“Power concedes nothing without a demand.”
Fredrick Douglass, 1857

From the slave narrative to the Black Lives Matter Movement, African American writers have used the printed word to shout out and articulate calls for racial equality and social justice. This class will examine many of the most important writings in the Black protest tradition, from the battle against slavery to the present. Writers to be studied include Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, David Walker, Ida B. Wells, Richard Wright, James Baldwin, June Jordan, Toni Morrison, Alice Walker and Ta-nehisi Coates.