#### Growing Up Girl:



#### Bildungsroman in the African Diaspora

#### 

**Required texts:**

Dangarembga, Tsitsi. *Nervous Conditions*

Kincaid, Jamaica*. Annie John*

Levy, Andrea. *Never Far from Nowhere***\***

Senna, Danzy. *Caucasia*

**\*** This text is out of print and students must acquire their own copies or make use of copy on reserve in the library.

**Dr. A. Lockridge ~ Oddfellows 217 ~ T/Th- 3 - 4:30pm, W-1 – 3pm**

**Course Overview:**

This course is an introduction to literary fiction and literary theory. For many of you this course will also be an introduction to literature by and about people of African descent. While the focus of this class will be to think, read and write about fiction, the focus of your intense gaze will be fiction written by Black women throughout the African diaspora. The texts selected for this course: *Nervous Conditions*, *Annie John*, *Never Far From Nowhere*, and *Caucasia*, feature young Black girls coming of age while living in various parts of the African Diaspora. In this course we will examine these cross-continental and cross-cultural experiences, and determine to what extent the protagonists’ subject positions play a role in their development as young Black women.

**Assessment of Knowledge Acquisition**:

* Course Facilitation 10%
* Class Participation 20%
* Reading Quizzes 10%
* Essay 1 15%
* Essay 2 20%
* Take Home Final 25%

**Weekly Syllabus**

(subject to change)

Th- 8/30 Requirements and expectations

Tu- 9/4 *Caucasia*- read to p 131

Th- 9/6 *Caucasia*

Tu- 9/11 *Caucasia*- read to end

Th- 9/13 *Caucasia*

Tu- 9/18 *Caucasia*-

Th- 9/20 *Monday’s Girls* (film)/ film discussion

Tu- 9/25 *Never Far from Nowhere*- read to p 94

Th- 9/27 *Never Far from Nowhere*

*Tu-* 10/2 *Never Far from Nowhere*- read to p192

Th- 10/4 *Never Far from Nowhere*

Tu- 10/9 *Never Far from Nowhere*- read to end

Th- 10/11 *Never Far from Nowhere*

Tu- 10/16  **No Class- Fall break**

Th- 10/18 *Anna from Benin* (film)/ film discussion

Tu- 10/23 Annie *John*- read to p71

Th- 10/25 Annie *John*

Tu- 10/30 *Annie John*- read to end

Th- 11/1 *Annie John*

Tu- 11/6 *Life and Debt* (film)

Th- 11/8 *Life and Debt* (film)/ film discussion

Tu- 11/13 *Nervous Conditions*- read to p102

Th- 11/15 *Nervous Conditions*

Tu- 11/20 *Nervous Conditions*- read to p148

Th- 11/22 **No Class- Thanksgiving**

Tu- 11/27 *Nervous Conditions*- read to end

Th- 11/29 *Nervous Conditions*

Tu- 12/4 *Nervous Conditions*

Th- 12/6 *What my Mother Told Me* (film)/discussion

Tu- 12/11 Wrap up discussion

**Thursday, December 13th @ 2pm—Final Due**