

ENGL 4372: Women of the Harlem Renaissance  
Dr. Shelby Crosby  
TR 9:40-11:05am

**Course Description:** The Harlem Renaissance was a period of literary and artistic vibrancy for African Americans. It is marked by the outpouring of work by and about black folks. In 1925, Alain Locke coined the term the New Negro as a way to discuss and understand the emergence of a new black urban consciousness. The Harlem Renaissance is often referred to as the New Negro movement. In this course we will explore how black women writers engaged with the Harlem Renaissance. How did they respond to not only being black but being a woman? Were their concerns different than their male counterparts? Remember, Zora Neale Hurston claims that “de nigger woman is the de mule of the world.” While this may be true to some extent, Black women are also authors, painters, sculptors, poets, playwrights, editors, and so much more. We are going to explore how Black women controlled the narrative and developed a renaissance.

**Possible Course Texts:**

*Jonah's Gourd Vine*—Zora Neale Hurston—978-0060916510

*Their Eyes Were Watching God*—Zora Neale Hurston—978-006120060

*The Complete Fiction of Nella Larsen: Passing, Quicksand, and the Stories*—Nella Larsen—978-0385721004

*Plum Bun: A Novel without a Moral*—Jesse Redmon Fauset—978-00807009192

*There is Confusion*—Jesse Redmon Fauset—ASIN: BOC2TYYCH