Description:
You can expect to come away from the class having read—and enjoyed—major works of Harlem Renaissance literature. The Harlem Renaissance generally refers to the decade following World War I, as African American artists produced a wealth of music, literature, dance, visual art, and social discourse. Although centered in New York City, artists from all over the United States, including California, Utah, Kansas, and Tennessee contributed to the movement. Musician W.C. Handy and blues singer Alberta Hunter were from Memphis, and though the novelist and physician Rudolph “Bud” Fisher was born in Washington D.C., his parents were Memphians. In recent years, a steady stream of anthologies, memoirs, criticism, biographies, and collections of letters from the period attests to the popular and academic interest in the Harlem Renaissance. Indeed, since the Renaissance’s zenith in 1926, interest in the field has never been keener. This is an on-line or distance-learning course. As such, the course will consist of e-learning assignments rather than traditional in-class meetings.

Possible Authors:
James Weldon Johnson  Zora Neale Hurston
W. E. B. Du Bois       Nella Larsen
Marita Bonner          Alice Dunbar-Nelson
Jean Toomer            George Schuyler
Georgia Douglas Johnson Helene Johnson
Angelina Welde Grimké   Countee Cullen
Langston Hughes        Claude McKay
Wallace Thurman         Gwendolyn Bennett
Anita Scott Coleman    Rudolph Fisher
Richard Bruce Nugent    Alain Locke
Eulalie Spence          Waring Cuney
Marian Minius          Sterling Brown
Dorothy West            Mae Cowdery

Primary Anthology: