7/8326 African American Literature of Memphis and the Mid-South

African American Literature of Memphis and the Mid-South is designed to investigate why Memphis is a cultural and literary hub for African Americans.

One-half of the course will focus on the assigned readings leading toward textual and cultural analysis of each; one fourth of the class will be devoted to constructing oral arguments for conference presentations on the theme of the course; and one fourth of the class will be devoted to producing a publishable research article. There will be appropriate drills and exercises on statistics as support (computational intensive) and short written texts (writing intensive).

We will primarily examine the literature via several textual windows: Intertextual, Subtextual, ExtraTextual, Metatextual, Psychological, and Historical.