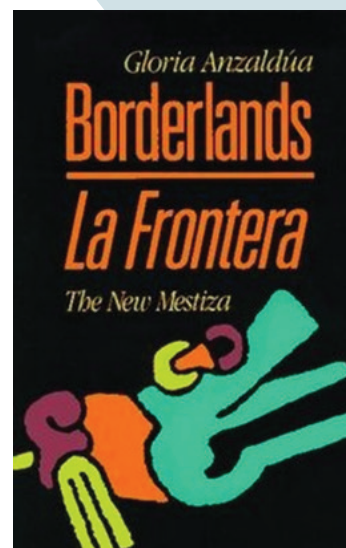
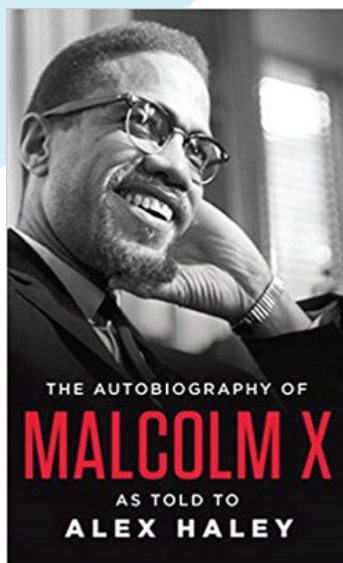
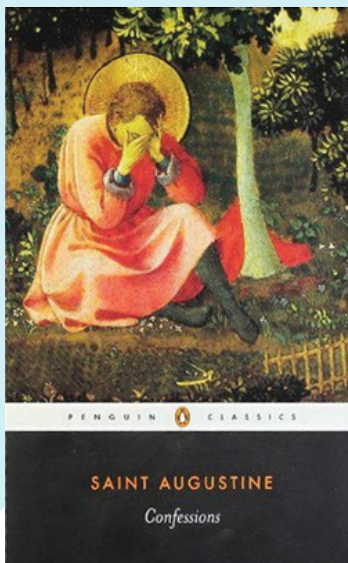


RELI 697

Undergraduate Capstone: Confession and Conversion



This capstone seminar will study confession and conversion in comparative fashion. Beginning with the Confessions of St. Augustine, we will interpret how individuals have represented their changing religious identity through first-person narrative, autobiography, artwork, and memoir. From Dorothy Day's *The Long Loneliness* to Kendrick Lamar's *Good Kid, M.A.A.D city*, we will take up diverse modes of representation including documentaries, albums, letters, self-portrait, and poetry. In addition to direct interpretation of these sources, the course seeks to theorize religious change in relation to colonialism, race, gender, and sexuality. Examples taken from indigenous encounters with missionaries, Malcolm X's autobiographical transformations, LGBTQ Orthodox Jews navigating competing communities, and Gloria Anzaldúa's theorization of the *mestizaje* will further complicate any assumption about conversion representing unidirectional transformation or simply religious identity. Instead, we will see how individuals negotiate and represent themselves to different communities according to time and circumstance.

Brandon Bayne
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Tuesdays
2:00PM - 4:50PM

General Education Requirements: CI

