# RECOVERING THE PAST, DISCOVERING THE FUTURE: ARCHIVE, COMMUNITY, & PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP







### Dr. Scot French

Associate Professor of History, University of Central Florida Keynote Address, Society of Florida Archivists Annual Meeting 11 May 2022

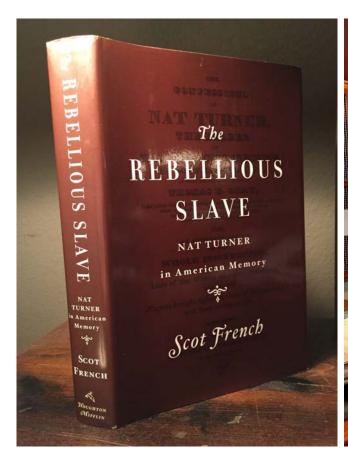
### FIRST - THANK YOU, FLORIDA ARCHIVISTS



- RESEARCH MENTORS/GUIDES
- SUPERVISORS TO STUDENT INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS
- PRESERVATION PARTNERS IN SAVING ENDANGERED COLLECTIONS









1994-2000: Archival Research for Dissertation

2004: The Rebellious Slave: Nat Turner in American Memory Published

2021: My reunion with Minor T. Weisiger, retired Archives Research

Services Coordinator at the Library of Virginia in Richmond







### **Item Details**



1 of 10



Return to search results

### Research Files for the Rebellious Slave, Nat Turner in American Memory

French, Scot

Creator: French, Scot

Manuscript/Archive Format:

Availability: On shelf

> Special Collections Library:

Location: Special Collections Stacks

Call Number: MSS 15050 (10 Boxes)

Language: English

1. French, Scot -- Rebellious slave, Nat Turner in American memory

2. Turner, Nat -- 1800?-1831 -- Electronic information resources

3. Tour guides (Persons)

4. Monticello (Va.)

The collection also contains a manual for Monticello tour guides and supplementary material, Summary:

1987-1995

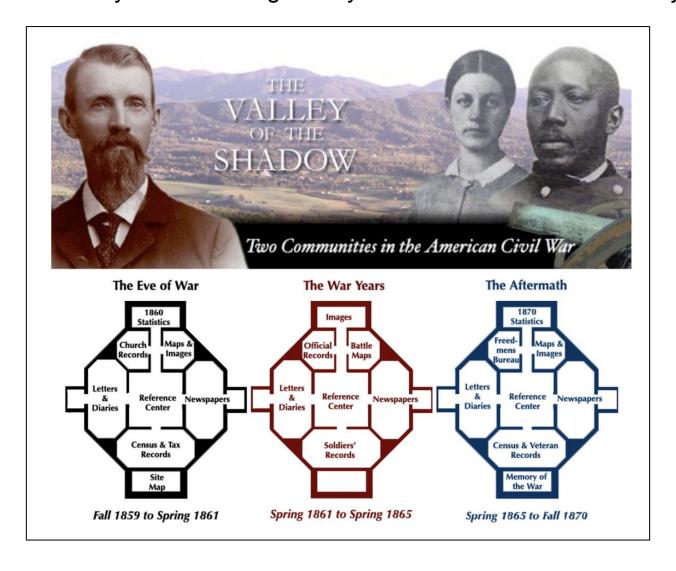
Description: 9 cu. ft.

Box 1: 1830s-1865. -- Box 2: 1865-1920s. -- Box 3: 1930s-1950s. -- Box 4: 1950s-1950s -- Box 5: Arrangement:

1980s-2000s #1. plus 1 folder 1900-1945. -- Box 6: 1980s-2000s #2. plus 1 folder 1940-1970.

Today I'd like to focus on the ever-expanding partnership of historians and archivists in building <u>sustainable</u> digital repositories for teaching, research & community engagement.

### **1993:** My Introduction to Digital History / Electronic Archives as GRA on Edward L. Ayers Pioneering "Valley of the Shadow" Civil War Project

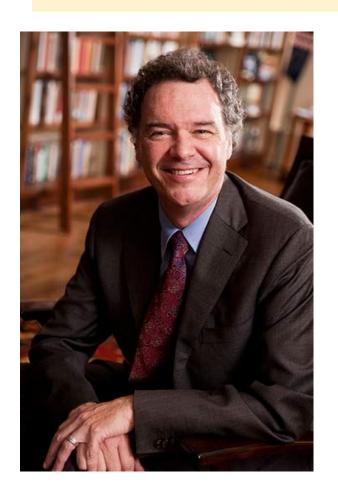


### "A Digital Civil War" By the Numbers

- 153,572 individual census records
- 15,864 pages of newspapers covering 55 years
- 6,430 dossiers of individual soldiers
- 3,956 church records
- 1,786 individual letters
- 1,500 reports from the armies
- 816 Freedmen's Bureau documents
- 152 memory of the war articles
- 138 battle records
- 106 Southern Claims Commission petitions
- 47 GIS maps
- 40 diaries

### **VALLEY PROJECT LEGACIES I:**

Collaborating with Local Archives/Historical Societies to "Harvest" Artifacts from Family Collections for Digitization & Web Display Only



Ayers on Origin of "History Harvests":

"I wanted to find materials no one had seen before, diaries and letters locked away in family collections. ...

"Our friends at the Woodrow Wilson birthplace in Staunton eagerly agreed to cosponsor what we called a History Harvest in the fall of 1994... We set up shop at the Wilson birthplace and waited. And we got some useful materials, a diploma from a from a ocal girls' school and a poster about deserters in the Confederacy."

