

ADVANCE SYLLABUS

EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE ENGLISH 203 - UC BERKELEY - FALL 2016

Professor Bryan Wagner
Contact: bwagner@berkeley.edu
Class Hours: Tue/Thu 12:30-2:00
Office Hours: Tue/Thu 2:00-3:30

REQUIRED BOOKS

Charles W. Chesnutt, The Marrow of Tradition (Penguin)
Charles W. Chesnutt, Conjure Tales and Stories of the Color Line (Penguin)
Frederick Douglass, The Portable Frederick Douglass (Penguin)
W. E. B. Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folk (Penguin)
Olaudah Equiano, The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings (Penguin)
Frances E. W. Harper, Iola Leroy, or Shadows Uplifted (Penguin)
Pauline E. Hopkins, Of One Blood (Washington Square)
Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Harvard)
Austin Reed, The Life and the Adventures of a Haunted Convict (Random House)
David Walker, Appeal to the Coloured Citizens of the World (Penn State)
Phillis Wheatley, Complete Writings (Penguin)

SUGGESTED BOOKS

Lois Brown, Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins: Black Daughter of the Revolution (UNC)
Vincent Carretta, Equiano, The African: A Self-Made Man (Penguin)
Henry Louis Gates Jr., The Trials of Phillis Wheatley (Basic Books)
Robert Levine, The Lives of Frederick Douglass (Harvard)
David Levering Lewis, W. E. B. Du Bois, 1868-1919: Biography of a Race (Holt)
Nell Irvin Painter, Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol (Norton)
Jean Fagan Yellin, Harriet Jacobs: A Life (Basic Books)

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

All other works are available in PDF format on BCourses. They can also be ordered as a three-volume course reader from Metro Publishing (2440 Bancroft Way, 510-644-1999).

WEEKLY READING AND WRITING

There is a lot of reading in this course. Be sure to read the primary works assigned for each week before turning to the suggested and supplementary materials. Each week you are responsible for posting a reading response under the "Discussions" tab on BCourses. Your response should be equivalent to at least a page of writing. Please read everyone's responses before coming to class, and be sure to post your own response by 11pm on Monday to give everyone time to read it.

CRITICAL AND CONTEXTUAL SYNTHESIS

One time in the semester you will be responsible for posting a longer critical response in which you address the most important points from the week's suggested and supplementary readings, noting ways in which they can enrich our conversation. This response should be equivalent to 3-5 pages of writing; it substitutes for your regular response for the week.

CONFERENCE PAPER

At the end of the semester, we will hold a conference at which students will give papers related to the course. We will follow the typical format for academic conferences, with each presentation allotted 15-20 minutes. Be sure to consult with me about the topics you are considering so I can help to guide your thinking. We will also have an in-class writing workshop on November 22.

ENGLISH 203 - EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE - FALL 2016

AUGUST 25

Course Introduction

AUGUST 30 and SEPTEMBER 1

Primary Works

Phillis Wheatley, Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral (1773)

Suggested Works

Lucy Terry, "Bars Fight" (1746)

Jupiter Hammon, "An Evening Thought" (1761) and "An Essay on Slavery" (1775)

Thomas Jefferson, "Query XIV" from Notes on the State of Virginia (1785)

Criticism and Context

Henry Louis Gates Jr., The Trials of Phillis Wheatley (2003)

Dickson D. Bruce, "Background" and "The Age of Revolution" (2001)

Philip D. Morgan, "The Cultural Implications of the Atlantic Slave Trade" (1997)

SEPTEMBER 6 and 8

Primary Works

Olaudah Equiano, Interesting Narrative of the Life (1789)

Suggested Works

Briton Hammon, Narrative of the Uncommon Sufferings (1760)

James Albert Gronniosaw, Narrative of the Most Remarkable Particulars (1772)

Ottobah Cugoano, Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evils of Slavery (1787)

Criticism and Context

Vincent Carretta, Equiano, the African: Biography of a Self Made Man (2005)

