

Race and Resistance in African American Literature
African American Literature since the Harlem Renaissance – English 4372–001
11:20am – 12:45pm T/Th
Professor: Dr. Terrence Tucker

Course Description:

Using text from various time periods, we will examine how African-American authors construct acts of resistance takes place across political, literary, and historical cycles such as the beginning of the 19th century, antebellum slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction and its end, the rise of Jim Crow, and the the Harlem Renaissance. Acts of resistance in the works vary from the conservative to the militant, often contradicting other efforts and causing tensions within African America. By viewing the combination of these cycles, we will view these works to see how the authors negotiate their characters through the minefields of race, gender, and class to resist the forces that seek to deny their humanity.

Required Texts:

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| Chesnutt, Charles | <i>Conjure Tales and Stories of the Color Line</i> |
| | <i>The Marrow of Tradition</i> |
| Craft, William and Ellen | <i>Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom</i> |
| Delaney, Martin | <i>Blake, or the Huts of America</i> |
| Douglass, Frederick | <i>My Bondage and My Freedom</i> |
| | <i>The Heroic Slave</i> |
| Fauset, Jessie Redmon | <i>There is Confusion</i> |
| | <i>Plum Bun</i> |
| Hughes, Langston | <i>The Ways of White Folks</i> |
| Hurston, Zora Neale | <i>Jonah's Gourd Vine</i> |
| | <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> |