### **VALLEY PROJECT LEGACIES II:**

# Sustaining Born-Digital Scholarship w/ University Library Support

Sustaining Digital

Scholarship

### UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA LIBRARY Digital Curation Services

### Valley of the Shadow

#### Overview

The University of Virginia Library is interested in supporting and collecting digital scholarship of the highest caliber and providing the same level of public and research access that is possible for library materials collected in more traditional ways. The opportunity to collect, disseminate and preserve "The Valley of the Shadow" by the Digital Curation Services group has been a successful experiment; one in which new technologies have been implemented, professional relationships across the university have been forged and best practices documentation has been created which will provide a framework for SDS projects of the future.

The goal of this project was one in which "The Valley of the Shadow" would be collected by the Library and disseminated digitally through the Library's managed content environment (LMC). Generally stated, this goal would be met by completing the following:

- Consolidate the files from three servers onto one Library server, removing duplicative files and applications
- . Update and normalize the encoding and formats of the content files
- . Update the technology used for the delivery applications, primarily searching

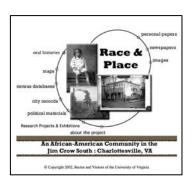
The Library has made every attempt to collect "The Valley of the Shadow" at a service level commensurate with the technical specification of each digital object. The end result of this action has meant that some objects will be more easily preserved over the long-term than others, i.e. materials based on the Library's digital object and metadata creation standards. Not all "The Valley of the Shadow" digital materials were created adhered to Library standards. Throughout the project to collect and deliver "The Valley of the Shadow," a conscious effort was made to retain the look and feel of the original archive.

- Sustaining Digital Scholarship: The Valley Project, 2014
  - https://web.archive.org/web/201410101 64712/http://www.digitalcurationservice s.org/sustaining-digital-scholarship/valle y-of-the-shadow/
- Jennifer Howard, "Born Digital Projects Need Attention to Survive," Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 6, 2014.

http://chronicle.com/article/Born-Digital-Projects-Need/143799/

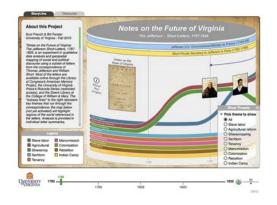
The Valley project was completed in 2007 and transferred from VCDH to the University of Virginia Library. The process of archiving such a massive digital project, created over more than a decade, involved a team of digital librarians and broke new ground in the field of digital scholarship. How do you preserve/archive a digital history project so that it can be accessed and referenced by scholars long after its authors have moved on and the center that built and maintained/updated it ceases to exist?

### My Own Digital/Public History Portfolio



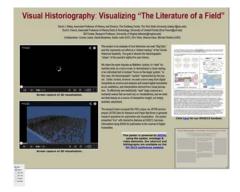
1998-2006 – Associate Director, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African & African-American Studies; Co-Founder/Director, Center for the Study of Local Knowledge

 Race & Place: An African American Community in the Jim Crow South



### 2006-2010 – Director, Virginia Center for Digital History

- Jefferson's Travels
- Vinegar Hill: An Urban Renewal Memoryscape
- Morven Farm as Cultural Landscape
- Notes on the Future of Virginia: The Correspondence of Thomas Jefferson and Wm. Short, 1785-1826



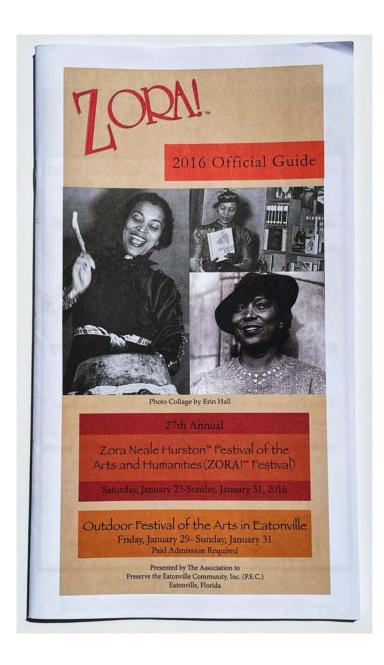
### 2010-Present – Associate Professor, Digital & Public History, University of Central Florida

- Visual Historiography: Visualizing the Literature of a Field
- UCF-NCA Veterans Legacy Program Data Visualizations
- Spatial Biography: The Lost Worlds of J. Francis Robinson





For the past two years, I've been working closely with Michigan State University historian **Julian Chambliss** and UCF Public History Graduate Assistant / Florida Tech University Archivist **Anna Kephart Norris** to devise a sustainable system for archiving materials associated with the annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts & Humanities (est. 1990) and its current Afrofuturism Cycle (2020-24).



Our efforts began in 2016, when Julian (then at Rollins) and I (representing UCF) joined the Festival's Academics Committee at the invitation of N.Y. Nathiri.

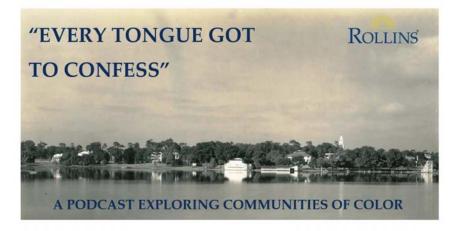
Ms. Nathiri wanted us to play a role in shaping the future of the annual conference, then in its 27th year.



Julian and I advocated for expanded use of the ZORA! Festival's website to share/archive programs, talks, etc. We quickly found, however, that our own University libraries offered more sustainable, open-access options for building community archives.