Paul E. Lovejoy, "Gustavus Vassa, alias Olaudah Equiano, the African" (2006)

Christopher Leslie Brown, "Envisioning an Empire Without Slaves" (2004)

SEPTEMBER 13 and 15

Primary Works

Thomas R. Gray, The Confessions of Nat Turner (1831)
Robert Alexander Young, The Ethiopian Manifesto (1829)
David Walker, Appeal . . . to the Coloured Citizens of the World (1829)

Suggested Works

Cotton Mather, Tremenda (1721)
Abraham Johnstone, Address of Abraham Johnstone (1797)
James Hamilton, Account of the Late Intended Insurrection (1822)

Criticism and Context

David Allmendinger, "Rebellion" and "Telling Evidence" (2014)
Jeannine DeLombard, "The Ignominious Cord" and "The Work of Death" (2012)
Michael P. Johnson, "Denmark Vesey and His Co-Conspirators" (2001)

SEPTEMBER 20 and 22

Primary Works

Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life (1845)
Frederick Douglass, My Bondage and My Freedom (1855)
Frederick Douglass, "Oration, Delivered in Corinthian Hall" (1852)

Suggested Works

Frederick Douglass, "The Heroic Slave" (1853)
Victor Séjour, "The Mulatto" (1837)
"Theresa; a Haytien Tale" (1828)

Criticism and Context

Robert S. Levine, The Lives of Frederick Douglass (2016)
Manisha Sinha, "Fugitive Slave Abolitionism" and "Politics of Abolition" (2016)
John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweningen, "They Seek a City" and "The Hunt" (1999)

SEPTEMBER 27 and 29

Primary Works

Sojourner Truth, Narrative of Sojourner Truth (1850)
Sojourner Truth, "Address at the Woman's Rights Convention" (1851)

Suggested Works

Frances D. Gage, "Sojourner Truth" (1881)
Harriet Beecher Stowe, "The Libyan Sibyl" (1863)
Henry Box Brown, Narrative of the Life of Henry Box Brown (1851)

Criticism and Context

Nell Irvin Painter, Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol (1997)
Darcy Grimaldo Grigsby, "Negative-Positive Truths" (2011)
Daphne A. Brooks, "The Escape Artist" (2006)

OCTOBER 4 and 6

Primary Works

Austin Reed, The Life and the Adventures of a Haunted Convict (1858)

Suggested Works

Solomon Northup, Twelve Years a Slave (1853)
Martin R. Delany, Blake; or the Huts of America (1859-61)
William and Ellen Craft, Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom (1860)

Criticism and Context

Joan Dayan, "Legal Slaves and Civil Bodies" (2001)
Orlando Patterson, "Constituent Elements" and "Internal Relations" (1982)
Barbara McCaskill, "The Thrilling Escape" and "Boston's Glorious Fugitives" (2015)

OCTOBER 11 and 13

Primary Works

Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (1861)

Suggested Works

John S. Jacobs, "A True Tale of Slavery" (1861)

Maria Stewart, "Religion and the Pure Principles of Morality" (1831)

Harriet E. Wilson, Our Nig, or Sketches from the Life of a Free Black (1859)

Criticism and Context

Jean Fagan Yellin, Harriet Jacobs: A Life (2005)

Saidiya V. Hartman, "Seduction and the Ruses of Power" (1997)

Thavolia Glymph, "Beyond the Limits of Decency" (2008)

OCTOBER 18 and 20

Primary Works

Frances E. W. Harper, Iola Leroy, or, Shadows Uplifted (1892)

Suggested Works

Lydia Maria Child, "The Quadroons" (1842)

Frances E. W. Harper, Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects (1857)

Anna Julia Cooper, "Women's Cause is One and Universal" (1893)

Criticism and Context

Hazel Carby, "Black Feminist Thought after Emancipation" (1987)

Elsa Barkley Brown, "Political Life in the Transition from Slavery to Freedom" (1994)

