

TERM: Spring 2025

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 5000: Seminar: Advanced Studies

COURSE TITLE: Black Women Writers

CRN: 71455 (This section is for graduate student enrollment.)

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: R 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Julia Lee

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

Beloved community is formed not by the eradication of difference but by its affirmation, by each of us claiming the identities and cultural legacies that shape who we are and how we live in the world.

--bell hooks

This course will cover a selection of fiction, poetry, essays, and critical theory by Black diasporic women writers. Among the topics we will discuss are the racial imaginary and constructions of Black womanhood, intersectional identity, queerness, the uncanny, the politics of respectability, and more. Our focus will be on survivance, futurity, joy, and healing. There will be music! And art! And community!

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- To understand the impact of Black women writers in American literature, culture, and social justice work
- To gain understanding of intersectional identity, especially at the cross-section of gender, race, sexuality, and class
- To learn the principles of Black feminist thought and practice
- To heal, to build community, to have fun

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

Graduate Only

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

Select Recommended/Prerequisite Below

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

- Critical Methodology
- Contemporary Critical Theory
- Major Writer / Genre / Literary Period
- Literature Elective
- Theory Elective
- Creative Writing Seminar
- Rhetoric / Composition Theory and Practice
- Linguistics OR Reading Theory