**2017:** Julian & my UCF colleague Robert Cassanello launched podcast series featuring Festival presenters. Episodes aired on WPRK radio to promote Festival in community; archived in Rollins Scholarship Online.







### Every Tongue Got to Confess: Podcast #18

Julian Chambliss, Robert Cassanello, and Nandni Verma

Michelle Robinson speaks about her research projects with graduate students and community members in Hobson City -- the first self-governed black municipality in the state of Alabama.



### Every Tongue Got to Confess: Podcast #19

Julian Chambliss, Robert Cassanello, and Nandni Verma

Porsha Dossie discusses her research on uncovering the hidden history of vibrant African American communities in historic Seminole County, Florida. She used a range of digital and traditional methodologies to achieve her final project, which was an online collection of stories and artifacts.



### Every Tongue Got to Confess: Podcast #20

Julian Chambliss, Robert Cassanello, and Nandni Verma

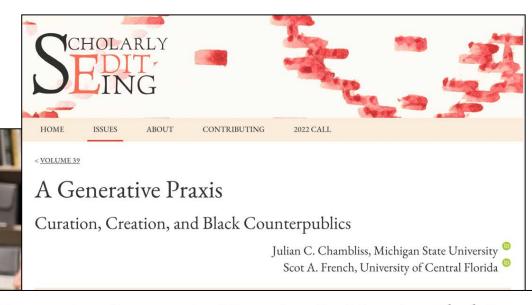
Carlene Jackson speaks about the National Urban Housing and Economic Community Development Corporation, a non-profit organization that works to implement a comprehensive approach to fighting poverty in urban areas through affordable housing, home ownership, and life skills trainings for those with barriers to employment.



### Every Tongue Got to Confess: Podcast #21

Julian Chambliss, Robert Cassanello, and Nandni Verma

Scott French discusses the importance of finding and preserving history in local communities of color. At the Zora Festival in 2017, he led several students in their research projects about real-life, local, and important community history initiatives. Dr. French and his students use digital storytelling tools to magnify the narratives of the communities they partner with.



In our recently published co-authored essay, Julian reflected on his role in the ZORA! Festival's digital/social media turn:

"As a member of the Academics Committee for the Zora Festival, I was an active participant in the development of the Festival program. I could align the podcast with the organization's goal for the event. Notably, Cassanello's innovative podcast projects promoted a model of engagement with local community archives and provided crucial technical support recording interviews."



"Olin Library archivists Wenxian Zhang and Rachel Walton supported our project by utilizing the institutional repository to store the podcast episodes.

"Rollins Scholarship Online (RSO) – a bepress Digital Commons – served as a digital home that offered important stability to ensure that the podcast was discoverable and available across the internet while providing important analytics."

### THE 29TH ANNUAL ZORA NEALE HURSTON FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (2018), THE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE PHOTO ARCHIVE

Plenary session at Rollins of Charles M. Blow

Charles M. Blow



View More

First presented in 1990, the ZORAI™ Festival is a multi-day, multi-disciplinary, inter-generational event composed of public talks, museum exhibitions, theatrical productions, arts education programming, and a 3-day Outdoor Festival of the Arts.

The event takes place primarily in Eatonville, Florida (10 miles north of Orlando) and throughout Orange County. For more information about past and future festival events go to https://zorafestival.org/.

Traditionally, some of the event programming for the festival is held on Rollins College's campus and involves collaboration with Rollins faculty, staff, and/or students.



### 2018: Julian adds Photo & Audio Archives to Rollins Scholarship Online; creates new **ZORA!** Festival **Community Engagement** & Collaboration Collection

### THE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE AUDIO ARCHIVE







### **Education of College Campuses**

Kennedy Butler, Emily Russell, Oriana Jimenez, Davita Bonner, and AJ Chrisolm

The speakers discuss ways to help less privileged students, some of whom were traumatized sexually and abused, and the culture differences that some minority students may face. They mention issues such as senioritis that students deal with. Having back up plans are important such as choosing a minor.



### Options in Education

Letecia Foster, John Wright, and Kennedy Butler

The speakers discuss current actions that are being taken towards improving the quality of education, as well as strategies that could be further implemented. The public school grading system is discussed and the criteria that is related to ranking the schools, specifically the nine characteristics of a high performing school are explained. One of the strategies that is being implemented is providing internships and allowing UCF and Rollins students majoring in education to be substitutes at elementary schools.



### **Economic Development Panel Models**

Dr. Walter Greason, Ed Jones, and Kennedy Butler

The speakers discuss stories and strategies of successful individuals who are a minority. They evaluate models such as capitalism and talk about other potentially new models that could bring greater benefits to society. The story of Andre McKenzie, an orphan who started a real estate firm and who has now acquired several properties is mentioned.



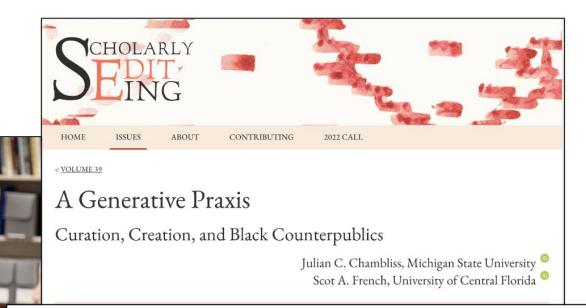
### Julian on Resources / Institutional Support / Skills Training:

"As coordinator of the African and African American Studies minor, I utilized program resources such that undergraduate work-study students completed the process of uploading these materials to the RSO. Importantly, this institutional support also trained student workers in the data research skills necessary to complete these significant projects in cultural recovery."