Meredith McGill, "Frances Harper and the Circuits of Abolitionist Poetry" (2012)

OCTOBER 25 and 27

Primary Works

Paul Laurence Dunbar, Lyrics of Lowly Life (1896)

Suggested Works

Alice Moore Dunbar-Nelson, "Violets" (1895)

George Moses Horton, "George Moses Horton, Myself" (1865)

James Weldon Johnson, Preface to The Book of American Negro Poetry (1922)

Criticism and Context

Gavin Jones, "Paul Laurence Dunbar and the Authentic Black Voice" (1999)

David W. Blight, "Literature of Reunion" and "Causes not Lost" (2001)

Kevin Young, "Paul Laurence Dunbar and His Descendants" (2012)

NOVEMBER 1 and 3

Primary Works

Charles W. Chesnutt, The Conjure Woman (1899)

Suggested Works

Ida B. Wells, A Red Record (1895)

Thomas Nelson Page, "Marse Chan" (1884)

Booker T. Washington, "Atlanta Compromise Address" (1895)

Criticism and Context

Richard Brodhead, "Reading of Regions" and "Transaction of Authorship" (1993)

Leon F. Litwack, "Hellhounds" and "Enduring" (1998)

Glenda R. Carpio, "Laffin' Fit ter Kill" (2008)

NOVEMBER 8 and 10

Primary Works

Charles W. Chesnutt, The Marrow of Tradition (1901)

Suggested Works

Thomas Dixon, The Leopard's Spots: A Romance of the White Man's Burden (1902)

David Bryant Fulton, Hanover; or, The Persecution of the Lowly (1899)

Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mob Rule in New Orleans (1900)

Criticism and Context

Eric J. Sundquist, "Charles Chesnutt's Cakewalk" (1993)

Jacqueline Goldsby, "Lynching Photography at the Turn of the Century" (2006)

Khalil G. Muhammad, "Racial Criminalization and the Dawn of Jim Crow" (2011)

NOVEMBER 15 and 17

Primary Works

W. E. B. Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folk (1903)

Suggested Works

Plessy v. Ferguson 163 U.S. 537 (1896)

William James, "The Consciousness of Self" (1890)

W. E. B. Du Bois, "Propaganda of History" (1936)

Criticism and Context

David Levering Lewis, W. E. B. Du Bois, 1868-1919: Biography of a Race (1994)

Nahum Chandler, "The Problem of the Negro as a Problem for Thought" (2008)

Fred Moten, "Uplift and Criminality" (2007)

NOVEMBER 22

Writing Workshop: Before 7pm on Monday, post a 300-word abstract for the paper you will deliver at our conference in the "Writing Workshop" topic under the "Discussions" tab on BCourses. Read everyone's abstracts, and come to class ready to discuss them.

NOVEMBER 29 and DECEMBER 1

Primary Works

Pauline E. Hopkins, *Of One Blood* (1903)

Suggested Works

Alexander Crummell, *Civilization, The Primal Need of the Race* (1898)

W. E. B. DuBois, "The Conservation of Races" (1897)

Sutton Griggs, *Imperium in Imperio* (1899)

Criticism and Context

Lois Brown, *Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins: Black Daughter of the Revolution* (2014)

Wilson Jeremiah Moses, "Varieties of Black Historicism" (1998)

Robin D. G. Kelley, "Black History's Global Vision" (1999)

CONFERENCE

Date and location to be determined

COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY

David Allmendinger, "Rebellion" and "Telling Evidence," in Nat Turner and the Rising in Southampton County (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014), 87-280.

David W. Blight, "The Literature of Reunion and Its Discontents" and "The Lost Cause and Causes not Lost," in Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001), 211-299.

Richard H. Brodhead, "Reading of Regions" and "Why Could Not a Colored Man? Chesnutt and the Transaction of Authorship," in Cultures of Letters: Scenes of Reading and Writing in 19th-Century America (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993), 107-41, 177-210.

