemporary moment often referred to as the “post racial era.” In addressing these authors and their works, we will interrogate how these texts engage the subject of race and racial identity despite the contradictory rhetoric of post-racialism, which asserts that race no longer delimits the lives of “minority” groups even (or especially) as racial divisions continue to exert themselves in our society. We will track the elusive concept of race, what Stuart Hall has called a “floating signifier,” in these various novels and stories. Our primary mode of inquiry will center on how these works either refute the post racial narrative of our society or necessarily complicate it. For theoretical and historical grounding, we will read the seminal work of sociologist Eduardo Bonilla-Silva *Racism Without Racists*.