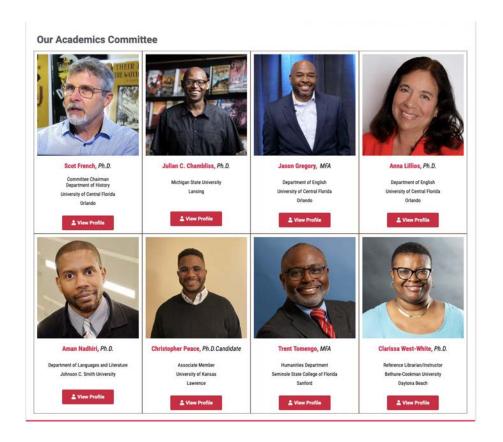
### Julian on Open Access Model for Community Archive Initiatives

"While in an institutional home (Rollins Scholarship Online), this larger collection is inspired by a community archive initiative that highlights the ways that marginalized communities can resist erasure through archiving and documentation. Key to this model are the affordances of an open-access model that lowers the barriers to access for PEC and interested users around the world."



### Julian on His Departure from Rollins / Implications for Archive

"My departure from Rollins College in 2018 meant that my digital collaboration with the ZORA! Festival came to an end. These collections endure with metadata generated from RSO; significantly, they demonstrate the vital ways in which such conversations can continue to inform and educate."



With Julian's departure for Michigan State responsibility for local organizing – including recording & digital archiving – of the annual ZORA! Festival Academic Conference fell to me. Additionally, with the start of a new thematic cycle, I assumed the role of 2020-2024 Academics Committee chair.





Fortunately UCF has been a longstanding sponsor of the ZORA! Festival, with critical support from past Dean Jose Fernandez, current Dean Jeff Moore and Executive Associate Dean Lyman Brodie (above, left) of the College of Arts & Humanities.

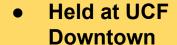
### 2020-2024 ZORA! Festival Afrofturism Cycle Year-One: "What is Afrofuturism"?











- Four keynote speakers
- 100 registered participants
- Some social media, still photography but no official video or audio recordings of proceedings
- **Podcast interviews** conducted as recap/bridge to following year







**Feb. 2020:** In post-conference review, Dean Brodie praised the intellectual dynamism of our Afrofturism program; lamented the limited reach of face-to-face event; pledged institutional/financial support for livestream broadcast/media capture for future conferences.

# 2020-21: A Pandemic-Fueled Transition To Hybrid Virtual Conference With Open Access Syllabus & 1-Credit UCF Course

**March 2020**: Pandemic shuts down all face-to-face programming; Festival's National Planners discuss possibility of no f2f conference events next year

**My pitch:** Make Festival a year-round open-access "Course," with annual conference a featured event (hybrid or web-only). Create course materials that can be easily accessed and readily adapted for classes at UCF or other institutions. Put archived media to use <a href="now">now</a>, not later. Model potential use in classroom teaching.

**September 2020**: My new 1-credit Festival course (AFA 3600: Afrofuturism and the Hurston Legacy") is approved and submitted for curriculum review; work begins on open-access syllabus.



# **Inspiration:** Edward L. Ayers, "Does Digital Scholarship Have a Future?" *Educause Review* (2013)



"The articles and books that scholars produce today bear little mark of the digital age in which they are created. Thus the foundation of academic life—the scholarship on which everything else is built—remains surprisingly unaltered."

Q: Can't the same be said today for academic conferences?

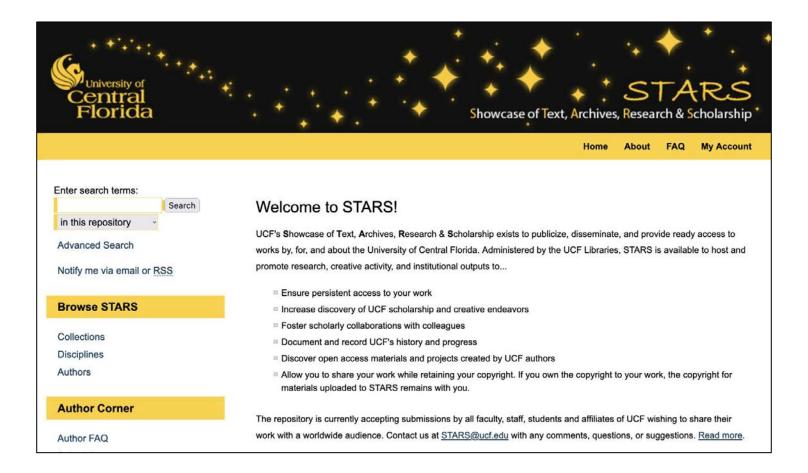
# AYERS MAKES STRONG CASE FOR GENERATIVE DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

"scholarship that builds ongoing, ever-growing digital environments even as it is used"

