

African American Literature—Unit 5—Homework—“Mapping Discussion Question”
Due date 1/30-2/5 (see schedule below)

Assignment Objective

To show one “waypoint” in the “journey” of one cultural item (an object, a practice, a ritual, a form of expression etc.) from African American history. This “journey” should be both geographical and developmental. For example, you may choose a particular food item, something that began as a survival item in the South, but became a prized part of African American cuisine later in the North.

Assignment Description

On the date of your Discussion Question (see schedule below), come with at least one source from our Osher Data Base (either as a print-out or a link to show on the big screen), sources that refer to the item’s “origins” and “destinations,” and an explanation and a discussion question as a single document. The explanation should refer to the sources, focusing one moment in the cultural item’s historical “journey,” though you will need to mention the “before and after.” Your discussion question should include prompts, relevant notes and references from the sources, and the last page should list the sources on a Works Cited page. Your presentation and discussion should last 10 minutes. At the end of your discussion, be sure to turn in the document in Classroom.

Areas to Address

- The geographic journey of the item (where it is at the time of your focus, where it came from and where it went)
- The cultural journey of the item (what it was at the time of your focus, what it was before and what it became later)
- How the item is shaped and affected by the principles of the blues/jazz

Assessment

Your live presentation & discussion	10 points
Your document	8 points

Schedule

1/30	Student A, Student B
2/3	Student C, Student D
2/4	Student E, Student F
2/5	Student G, Student H