

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

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| AP/EN 3350 3.0 M | The Harlem Renaissance in the Age of Jazz |
| Course Director: | Name Art Redding Office N/A Ext. N/A e-mail aredding@yorku.ca other information: Virtual office hours by appointment. |
| Time: | Lecture day and time 8:30-11:20 Tuesday |
| Delivery Format: (check one) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> REMOTE – (synchronous delivery) – There are scheduled meeting times for this course (see above). Students should plan to be available for course-related activities during the appointed times. For more information, see the Description and/or Requirements below. |
| Description: | This course focuses on the period of cultural and intellectual production known as the “Harlem Renaissance” or the “New Negro Renaissance” that took place during the “Jazz Age.” This movement, which is usually associated with the Roaring Twenties, was a literal (re)naissance for African Americans in the United States. This was an exciting time in the modern American era—a time of speakeasies, jazz, and “anything goes.” Both black and white writers began to (re)claim blackness and black history as causes for celebration, launching a new age despite segregation laws and ongoing racism against African Americans. We will address key texts from the period and explore questions of racial representation and identity in the context of American national literature. |
| Category: | C |
| Historical Requirement: | N/A |
| Requirements: | 2 Reading Responses (of approximately 500 words): 2 x 10%=20% 1 Major Essay (2000-2500 words): 30 % 1 Final Exam (take home): 20 % 1 Seminar Presentation (1000 words): 20 % Class Participation: 10% |
| Reading List: | David Lewis, ed., <i>The Portable Harlem Renaissance Reader</i> Angelina Weld Grimké, <i>Rachel</i> (1916), available online on the Internet Archive. Jean Toomer, <i>Cane</i> (1923) Nella Larsen, <i>Passing</i> (1929) Zora Neale Hurston, <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> (1937). I have ordered editions of the Lewis anthology and the texts by Toomer, Larsen, and Hurston through the York University Bookstore (who will deliver) or you can obtain copies from Amazon.ca, alibris.com, or other online markets. Note that many of these works are in the public domain. <i>Cane</i> can be found online at Project Gutenberg; <i>Passing</i> can be found online at the Open Library. All of these texts (including the Lewis anthology) as well as the Library of America collection of Zora Neale Hurston <i>Novels and Stories</i> (which includes <i>Their Eyes</i>) are available to borrow from The Internet Archive. That is the only place I know of that |

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| | <p>you can access an electronic version of Grimké's play <i>Rachel</i>. It is worth obtaining a free membership, which allows you to check out electronic versions of books.</p> <p>All the essays, short fiction, and poetry for the course can be found in the Lewis Reader. The jazz, art, and film selections will be made available via our eClass site.</p> |
| Open To: | Years 3, 4 |