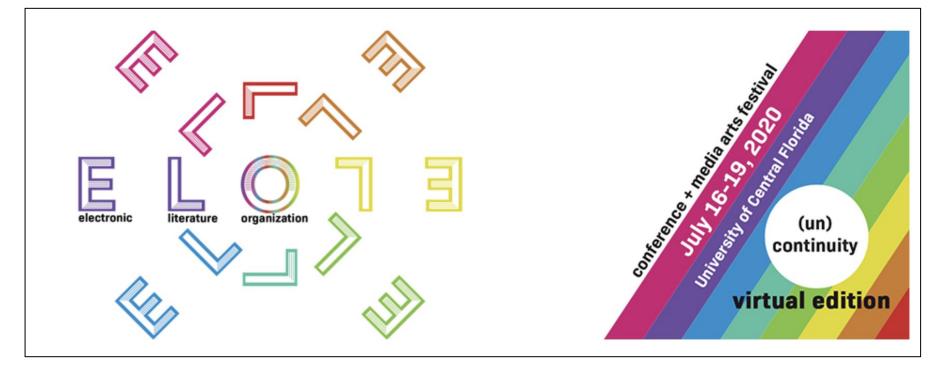
- (1) framed with significant disciplinary questions in mind,
- (2) offers scholarly interpretation in multiple forms as it is being built, and
- (3) invites collaborators ranging from undergraduate students to senior researchers to public historians.



How could we ensure that the knowledge shared and discussion generated by the 2021 ZORA! Festival Afrofuturism Conference would remain accessible beyond this 2-day live event and – in the spirit of generativity – contribute to digital pedagogy and scholarship moving forward? What platform should we use for the Syllabus

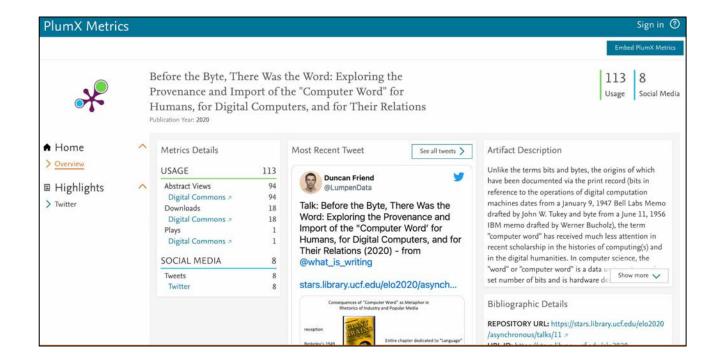


For us, the UCF Libraries' STARS Repository provided a ready solution. As described on its About page, the **Showcase of Text, Archives, Research and Scholarship** exists to "publicize, disseminate, and provide ready access to works by, for, and about the University of Central Florida."



I knew that STARS housed UCF theses and dissertations and that some faculty had used it to display curated research and teaching materials. What opened my eyes to the site anew, in the midst of planning for the Syllabus, was the repository's creative repurposing by organizers of another pandemic-disrupted conference:

The 2020 Electronic Literature Organization (ELO) Conference and Visual Media Festival.



Working with a web designer, ELO organizers customized the STARS Digital Commons installation to double as a presentation platform and a conference archive. Not only could STARS accommodate our open-access syllabus, it could also host Conference—generated digital media (videos, etc.) with associated metadata AND provide PlumX metrics on abstract views and downloads.

So how hard could it be to turn a conference into a 1-credit course / open-access syllabus?

### Syllabus Schedule

The course consists of weekly Conversations & Explorations leading up to, through, and beyond the live-streamed 2021 Afrofuturism Conference. We invite you to participate in this ongoing Conversation/Exploration and make plans to attend the 2021 Afrofuturism Conference scheduled for Jan. 28-29, 2021!

New materials will be released each week, beginning Nov. 1, 2020. You can find a link to each week's content on this page as it is published.

#### Part I: Reflecting on the 2020 ZORA! Festival Conference Theme: What is Afrofuturism?

- Week 1 Podcast Interview with Dr. Julian Chambliss on Afrofuturism and the Zora Neale Hurston Festival; 2020 Afrofuturism Conference Participant Interview Clips (Released 11/1/2020)
- Week 2 Webinar on Afrofuturism with Dr. Julian Chambliss, Dr. Phillip Cunningham, and Trent Tomengo (Released 11/8/2020)
- Week 3 Podcast Interview with Dr. Kinitra Brooks: The Roots of Afrofuturism (Released 11/15/2020)
- Week 4 Podcast Interview with Dr. Isiah Lavender III: The Search for an Afrofuturist Legacy (Released 11/22/2020)
- Week 5 Podcast Interview with Dr. Reynaldo Anderson: The Black Speculative Tradition (Released 11/29/2020)
- Week 6 Podcast Interview with Dr. Michele Tracy Berger: The Afrofuturist Aesthetic (Released 12/6/2020)
- Week 7 Webinar with Dr. Julian Chambliss and Dr. Kinitra Brooks (Released 12/13/2020)
- Week 8 Podcast Interview with Maurice Broaddus: The Space to Dream (Released 12/20/2020)
- Week 9 Podcast Interview with Dr. Chesya Burke: Reimagining the Future (Released 12/27/2020)
- Week 10 Podcast Interview with P. Dièlí Clark: Retrofuturism (Released 1/3/2021)
- Week 11 Podcast Interview with Tenea D. Johnson: Building Black Future Worlds (Released 1/10/2021)
- Week 12 Podcast Interview with Dr. Iheoma Nwachukwu: The Reality of Afrofuturism (Released 1/17/2021)
- Week 13 Dr. Julian Chambliss's Spotify Playlist on The Sound of Afrofuturism: Mapping the Sonic Imagination (Released 1/24/2021)

