

THE AFTERLIVES OF SLAVERY:
ON AFRO-PESSIMISM

Fr., 10-12 ~~SH 4.101~~

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6.11. First Encounter (Asynchronous Learning)

Frank B. Wilderson III, “For Halloween I Washed My Face,”
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Section I: Theoretical Precursors: Blackness, Slavery, Social Death

13.11. Blackness, Lived Experience, Ontology

Frantz Fanon, “The Lived Experience of the Black Man,” *Black Skin, White Masks*, translated by Richard Philcox (New York: Grove Press, 2008 [1952]), pp. 89-119

Ronald A. T. Judy, “Fanon’s Body of Black Experience,” *Fanon: A Critical Reader*, edited by Lewis R. Gordon, T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting, and Renée T. White (Oxford/Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1996), pp. 53-73

20.11. Social Death and Being for the Captor

Orlando Patterson, “The Constituent Elements of Slavery,” *Slavery and Social Death: A Comparative Study* (Cambridge, MA/London: Harvard UP, 1982), pp. 1-14

Hortense J. Spillers, “Mama’s Baby, Papa’s Maybe: An American Grammar Book,” *Diacritics*, vol. 17, no. 2, 1987, pp. 64-81

27.11. Perpetual Slavery?

Saidiya V. Hartman, “The Burdened Individuality of Freedom,” *Scenes of Subjection: Terror, Slavery, and Self-Making in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York/Oxford: Oxford UP, 1997), pp.115-24

, “Instinct and Injury: Bodily Integrity, Natural Affinities, and the Constitution of Equality,” *Scenes of Subjection: Terror, Slavery, and Self-Making in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York/Oxford: Oxford UP, 1997), pp. 164-206 [excerpts tba]

Section II: Marxism and Its Discontents

4.12. The Unnamed Interlocutor: Hall on Gramsci on Hegemony (Thesis)

Stuart Hall, "Gramsci's Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity" [1985], *Identity and Diaspora: Essential Essays*, vol. 2, edited by David Morley (Durham/London: Duke UP, 2019), pp. 21-54

11.12. Afro-pessimist Beginnings: Terror or Hegemony? (Antithesis)

Frank Wilderson, III, "Gramsci's Black Marx: Whither the Slave in Civil Society?" *Social Identities*, vol. 9, no. 2, 2003, pp. 225-40

Section III: Afro-pessimism Consolidated

18.12. Beyond Analogy: The Specificity of Black Suffering

Jared Sexton, "People-of-Color-Blindness: Notes on the Afterlife of Slavery," *Social Text*, vol. 28, no. 2, 2010, pp. 31-56

Holidays

15.1. The Political Ontology of Humanity

Frank B. Wilderson III, "Introduction: Unspeakable Ethics," *Red, White & Black: Cinema and the Structure of U.S. Antagonisms* (Durham/London: Duke UP, 2010), pp. 1-32

22.1. Black Insurrection and Cinematic Form

Frank B. Wilderson III, "The Dilemmas of Black Film Studies," an Excerpt from "The Narcissistic Slave," *Red, White & Black: Cinema and the Structure of U.S. Antagonisms* (Durham/London: Duke UP, 2010), pp. 58-67

, "Cinematic Unrest: *Bush Mama* and the Black Liberation Army," *Red, White & Black: Cinema and the Structure of U.S. Antagonisms* (Durham/London: Duke UP, 2010), pp. 117-45

Section IV: Elaborations and Critique

29.1. The End of Political Hope

Calvin L. Warren, "Black Nihilism and the Politics of Hope," *CR: The New Centennial Review*, vol. 15, no. 1, 2015, pp. 215-48

5.2. Race as Surplus Humanity (A Belated Synthesis?)

Chris Chen, "The Limit Point of Capitalist Equality: Notes Toward an Abolitionist Antiracism," *Endnotes*, no. 3, 2013, pp. 202-23

12.2. The Trouble with Afro-pessimism

Annie Olaloku-Teriba, "Afro-Pessimism and the (Un)Logic of Anti-Blackness," *Historical Materialism*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2018, pp. 1-27

Section V: The End of the World?

19.2. 2015, 2020, and Beyond?

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