

CONTEMPORARY CARIBBEAN CULTURE

University of Virginia
A. James Arnold
French

Syllabus

FRTR 329

Lectures: 9:00 a.m. M-W in Cabell 426 Prof. A. J. Arnold

Discussion Sections: F; 1) Cabell 130 at 9:00 a.m.; 2) in the same room at 10:00 a.m. & 3) in Cabell 324 at 11:00 a.m.

Instructor: Ms. M. Hertzler.

Daily Assignments (Prepare Before Class)

M 9/7 Geography, History, Demography: Background to literature and culture in the Caribbean.

W 9/09 Arriví, *Masquerade*. "Carnival and Desire in Colonial P.R."

F 9/11 Discussion 1: "Interracial Relations."

M 9/14 Arriví, *Masquerade*. "Passin' and National Identity."

W 9/16 Marshall, *CPTP*, Bk. I, "The Postcolonial Scene"; Glissant, CD, 37-52; "Dispossession; Economic Realities."

F 9/18 Discussion 2: "Locals and Others: Who Does What?" M 9/21 Marshall, *CPTP*: Bk. II, "History Envisioned as Tragedy."

W 9/23 Marshall, *CPTP*: Bk. III, "Ritual Enactment of the Tragedy." Glissant, CD: 61-77, "The Quarrel With History."

F 9/25 Discussion 3: "Quarrel With History; Recourse to Tragedy."

M 9/28 Marshall, *CPTP*: Bk. IV, "Religious Dimensions"; Glissant, CD: 79-95, "History, Literature, Myth, Tragedy."

W 9/30 Guillén, *N.*; trans. L. Hughes: "Sensemayá: Chant for Killing a Snake."

F 10/2 Discussion 4: "Ritual and Liberation."

M 10/5 Walcott, *Drums & Colours* (Res.), "Epic Drama & History."

W 10/7 Walcott, *D&C*, "Masquerade, History, 'All o'we is one'."

F 10/9 In lieu of discussion sections, attend Columbian Encounter symposium at Cavalier Inn.

M 10/12 Césaire, *L&DP*, "Poetry and Knowledge"; Introduction to the Negritude Movement: "The Maroon as Tragic Hero."

W 10/14 Césaire, *Dogs...*; Arnold, "Introduction to L&DP."

F 10/16 **Midterm exam**: to be held in discussion sections.

M 10/19 Fall Break

W 10/21 Césaire, "lagoonal calendar," "flint warrior through all words," "knowledge of mornes," "torpor of history"; all in *L&DP*.

F 10/23 Discussion 6: "Disenchantment with Negritude; Elegiac Vision of Postcolonialism." (**Midterm Exams Returned.**)

M 10/26 Depestre, *Festival*: Festival, Politics, Satire. [Read the entire short novel, inc. intro., the previous weekend.]

W 10/28 Depestre, *Festival*: Voudou, Creolization, Representation (K. Richman); Glissant, CD, 14-26: Reversion and Diversion.

F 10/30 Discussion 7: "Real Repression, Popular Resistance, Fiction."

M 11/2 Maximin, *Lone Sun*, Intro., ch. 1-2: History, Ethnicity, Gender; Glissant, CD, 26-37: "In the Beginning."

W 11/4 Maximin, *LS*, ch. 3-4: Heroes, Music, Culture; Glissant, CD, 110-19.

F 11/6 Discussion 8: "Popular Culture and Postmodern Fiction."

M 11/9 Maximin, *LS*, ch. 5: Carnival, Folklore, Resistance; Review Glissant, *CD*, 83-87; 195-201.
 W 11/11 Maximin, *LS*, ch. 6 & "Historical Landmarks"; Glissant, *CD*, 102-09: How Does Maximin's Textual Mozaic "Mean"?

F 11/13 Discussion 9: "How to (Re)Write a Usable History of the Caribbean, as Essay (Glissant) or as Fiction (Maximin)."

M 11/16 Lovelace, *Dragon*, Prologue & ch. 1-4: Urban Slum as Microcosm: The Caribbean as Afro-America--"All o'we is one." [First vision.]

W 11/18 Lovelace, *Dragon*, ch. 5-8; Glissant, *CD*, 201-10: The East Indian Other as Caribbean; The Transformation of Carnival and the Trinidad Calypso.

F 11/20 Discussion 10: "Creolization and Historicization in Lovelace's Caribbean Vision."

M 11/23 Lovelace, *Dragon*, ch. 9-12; Glissant, *CD*, 211-20: "All o'we is one." [Second vision.] (Who is West Indian?)

W 11/25 THANKSGIVING BREAK.

M 11/30 Lovelace, *Dragon*, ch. 13-17; Glissant, *CD*, 221-25: "Failure of the Black Power Rebellion; Toward Caribbeanness."

W 12/2 *The Music and Dance of Carnival* (C. Allen).

F 12/4 Discussion 11: "Contrast Lovelace with Previous Visions."

M 12/7 Wright, "Daughters of the Water" [Copy in Clemons Reserve]: The Creolization of the Afro-American Text.

W 12/9 Wright, "Daughters," "Bringing the Caribbean Home."

F 12/11 Discussion 12: **Turn In Final Paper on This Date.**

REQUIRED TEXTS FOR FRTR 329

(All are available at Newcomb Hall Bookstore Unless Otherwise Indicated*)

*Arriví, Francisco. *Masquerade*. In Clemons Reserve
 Marshall, Paule. *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*. New York: Vintage Contemporaries, 1984. [CPTP]

Glissant, Edouard. *Caribbean Discourse*. CARAF Books. Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1989. [CD]

*Guillén, Nicolás. "Sensemayá..." To be handed out in class.

*Walcott, Derek. *Drums and Colours*. In Clemons Reserve: *Caribbean Quarterly*. [Drums]

Césaire, Aimé. *Lyric and Dramatic Poetry, 1946-82*. CARAF Books. Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1990. [L&DP] Dogs... is contained in [L&DP].

Depestre, René. *Festival of the Greasy Pole*. CARAF Books. Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1990. [Festival]

Maximin, Daniel. *Lone Sun*. CARAF Books. Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1989. [LS]

Lovelace, Earl. *The Dragon Can't Dance*. Drumbeat. Harlow, U.K.: Longman, 1981. [Dragon]

*Wright, Jay. "Daughters of the Water." In Clemons Reserve: *Callaloo*.

RECOMMENDED READING

(On Reserve in Clemons Library)

Knight, Franklin and Colin Palmer. *The Modern Caribbean*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989.

Mintz, Sidney W. and Sally Price. *Caribbean Contours*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985.

Warner, Keith Q. *Kaiso! The Trinidad Calypso*. Washington, D.C.: Three Continents Press, 1985.