### Part II: "Live" From the 2021 ZORA! Festival Academic Conference Program: What is the Sound of Afrofuturism?

- Week 14 Please join us for the 2021 ZORA! Festival Academic Conference, 1/29-1/30/2021
- Week 15 Dr. Regina N. Bradley on Hip Hop, OutKast, and Black Culture and Identity in the Post-Civil Rights South (Released 2/7/2021)
- Week 16 Dr. Eric Steinskog, Keynote Speaker, on Speculative Sounds: Aural History, Sonic Fiction, and Afrofuturism (Released 2/14/2021)
- Week 17 Dr. Paul Ortiz, Keynote Speaker, on Oral History, Zora Neale Hurston, and the Black Freedom Struggle through Storytelling and Song (Released 2/21/2021)
- Week 18 Dr. Toniesha Taylor, Keynote Speaker, on "Mocked to Death by Time": Zora Neale Hurston as the Sound of Afrofuture Present Past to Future Past (Released 2/28/2021)
- Week 19 Panel Discussion on What is the Sound of Afrofuturism? (Released 3/7/2021)

### Part III: Reflecting on the 2021 Afrofuturism Conference Theme: What is the Sound of Afrofuturism?

- Week 20 Afrofuturism Exhibit (Released 3/14/2021)
- Week 21 Sun-Ra (Released 3/21/2021)
- Week 22 Janelle Monae (Released 3/28/2021)

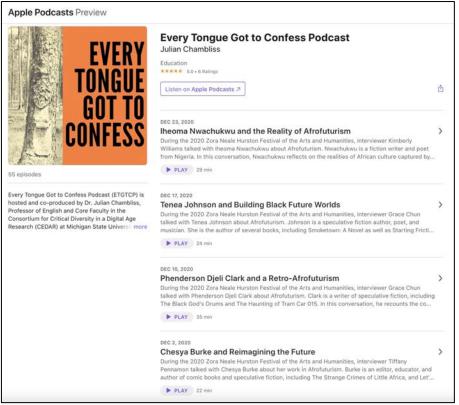
### Challenge #1:

Devising a 22-Week **Open-Access** Course Schedule/Syllabus Culminating in 2-Day Hybrid In-Person/ Livestreamed Conference



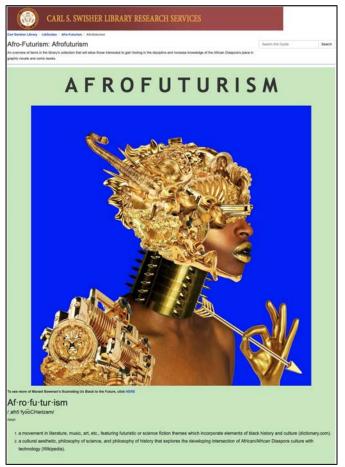
Our Strategy: First recap the 2020 conference ("What Is Afrofuturism?") using available digital media – interviews, podcasts, webinars. Then integrate presentations from 2021 conference ("Afrofuturism: What is its Sound?) and other referenced materials.

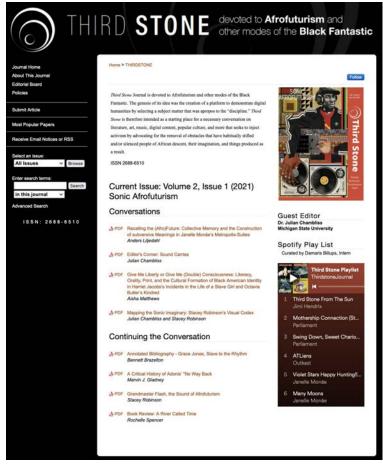




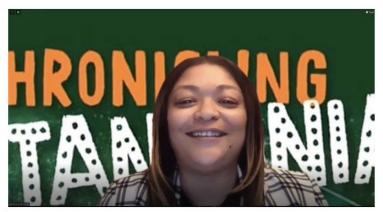


### Relevant Library & Academic Journal Resources





Clarissa West-White's Afrofuturism LibGuide; ThirdStone's Afrofuturism Bibliography



2020-2021 AFROFUTURISM SYLLABUS - WEEK 15 - DR.
REGINA N. BRADLEY ON "THE DEMO TAPE AIN'T
NOBODY WANNA HEAR": HIP HOP, OUTKAST, AND
BLACK CULTURE AND IDENTITY IN THE POST-CIVIL
RIGHTS MOVEMENT SOUTH

Welcome to Week 15 of the ZORA! Festival 2020-2021 Afrofuturism Course!

Please begin by reviewing <u>About the Course</u> for an introduction and orientation to the 2020-2021 Afrofuturism Syllabus, which bridges the organizing themes of the first two years of the five-year Afrofuturism Conference Cycle: "What is Afrofuturism?" and "What is the Sound of Afrofuturism?"

Note: Each week the course coordinator will release new content related to the conference themes. Content posted here will remain publicly accessible and may be incorporated into other courses, in part or in full, via links to this site. Suggested citation: French, Scot. Syllabus for ZORA! Festival Afrofuturism Course, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Fall 2020-Spring 2021. STARS, https://stars.library.ucf.edu/afrofuturism\_syllabus\_about/.

### **CONVERSATIONS**

In the Conversations segment we share resources featuring participants in the 2020-2021 ZORA! Festival Afrofuturism Conference.

This week's featured Conversation is a <u>webinar by Dr. Regina N. Bradley</u>, Assistant Professor of English and African Diaspora Studies at Kennesaw State University and author of *Boondock Kollage: Stories from the Hip Hop South*, a collection of short stories.

Using historical, spectral and hip hop-infused fiction, Dr. Bradley explores the issues of race, place, and identity in the post-Civil Rights American South and the intersections of regionalism and Black culture in American society.

