This course will explore the experience of slavery in the Caribbean for Africans and their descendants from the 16th to the 19th century. Depending on geography, the experience of slavery was shaped by different cultural, economic and colonial contexts as the enslaved struggled for survival and towards freedom. This course will interrogate this long history thematically through readings and lectures about the transformation of African cultural traditions and identities from Africa to the Caribbean, rural versus urban enslavement, comparisons of the development of slavery in different colonial geographies (Spanish, French, Dutch and English) and resistance, abolition, and emancipation movements throughout the Caribbean. Paying close attention to political ideologies of freedom, individual rights and revolutionary sentiments traveling through this Atlantic world in the 18th century we will also discuss the discourse of abolition and the transformative role of the Haitian Revolution played in spurring emancipation across the Caribbean. Our analysis of comparative slavery in the Caribbean will also consider the ways race and gender was being shaped in the context of cross cultural contact between Europeans and Africans. Course material will include primary and secondary sources, film, and literature and visual images. For the course requirements students will complete online reading responses, a midterm exam and a final research paper.