

Center for Lifetime Study

Semester: Fall 2023
Course: African American Literature
Instructor: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish
Time: Wednesdays 1:15
Room: Locust Groove
Phone #: 845-471-7220
Email: mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

Texts: Short Stories

- Guidelines**
1. Please read the sections assigned before the class.
 2. Please focus your discussions on the text being discussed.



Schedule

- September 6** Introduction of Class Members
Introduction to Literature
Overview of Short Stories
Introduction to Sonny's Blues by James Baldwin
- September 13** Discussion of Sonny's Blues by James Baldwin
Cultural Analysis, Sisyphean Experience, Religious Allusion, and Search for El Dorado
- September 20** Discussion of Man who was Almost a Man
Character Analysis, Epiphany, Setting Analysis, Analysis of Symbols.
- September 27** Discussion of a Very Old Man with Enormous Wings
Magical Realism, Connection between Nature and Human Condition.
- October 4** Discussion of Dead Man's Path by Chinua Achebe
Masking, Veiling, and Double Consciousness, Post Colonialism, Role of Religion.
- October 11** Discussion of Everyday Use by Alice Walker
Historical Analysis, Role of African Diaspora, Naming, Intersectionality.
- October 18** Discussion of Girl by Jamaica Kincaid
Presentation of Journeys, Submersion, Deconstruction.
- October 25** Discussion of Battle Royal by Ralph Ellison
Creolization, Identity.
Read Afterword

Journal

Issues in the Texts:

Biblical Allusions

Search for El Dorado

Magical Realism (3)

Epiphany

Symbolic geography

Presentation of death (3)

Postcolonialism

Creolization

Masking,

Veiling,

Double Consciousness

Submersion

Surrealism

Role of Religion

Role of Culture

Deconstruction

Womanist Analysis

Role of Rum

Role of Supernatural

Nature and Human Condition

Signifying

Role of Africa

African Diaspora

Middle Passage

Silhouetting

Role of Language- Proverbs Storytelling and Pidgin

Naming

Music as the voice of the people

Feminist Analysis

Journeys

Sisyphean Experience

Biblical Allusions