Dr. Bradley discusses the cultural significance of hip hop music, with emphasis on the Atlanta based hip hop duo OutKast, André "3000" Benjamin and Antwan "Big Boi" Patton, and how they used hip hop starting in the mid-1990s to expand definitions of southern Blackness and their representations of a consistently evolving performance of race, region and identity.

Dr. Bradley presented the webinar on January 27, 2021 as part of Seminole State College of Florida's 2020-2021 Speaker Series, in partnership with the 2021 ZORA! Festival of the Arts and Humanities. It lasts about 90 minutes. Introductions begin about 6:15 minutes into the video, and Dr. Bradley's talk begins about 13:20 minutes into the video.

# Challenge #2: Curating the Conference Materials for UCF Students and General Audiences

- Speaker Profiles
- Study Questions/Prompts
  - References & Links

### REFERENCES

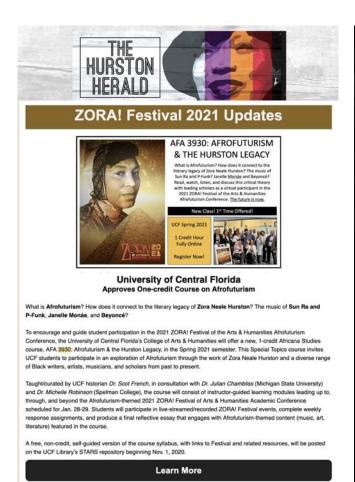
### Authors, artists, and works referenced in the podcast include:

- Octavia Butler Mind of My Mind (1977); Kindred (1979); Parable of the Sower (1993)
- Samuel R. Delany
- Zora Neale Hurston
- Alice Walker
- Toni Morrison
- Nisi Shawl
- Sycorax's Daughters (2017)
- Ntozake Shange
- Pearl Cleage
- Eden Royce
- Nicole Kurtz Smith
- Linda Addison
- Toshi Reagon's adaptation of Parable of the Sower (1993)
- Dr. Michele Tracy Berger Nussia (2018); Reenu-You (2020)



### Challenge #3:

### Marketing/Publicity of Open-Access Syllabus/Course





## AFA 3930: Afrofuturism and the Hurston Legacy (Spring 2021) Instructor-Led 1-Credit UCF Special Topics/Africana Studies Course





Screenshot from live/hybrid Afrofuturism conference

- Fully online / asynchronous
- Integrate live/hybrid conference & open-access syllabus
  - 8 students enrolled in "pilot" course; 17 this Spring
    - Student evals 100 % good to excellent

# Sample Assignment #1: Real-Time Q&A & Simulated "Live-Tweeting" of Recorded Sessions

Week #5: Viewing and Virtual "Live-Tweeting" of Dr. Regina Bradley's Recorded Talk

Jan 8 at 3:36pm





Welcome back! For this week's Afrofuturism course assignment:

1. Watch the recorded talk by Dr. Regina N. Bradley, a featured panelist at last week's Afrofuturism Conference:

"The Demo Tape Ain't Nobody Wanna Hear": Hip Hop, OutKast, and Black Culture and Identity in the Post-Civil Rights South &

2. Take notes as you watch and post three (3) brief comments to this discussion assignment plus one (1) response to another student.

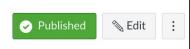
NOTE: Think of this as a classroom version of "live tweeting" from the conference, with brief discussion posts -- your own personal observations/questions/summaries of key points -- of  $\underline{280}$  characters or less.

Please note: You do not have to sign up for Twitter or post on Twitter. Use this discussion space instead. For tips on live-tweeting, see How to Live Tweet: <a href="https://blog.hootsuite.com/how-to-live-tweet/">https://blog.hootsuite.com/how-to-live-tweet/</a>



### Sample Assignment #2: Using Julian Chambliss's Spotify Playlist/Catalog Essay as Inspiration for Student Exploration

Final Report - [Choose Your Own Artist : An Afrofuturist Listening





Artist: Flying Lotus Label: Warp Records Country: UK, Europe & US Released: 2014 Genre: Electronic, Jazz Style: Future Jazz ong from album: Coronus, the Terminato



Album: Metropolis: The Chase Suite (Special Edition) Artist: Janelle Monáe Label: Bad Boy Entertainment, Wondaland Released: 2013 Genre: Funk/Soul



Album: Mama's Gun Artist: Erykah Badu Country: United States Released: 2000 Genre: Hip Hop, Funk/Soul Style: RnB/Swing, Neo Soul, Conscious Song from track: Penitentiary Philosophy



Artist: Lee "Scratch" Perry Label: Politur Country: Europe Released: 2008 Genre: Reggae Song from album: Having a Party



Artist: LaBelle Label: Epic Country: United States Released: 1974 Genre: Funk/Soul Style: Funk/Disco Song from album: Lady Marmalade

Album: Nightbirds



Artist: Sun Ra Country: United States Released: 1971 Genre: Jazz Style: Free Jazz, Free Improvisation Song from album: Walking on the Moor

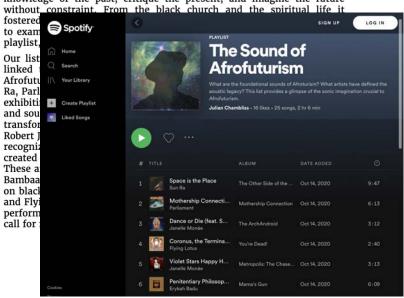
Throughout this semester we have been exploring the question "Afrofuturism: What is its Sound?" through conference panels, webinars, videos, exhibits, and selected readings/viewings. For your final report I would like you to conduct an original Afrofuturist investigation into a performing artist/musician/writer/orator of your choice.

