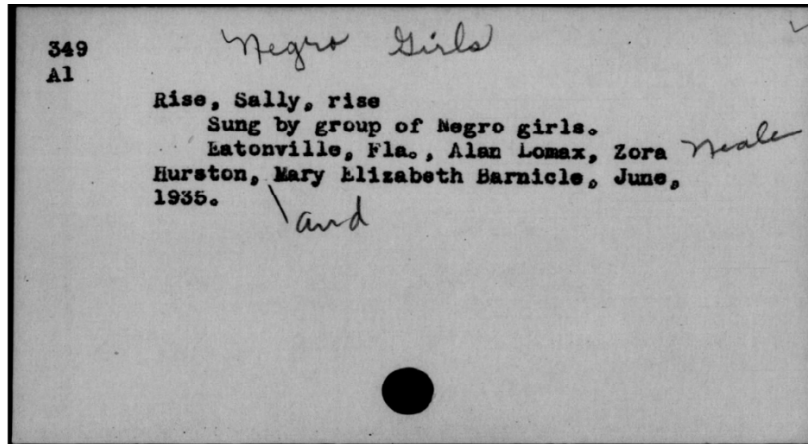


## **“Rise, Sally, Rise”—The Black Feminist/Womanist Literary Movement** **ENGL 4374.M50—African American Literary Movements**

Fall 2021

Dr. L. Menson-Furr



(Lomax, Alan, et al. *Rise, Sally, rise*. Eatonville, Florida, 1935.)

This course will examine the continued development of African American Women’s literature from the 1970s to the present. The decade of the 70s witnessed the rise of the Black Feminist Literary Movement that resonated with the voices of literary phenomes such as Audre Lorde, Toni Morrison, Gloria Naylor, Ntozoke Shange, and Alice Walker and prepared the path for contemporary authors Brit Bennett, Pearl Cleage, Tayari Jones, Suzan-Lori Parks, and Sister Souljah. Sharing this space with colleagues in areas of Africana, artistic, environmental, historical, legal, political, and sociological studies, these writers birthed a literary movement that established frameworks for the development of Black Feminist and Black womanist *belles lettres* that championed political and social activism, correct representation, and inclusivity.

This WEB-based course will include literary and cultural studies readings, multimedia texts (music, video, podcasts, etc.), and video/audio discussion boards as part of its design. Assignments will include written responses, mid-semester and final examinations, interactive/experiential assignments, journal responses, and a micro-teaching presentation.

Planned texts, podcasts, electronic texts include (partial listing):

Bennett, Brit. *The Vanishing Half*.

Cleage, Pearl. *Flyin’ West*.

Girl Trek. <https://www.girltrek.org/>

Medie, Peace Adzo. *His Only Wife*.

Morrison, Toni. *Paradise*.

Naylor, Gloria. *The Women of Brewster Place*.

Nottage, Lynn. *Ruined*.

Parks, Suzan-Lori. *Getting Mother’s Body*.

Perkins-Valdez. *Wench*.

Philips, Layli. *The Womanist Reader: The First Quarter of Womanist Thought*. (excerpts from this text)

Sheftall, Beverly Guy (ed.). *Words of Fire: An Anthology of Black Feminist Thought* (excerpts from this text)

Simone, Nina. "Four Women" and "Young, Gifted, and Black."

Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple* and *In Search of Our Mother's Gardens* (excerpts from this text).