Daphne A. Brooks, "The Escape Artist," in Bodies in Dissent: Spectacular Performances of Race and Freedom, 1850-1910 (Durham, N. C.: Duke University Press, 2006), 66-130.

Christopher Leslie Brown, "From Slaves to Subjects: Envisioning an Empire Without Slaves, 1772-1834," in Eds. Philip D. Morgan and Sean Hawkins, Black Experience and the Empire (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 111-140.

Elsa Barkley Brown, "Negotiating and Transforming the Public Sphere: African American Political Life in the Transition from Slavery to Freedom," Public Culture 7 (1994): 107-146.

Henry Box Brown, Narrative of the Life of Henry Box Brown, Written by Himself (Manchester, U. K.: Lee and Glynn, 1851).

Lois Brown, Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins: Black Daughter of the Revolution (Chapel Hill, N. C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2014).

Dickson D. Bruce Jr., "Background" and "The Age of Revolution," in The Origins of African American Literature, 1680-1865 (Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia Press, 2001), 1-91.

Hazel V. Carby, "'Of Lasting Service for the Race': The Work of Frances Ellen Watkins Harper" and "'In the Quiet, Undisputed Dignity of My Womanhood': Black Feminist Thought after Emancipation," in Reconstructing Womanhood: The Emergence of the Afro-American Woman Novelist (New York: Oxford University Press, 1987), 62-120.

Glenda R. Carpio, "'Laffin' fit ter kill': Black Humor in the Fiction of William Wells Brown and Charles W. Chesnutt," in Laughing Fit to Kill: Black Humor in the Fictions of Slavery (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008), 29-71.

Vincent Carretta, Equiano, The African: A Self-Made Man (New York: Penguin, 2007).

Nahum Dimitri Chandler, "Of Exorbitance: The Problem of the Negro as a Problem for Thought," Criticism 50 (2008): 345-410.

Charles W. Chesnutt, Conjure Tales and Stories of the Color Line, Ed. William L. Andrews (New York: Penguin, 2000).

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Lydia Maria Child, "The Quadroons" in The Liberty Bell, by Friends of Freedom (Boston: Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Fair, 1842), 115-41.

Anna Julia Cooper, "Women's Cause is One and Universal," in Ed. May Wright Sewell, The World's Congress of Representative Women (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1894), 711-15.

William Craft, Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom; or, the Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery (London: William Tweedie, 1860).

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Joan Dayan, "Legal Slaves and Civil Bodies," Nepantla 2 (2001): 3-39.

Martin R. Delany, Blake; or, The Huts of America, Ed. Floyd J. Miller (Boston: Beacon, 1970).

Jeannine DeLombard, "The Ignominious Cord: Crime, Counterfactuals, and the New Black Politics" and "The Work of Death: Time, Crime, and Personhood in Jacksonian America," in In the Shadow of the Gallows: Race, Crime, and American Civic Identity (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012), 119-205.

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John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger, "They Seek a City" and "The Hunt," in Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999), 124-181.

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Henry Louis Gates Jr., The Trials of Phillis Wheatley (New York: Basic Books, 2003).

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Jacqueline Goldsby, "Through a Different Lens: Lynching Photography at the Turn of the Nineteenth Century" in A Spectacular Secret: Lynching in American Life and Literature (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006), 214-81.

Thomas R. Gray, The Confessions of Nat Turner, the Leader of the Late Insurrection in Southampton, Va. (Baltimore: T. R. Gray, 1831).

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Darcy Grimaldo Grigsby, "Negative-Positive Truths," Representations 113 (2011): 16-38.

James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, A Narrative of the Most Remarkable Particulars in the Life of James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, an African Prince, as Related by Himself (Bath: W. Gye, 1772).

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Jupiter Hammon, An Evening Thought. Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries: Composed by Jupiter Hammon, a Negro belonging to Mr. Lloyd of Queen's Village, on Long Island, the 25th of December, 1760 (Hartford: Printed for the Author, 1761).

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