

Sam Sommers
Part I Exam Reading List—FINAL? DRAFT
African American Literature
1760–1952?

Primary Works

- 1) Briton Hammon, *Narrative of the Uncommon Sufferings and Surprising Deliverance of Briton Hammon* (1760)
- 2) Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* (1789)
- 3) John Marrant, "A Narrative of the Lord's Wonderful Dealings With John Marrant, a Black, 1802" (1802)
- 4) Phillis Wheatley, *The Collected Works of Phillis Wheatley* edited by John Shields
- 5) David Walker, *Walker's Appeal in Four Articles* (1829)
- 6) Nat Turner, *Confessions* (1831)
- 7) Jarena Lee, *The Life and Religious Experience of Jarena Lee* (1836), Zilpha Elaw, *Memoirs of the Life, Religious Experience, and Ministerial Travels and Labours of Mrs. Zilpha Elaw, an American Female of Colour* (1846), and Julia Foote, *A Brand Plucked from the Fire: An Autobiographical Sketch* (1876) in *Sisters of the Spirit* edited by William L. Andrews
- 8) Henry Box Brown, *Narrative of the Life of Henry Box Brown* (1849)
- 9) Frederick Douglass, *Narrative* (1845), *My Bondage and My Freedom* (1855),
- 10) William Wells Brown, *Three Years in Europe: Or, Places I Have Seen and People I Have Met* (1852), *Clotel; or, The President's Daughter* (1853)
- 11) Martin Delany, *Blake: or, the Huts of America* (1859–1862)
- 12) William and Ellen Craft, *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom; Or, The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery* (1860)
- 13) Harriet Jacobs *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)
- 14) Paul Laurence Dunbar, "Accountability", "The Mystery", "Song of Summer", "A Summer's Night", "We Wear the Mask", "Compensation", "When Malindy Sings", "Little Brown Baby", "A Negro Love Song", "Ere Sleep Comes Down to Soothe the Weary Eyes", "The Colored Soldiers", "Sympathy", "An Ante-bellum Sermon", "Signs of the Times"
- 15) Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, *Iola Leroy; or, Shadows Uplifted* (1892) and "The Slave Mother", "Bible Defence of Slavery", "The Slave Auction", "Lines: 'At the Portals of the Future'"
- 16) Sutton Griggs, *Imperium in Imperio* (1899)
- 17) Charles Chesnutt, *The Conjure Woman, and Other Conjure Tales* (1899)
- 18) Booker T. Washington, *Up From Slavery* (1901)

- 19) Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces* (1902)
- 20) W.E.B. DuBois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
- 21) James Weldon Johnson, *Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* (1912)
- 22) Jean Toomer, *Cane* (1923)
- 23) Nella Larsen, *Quicksand* (1928), *Passing* (1929)
- 24) Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, (1937)
- 35) Richard Wright, *Native Son* (1940)
- 26) Langston Hughes, *Selected Poems of Langston Hughes* (1990)
- 27) Gwendolyn Brooks *Selected Poems* (2006)
- 28) Chester Himes, *If He Hollers Let Him Go* (1945)
- 29) Ann Petry, *The Street* (1946)
- 30) Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* (1952)

Critical Works

- 1) Ralph Ellison, *Shadow and Act* (1964)
- 2) Addison Gayle, *The Black Aesthetic* (1971)
- 3) Dexter Fisher and Robert Stepto, Eds. *Afro-American Literature: The Reconstruction of Instruction* (1979)
- 4) Robert Stepto, *From Behind the Veil* (1979)
- 5) Houston A. Baker, *The Journey Back: Issues in Black Literature and Criticism* (1980)
- 6) Valerie Smith, *Self-Discovery and Authority in Afro-American Narrative* (1987)
- 7) William Andrews, *To Tell a Free Story: The First Century of Afro-American Autobiography (1760–1865)* (1988)
- 8) Frances Smith Foster *Written By Herself: Literary Production by African American Women, 1746–1892* (1993)
- 9) Eric Sundquist, *To Wake the Nations: Race in the Making of American Literature* (1998)
- 10) Hortense Spillers, *Black, White, and in Color: Essays on American Literature and Culture* (2003)