

ARHM 3342: Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arts and Humanities

Mondays & Wednesdays 5:30-6:45 pm, SLC 1.202

Theme: The Harlem Renaissance

Professor:

Dr. Kimberly Hill
B.A., U.T. Austin and U. Cape Town, 2002
M.A. and Ph.D., U. North Carolina,
Chapel Hill, 2008

Office Hours: JO 3.928

Mon./Wed. 12:30 – 1:30 pm
Or request appointments

Contact Info:

kimberly.hill@utdallas.edu
(972) 883-6908

Purpose:

This class will introduce you to the variety of cultural expressions that came to be celebrated as “the Harlem Renaissance.” This era is best known for literary styles that defined African American scholarship and urban life in the decades between the World Wars. We will develop an interdisciplinary perspective of the Harlem Renaissance by exploring the broader context of its most famous personalities. Our main goal is to understand the lived experience of people who lived in Harlem between 1919 and 1941, so our tools will include any items and memories that reflect their humanity. Throughout the semester, we will experience some of the significant music, theater, speeches, visual arts, and fashion trends of the era. The assigned textbook chapters will explain the social history of the era through photographs and sound clips. The assignments will help you relate these artistic expressions to their historical context. In the final assignment, you will develop your own argument by tracing the continuing legacy of the Harlem Renaissance in American popular culture.

Catalog Description: (3 semester credit hours) Focuses on a significant topic or issue through which students are offered an opportunity to gain experience in various analytic and interpretive approaches. Explores interdisciplinary connections among artistic and intellectual endeavors appropriate to a range of courses in the Arts and Humanities. Topics will include the convergence of the liberal arts (Arts and Performance, Historical Studies, and Literary Studies). May be repeated for credit as topics vary (9 semester credit hours maximum). Prerequisites: (HUMA 1301 or equivalent) and RHET 1302. (3-0) R

CHOOSE ONE of the following themed books for your response essay assignments:

1. (Theater) Lane, Stewart F. *Black Broadway: African Americans on the Great White Way*. Garden City Park, NY: Square One Publishers, 2015. ISBN: 978-0757003882

2. (Music) O'Neal, Hank. *The Ghosts of Harlem: Sessions with Jazz Legends*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2009. ISBN: 978-0826516275
3. (Art) Powell, Richard and David A. Bailey. *Rhapsodies in Black: Art of the Harlem Renaissance*. Oakland: University of California Press, 1997. ISBN: 978-0520212688

Recommended Textbook:

Wintz, Cary, ed. *Harlem Speaks: A Living History of the Harlem Renaissance*. Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks MediaFusion, 2006. ISBN: 978-1402204364

All of these books are available as course reserves in McDermott Library.

Assignments

Grade Percentages

Attendance and Participation in Class Activities	15%
Three 2 page Response Essays (based on your choice of one of the thematic books)	21%
Local History Exercise (create a virtual walking tour through Harlem showing the historical context of notable events/topics from class)	20%
Two Quizzes (on key terms, events, and significant people)	14%
6 page Final Connections Essay or a 20 minute Multimedia Presentation (explains how your chosen theme influenced one of the other major class topics and suggests signs of your theme's continued relevance to current pop culture)	30%

* **Extra credit** can be earned once in the form of one letter grade added to your lowest response essay or quiz grade. You must bring written proof of attendance at the ArtCentre Plano "Harlem Renaissance" exhibit through Sept. 22nd or another relevant campus or community event to earn the extra credit.

Learning Objectives:

Knowledge Base: Students gain a breadth of knowledge regarding Manhattan history and culture while studying its complex connections to major historical topics.

Interpretive Skills: Students analyze various primary source formats and evaluate interpretations of the significance of Harlem as a cultural site.

Communication: Students practice revision and secondary literature analysis in the final connections essay or presentation.

Ethical Standard: Students learn and evaluate the ethical debates regarding public historical memory, urbanization, and gentrification.

Class Schedule:

All chapter names listed below can be found in the book *Harlem Speaks*. Any other readings or media clips can be accessed through the class E-Learning site. Advance notice will be given if any part of this schedule changes.

