

SU 2026

AP/EN 4410 3.0M (S2)	<i>Caribbean Performance and Memory</i>
Course Director:	Geoffrey MacDonald 725 ATK gmacd@yorku.ca Office hours Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 (in-person) or by appointment (via Zoom).
Time:	Monday and Wednesday, 2:30pm – 5:20pm
Delivery Format:	SEMINAR
Description:	<p>What is the significance of memory in the context of history? Caribbean cultural production is grounded in resistance and decoloniality, but it also confronts legacies of slavery, erasure, and imperialism. Students in this course will examine works by anglophone Caribbean artists and thinkers who grapple with how to perform culture and memory. Using a selection of novels, poems, and plays, we consider how literary representations can draw upon transcontinental identities and standpoints. Caribbean texts challenge dominant narratives about the region and remind readers, listeners, and viewers about the many fronts upon which artists enact liberation.</p> <p>We engage with imaginative texts to consider the relationship between literary study and social relations through: attention to narrative, poetics, and dramaturgy; the rhetorical, figurative, and formal resources deployed by the writers; and the thematic and contextual material derived from the texts. In the process, students develop valuable critical skills that explore the play between creative texts and theory, as well as the opportunity to test their ideas through seminar presentations and facilitation.</p>
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Requirements:	Participation (20%), Seminar Presentation (20%), Proposal and Essay (35%), Digital Review (25%)
Reading List:	<p>d’bi.young.anitafrika, <i>Esu Crossing the Middle Passage</i>*</p> <p>Pauline Melville, “Mrs. Da Silva’s Carnival”*</p> <p>Earl Lovelace, <i>The Dragon Can’t Dance</i></p> <p>Lillian Allen, <i>Make the World New</i></p> <p>Safiya Kamaria Kinshasa, <i>Corn, Crop, and Gully</i></p> <p>Marcia Douglas, <i>The Marvellous Equations of the Dread</i></p> <p>* <i>permalink or PDF to be provided on eClass via York library</i></p>
Open To:	EN, ENPR, CRWR - YR 4 H