### MAPPING THE SONIC IMAGINATION

Julian C. Chambliss, Ph.D.

From the beginning of the modern engagement with Afrofuturism, sound has been a crucial element. In his groundbreaking study of Afrofuturism. Kodwo Eshun wrote of "psychoacoustic fictional spaces" that "crumple chronology" and, in doing so, bounds together the Black Atlantic. Sound serves as a not so secret technology that catalogs the human experience and formulates new possibilities. For Afrofuturism, sound is a technology, and black hands and minds have used that technology to reshape the universe.

Tracing Afrofuturism through sound offers essential ways to recover the legacy of black speculative practice. An analysis of Afrofuturism rooted in sound provides the potential to see layers of connection through time, space, and instruments that highlight the diasporic nature of black speculative practice. This reality supports what Afrofuturist sound theorist Erik Steinskog calls "multimedial transmission" at the heart of sound's role in Afrofuturism. When cultural critic Mark Dery first coined the term Afrofuturism, he urged us to consider that black people have "other stories to tell about culture, technology, and things to come." Sound is a technology that provides information and serves as a communal archive that transmits stories about black existence. Sound allows black people to disseminate knowledge of the past, critique the present, and imagine the future





LIVE EVENT: Hybrid (In-Person/Livestreamed) Afrofuturism Conference II at UCF Downtown; 25 In-Person/400+ Registered Online (Zoom/Facebook Live); All Sessions Video-Recorded for Open-Access Syllabus/Open Educational Resource

# **Next Steps:** Locating/Archiving/Curating of Digital Assets; 35 Years of ZORA! Festival Programs & Related Media



- Address institutional sustainability / STARS training for public history staff & interested faculty
  - Extend model to other department- and college-sponsored public programming
- Work with N.Y. Nathiri and Preserve the Eatonville Community, Inc. to Archive Video/Print Media & Other Artifacts Associated with the Festival





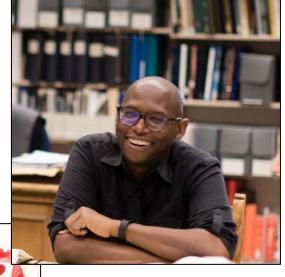


Association to Preserve the Eatonville Community Inc. Archive/Storage Facility (March 2018)

# Q. Does This Count as Scholarship?

Theorize & Narrativize
Work of Recovery in
Partnership w/Community







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### A Generative Praxis

Curation, Creation, and Black Counterpublics

Julian C. Chambliss, Michigan State University

Scot A. French, University of Central Florida

CFP: Edited Volume on Zora Neale Hurston



Announcement pools too by Critistopher Variable on Friday, march 5, 2021

Type: Call for Papers Subject Fields:

African American History / Studies, American History / Studies, Black History / Studies, Ethnic History Studies, Uterature

Call for Proposals: Hurston in Context - proposals due April 5, 2021 -

in her 1942 autobiographical work, Dust Tracto on a Road, author and anthropologist Zora Neale funtion openity declared her desire to expand the focus and direction of African-American literature, discitution potentially hard "us and am throughly sick of the subject (of the are problem in the United latasis") but that she was interested in exploring "what makes a man or a woman do such-und-us, eggrafies of his color" (713). And while discussions of new inherently personal much of her words in triticis and ideological perspective—the need to "fell a story the way! wanted, or rather the way the triticis and ideological perspective—the need to "fell a story the way! wanted, or rather the way they to differed from "(713)—nglysto a significant role in shaping Efutron's literary words, throughout or atteried career. Whether it was using dialect to construct the African-American voice in text, driving town the coast collecting stories from Black folk whose voices had long been ignored, or delving into he lives of a white married couple in what some described as her "whitefice noved." Hurston pursued a rand of art that was unishibited by twentieth-century expectations of African-American literature remains of art that was unishibited by twentieth-century expectations of African-American literature remains and concentration of the constructed by Blacks and white society lessessues of this, Zora Neale Hurston's short stories, novels, plays, essays, collected songs, and more emain truly rich material for scholars across the disciplines to explore.





# Thank you!







### **EATONVILLE EXHIBITS**

The Hurston Museum of Fine Arts (2018) Art & History Museums - Maitland (2019) University of Central Florida Library (2020)

### **COMMUNITY TALKS/WALKING TOURS**

"Imagining Freedom: Black Community and Creating Place" with Julian Chambliss, Hannibal Square Community Land Trust Juneteenth Celebration, June 19, 2020

https://youtu.be/ uNNBJ CTuo

### **MAGAZINE & JOURNAL ARTICLES**

"Social Preservation and Moral Capitalism in the Historic Black Township of Eatonville, Florida: A Case Study of 'Reverse Gentrification,'" *Change Over Time*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (Spring 2018): 54-72. <a href="https://muse.jhu.edu/article/717928">https://muse.jhu.edu/article/717928</a>

"Moral Capitalist: In the Aftermath of Reconstruction, Winter Park Pioneer Lewis Lawrence Brought his Crusading Spirit South," *Winter Park Magazine* (Spring 2018): 52-69.

https://issuu.com/digitalissue/docs/wpm\_spring18\_da19c8b0d2a067/

"Marked, Unmarked, Remembered: Exhibits Explore African American Experiences and Historic Ties That Bind Maitland and Eatonville," Winter Park Magazine (Spring 2019): 58-66 https://issuu.com/digitalissue/docs/wpm\_spr19/60