Class Days	Weekly Topic	Required Readings & Assignments per Week
Week 1: Aug. 20-22	Overview	Arna Bontemps, "The Awakening: A Memoir" (online)
Week 2: Aug. 27-29	The Great Migration	Part Three: "Bessie Smith" Mon: Guest Speaker: Suzy S. Jones, ArtCentre of Plano
Week 3: Sept. 5	Housing and City Life	Part One: "Harlem"
Week 4: Sept. 10-12 Response Essay #1 due Wed.	Family, Food, and Drink	Part Two: "Zora Neale Hurston"
Week 5: Sept. 17-19 Quiz #1 on Wed.	Oppression and Grief	Part Five: "James Weldon Johnson"
Week 6: Sept. 24-26	Youth Culture	Part Two: "Langston Hughes"
Week 7: Oct. 1-3	Love & Fame	Part Three: "Eubie Blake" (Mon) and Part Four: "Josephine Baker" (Wed)
Week 8: Oct. 8-10	Pan-Africanism	Part Four: "Aaron Douglas" and Part Six: "Marcus Garvey"
Week 9: Oct. 15-17 Response Essay #2 due Wed.	Spanish Harlem	<i>Divided Arrival: Narratives of the Puerto Rican Migration</i> , Introduction and "Trópico en Manhattan" p. 128-167 Recommended: Irma Watkins-Owens, "Caribbean Connections" (online)

Week 10: Oct. 22-24	Education and Professionalism	Part Five: "W.E.B. Du Bois" and Part Six: "Alain Locke"
Week 11: Oct. 29-31	Appearance and Poverty	Part Two: "Nella Larsen"
Week 12: Nov. 5-7 Local History Exercise Due Wed.	Modern Industry	Part One: "Harlem" (for assignment prep) and Part Six: "A. Philip Randolph" (Wed)
Week 13: Nov. 12-14 Quiz #2 on Wed.	Justice	Part Five: "Paul Robeson"
Week 14: Nov. 19-21	SPRING BREAK	Enjoy your vacation
Week 15: Nov. 26-28 Response Essay #3 Due Wed.	The Black Church and Spirituality	Jerma Jackson, "With Her Spirituals in Swing," (online)
Week 16: Dec. 3-5	Truth and the Future	Ralph Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , Ch. 23 (online)
Final Essay or Presentation		Due during the time of your final exam session. See your exam schedule on Galaxy.

My Responsibilities: I will do my best to provide informative lectures and academic guidance throughout the semester. Each class will begin with a lecture outline to guide your note taking. Though I cannot provide lecture notes, I will remain accessible during office hours and by e-mail to discuss class work, academic issues, and college resources. Unless there is an emergency, I will check e-mail twice a day between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. except for weekends. Quizzes and written assignments will be graded and returned within two weeks of the due date.

Your Responsibilities: You are expected to uphold the standards of student conduct. Come to class prepared to take notes, ask questions, and discuss the

assigned readings. You should attend every class session because lectures will include information not covered in the readings. Also, we gain a better understanding of people in the American past from listening and responding to each other's diverse perspectives.

Copy the lecture outlines and key terms for each class session. Ask a classmate for notes if you miss a class. If you have trouble understanding reading assignments or quiz questions, ask Dr. Hill for help and sign up for free on-campus tutoring. As a courtesy to other students, please sit near the door if you need to leave class early. Do not cross the front of the classroom if you arrive late; choose a seat near the side or the back. Do silence phones or other devices during class time.

ATTENDANCE AND LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICIES:

Call my office ahead of time if you must miss your exam or assignment deadlines. An unexcused absence on the day of your quiz or essay assignment will result in zero credit for the assignment. Make-up quizzes will only be offered in exceptional and unavoidable circumstances, and you will need documentation such as a doctor's note. No late essay assignments will be accepted without prior notice in writing. If permission is granted, the grades for late essays may be reduced by one letter grade for each additional day. Do not plagiarize others' work; your entire course grade may be withheld. If you need to drop the course, contact the Registrar's office for the appropriate forms. I will not drop students from this course based on attendance.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU SUCCEED:

The Office of Student Success operates the Student Success Center (SSC, <http://www.utdallas.edu/studentssuccess>), which offers assistance to students in the areas of writing, mathematics, communication, multiple science fields, reading, study skills, and other academic disciplines. These services are available through individual and small group appointments, workshops, short courses, and a variety of online and instructional technologies. All students enrolled at UT Dallas are eligible for these services.

It is the policy and practice of UTD to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with your professor and allow one week advance notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact OSA for a confidential discussion at 972-883-2098 or by email at studentaccess@utdallas.edu.