Young African writers are often cosmopolitan in their residence and cultural patterns, with many living outside Africa while maintaining links to its people and cultures, thus their literary output is more diversified in its themes than those of their predecessors. This is the lens through which Professor Cancel will lead a discussion on the novels of three critically acclaimed African writers: Chimamanda Ngoze Adichie, Teju Cole and Tayie Selasi.

Robert Cancel researches and teaches African oral and written literatures and traditions, African cinema, and Caribbean literature. His research interests also lie in the political, historical and social aspects of African countries, specifically those in southern Africa, as well as in Caribbean music, literature, and cultural representations of the 1960s.