

## **Creative Project, 15%**

Due on Moodle on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am

Much of the content of this course deals in what *isn't* being said: whose narratives were not deemed worthy preserving or were downright suppressed, and what, among the narratives that remain, could not be said within the strictures of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century abolitionist movements. For this project, I'd like you to take a page out of Saidiya Hartman's book in order to explore alternative ways of storytelling when our objects of study are limited.

This will be a creative project based on the novel *The Woman of Colour*. You will have two options here, one musical and one literary (along both involve writing). They are as follows:

### Option 1: Soundtrack

Students who choose this option will create a soundtrack for the novel *The Woman of Colour*. The music can come from any era—2022, 1922, or earlier—and you are welcome to experiment with mixing musical genres and periods in order to capture the individual moods and messages of the book. The final product should entail: (1) a complete soundtrack of 10+ songs reflecting the overall narrative of the novel, to be shared via Spotify\*, and (2) a 2-3 sentence accompanying description of each song that details what part of the novel it speaks to and why you feel it is a good choice.

\*If you do not have access to Spotify but would like to choose this option, please let me know so we can find an alternative platform for you.

### Option 2: Added Scene

Students who choose this second option will write an additional scene or multiple scenes that spin out possibilities for a minor character of the novel. What do you imagine happens in the “offstage” life of this minor character, and how does this additional storyline add to the novel as a whole? Students who choose this option should submit at least four (4) pages of writing (double-spaced), although more is welcome.

For this assignment, your grade will primarily be based on (1) creativity and (2) how well your project responds to and interacts with the major themes, tones, and characters of the novel. Secondly, you will also be graded on project structure and the grammar, punctuation, and general style of your written work.

On our field trip day (May 13<sup>th</sup>), you will have the option to present these projects, either formally or through an informal description. Presenting is entirely optional and your decision to speak or not speak about your project will not be reflected in your grade.