

***"Praisesong for the Widow"* - Spring 2026 Revised Schedule**

April 2 Introduction of Class Members

Introduction to African American Literature

Close reading of pages 1 and 2

Submersion and silhouetting

April 9 Cultural Analysis and Setting

Section 1 parts 1,2,3

Symbolic Geography

Halsey Street, The Dream, The Parfait Experience

April 16 Character Analysis

Section 1 parts 4,5,6

Masking, Veiling, and Double Consciousness

Tatem, Gullah, Kumina, Role of numbers

April 23 The African Diaspora, Middle passage Experience

Section 2 parts 1,2,3,4

The taxi ride, The fateful Tuesday, Jay to Jerome

Symbolic Geography White Plains

April 30 Postcoloniality

Section 2 part 5 and section 3 part 1

The too much speech, The long Walk

May 7 Magical Realism Epiphany

Section 3 parts 3,4

The bar and Role of Rum, The Excursion

Gethsemane

May 14 Creolization Tragic Mulatto

Section 3 parts 5,6

The Boat Ride, The Threads, The Bath

The bottom of the boat

May 21 Role of Africa

Section 4

The Beg Pardon, The Big Drum, The Creole Dance

Final Epiphany: Avatara