African American Literature

*Required Readings

*Baldwin, James. *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (1953), selected essays

*Baraka, Amiri (LeRoi Jones). *Dutchman & the Slave* (1964), selected poems, selected essays

*Brooks, Gwendolyn. *Maud Martha* (1953), selected poems

*Brown, Sterling. Selected poems

*Chesnutt, Charles W. *The Conjure Woman* (1899), *The Marrow of Tradition* (1901)

*Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself* (1845), *The Heroic Slave* (1853)

*Du Bois, W.E.B. *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)

*Dunbar, Paul Laurence. Selected poems

*Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man* (1952), selected essays

*Equiano, Olaudah. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa* (1789)

*Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun* (1959)

*Harper, Frances E. W. *Iola Leroy; Or, Shadows Uplifted* (1892), selected poems

*Hayden, Robert. Selected poems

*Hughes, Langston. *The Big Sea* (1940), selected poems


*Jacobs, Harriet. *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)


*Larsen, Nella. *Quicksand* (1928), *Passing* (1929)

*Lorde, Audre. *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name* (1982), selected poems


*Reed, Ishmael. *Flight to Canada* (1976), selected poems

*Shange, Ntozake. *for colored girls who have considered suicide /when the rainbow is enuf* (1977)

*Toomer, Jean. *Cane* (1923)


*Washington, Booker T. *Up from Slavery* (1901)

*Wheatley, Phillis. Selected poems

*Wright, Richard. *Native Son* (1940), *Black Boy* (1945)

**For Further Reading**

**Fiction**

Baldwin, James. *Another Country* (1962)

Bambara, Toni Cade. *Gorilla, My Love* (1972)

Baraka, Amiri (LeRoi Jones). *The System of Dante's Hell* (1965)


Brown, William Wells. *Clotel; Or The President's Daughter* (1853)

Butler, Octavia. *Kindred* (1979)

Delany, Martin R. *Blake; Or the Huts of America* (1859-61)


Du Bois, W. E. B. *The Quest of the Silver Fleece* (1911)


Fauset, Jessie R. *There Is Confusion* (1924) or *Plum Bun* (1929)

Griggs, Sutton E. *Imperium in Imperio* (1899)

Haley, Alex. *Roots* (1976)

Himes, Chester. *If He Hollers Let Him Go* (1945)

Hopkins, Pauline E. *Contending Forces* (1900)

Hughes, Langston. *The Best of Simple* (1931)

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Jonah’s Gourd Vine* (1934)


Jones, Gayl. *Corregidora* (1975)


McKay, Claude. *Home to Harlem* (1928)


Morrison, Toni. *Sula* (1973)


Polite, Carlene H. *The Flagellants* (1967)


Schuyler, George. *Black No More* (1931)


Walker, Margaret. *Jubilee* (1966)
Williams, John A. *The Man Who Cried I Am* (1967)

Williams, Sherley Anne. *Dessa Rose* (1986)

Wilson, Harriet E. *Our Nig; Or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* (1859)

Wright, Richard. *Uncle Tom's Children* (1938)

**Poetry**


Cullen, Countee. *On These I Stand* (1947)


Evans, Mari. *I Am the Black Woman* (1970)


Hughes, Langston. *Selected Poems* (1959)


McKay, Claude. *Selected Poems* (1953)

Sanchez, Sonia. *I've Been a Woman: New and Selected Poems* (1978)

Tolson, Melvin. *Harlem Gallery* (1965)

Walker, Margaret. *For My People* (1942)


Williams, Sherley Anne. *Some One Sweet Angel Chile* (1982)


**Autobiography**


Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (1969)


Hurston, Zora Neale. *Dust Tracks on a Road* (1942)


Northup, Solomon. *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853)


**Drama**

Childress, Alice. *Trouble in Mind* (1955)


Fuller, Charles. *A Soldier's Play* (1982)

Gordone, Charles. *No Place to be Somebody* (1969)

Grimke, Angelina. *Rachel* (1920)

Hughes, Langston. *Mulatto* (1935)

Kennedy, Adrienne. *Funnyhouse of a Negro* (1964)

**Oral Literature, Essays, Etc.**


Baldwin, James. *Notes of a Native Son* (1955), *Nobody Knows My Name* (1961)


Cooper, Anna Julia. *A Voice from the South* (1892)


Douglass, Frederick. Selected Speeches

Ellison, Ralph. *Shadow and Act* (1964)


Hull, Gloria T., Patricia Bell Scott, and Barbara Smith, eds. *But Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies* (1982)

King, Jr., Martin Luther. Selected Speeches

Levine, Lawrence. Black Culture and Black Consciousness: Afro-American Folk Thought from Slavery to Freedom (1977)

Locke, ed., Alain. The New Negro (1925)


Schuyler, George S. "The Negro Art-Hokum." Nation 16 (June 1926): 662-63


Walker, David. David Walker’s Appeal, in Four Articles (1829)


Wright, Richard. "Blueprint for Negro Writing." New Challenge 2 (Fall 1937): 53-65 (Also in Richard Wright Reader, ed. Ellen Wright and Michel Fabre, 1978)

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