Guide to the
Deborah H. Barnes Papers

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

Katherine Downton
January 2010
Deborah H. Barnes was raised in Greensboro, NC during the Civil Rights Movement. She attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for two years and then transferred to Tuskegee Institute, graduating with honors in 1978.

Dr. Barnes continued her education at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC, earning a M.A. in African American literature in 1987. She received her Ph.D. in English from Howard University in 1992, where she specialized in the literature of black women writers and authored a dissertation on the works of Toni Morrison and Gloria Naylor. During her career, Dr. Barnes’ scholarship has focused on Toni Morrison, Richard Wright, Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown, and Arthur P. Davis. Her recent research has centered on lynching and lynching narratives.

From 1992-2002, Deborah Barnes was a faculty member in the English Department at Gettysburg College, where she taught courses in English, African American Studies, Women’s Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Civil War Era Studies. In 1999, she became the first African American awarded tenure by Gettysburg College. She served as Chair of the African American Studies program in 2001. She also Chaired the President’s Commission for Racial and Ethnic Diversity and was active in efforts to advance diversity at the college.

After leaving Gettysburg in 2002, Dr. Barnes served as the Director of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations and Associate Professor of Africana Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. She is currently the Interim Associate Dean of University Studies at North Carolina A&T State University.

The collection contains papers accumulated by Deborah Barnes while she was a graduate student at Howard University and a professor at Gettysburg College. The bulk of the collection consists of course materials, including syllabi, handouts, course readings, and other resources used for course preparation and research.
Papers written by Dr. Barnes while she was a graduate student at Howard University are contained in the collection, although few of them pertain to her primary research interest, African American literature. Also held in the collection are Dr. Barnes’ dissertation proposal from Howard University and publications and presentations authored by Dr. Barnes during her tenure at Gettysburg College. Photocopies of many other publications, including essays, articles, poetry, and short stories are included in the collection, as are a number of student-authored papers from courses taught by Dr. Barnes at Gettysburg College. Student papers from Howard University are also represented.

The collection contains a limited collection of Gettysburg College documents—primarily those produced for college faculty—as well as a small collection of documents from the African American Studies and English Departments.

The collection’s strength rests in the substantial amount of course materials collected. The papers of Deborah Barnes will be most helpful for researchers interested in African American Studies and/or American literature curricula and teachers developing courses in African American literature. The collection could also be helpful for researchers interested in examining collections of secondary source publications about African American literature. The collection does not contain personal writing or substantial information about Dr. Barnes’ personal life and experiences at Howard University and Gettysburg College.

**Series Description**

This collection is divided into two Series:

**Series I: Howard University**, *Sub-Series A: Coursework; Sub-Series B: Publications.*

**Series II: Gettysburg College**, *Sub-Series A: Course Materials; Sub-Series B: Student Papers and Coursework; Sub-Series C: Publications; Sub-Series D: Professional Development; Sub-Series E: Gettysburg College Documents; Sub-Series F: Ephemera.*

**Box 1**

1-1 Finding Aid and Biographical Information

**Series 1 Howard University**

**Sub-Series A: Coursework**

1-2 Graduate school papers: Dissertation proposal
1-3 Graduate school papers

1-4 Graduate school papers
   Writing about Paul Laurence Dunbar; Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon*

1-5 Graduate school papers
   Writing about literary criticism, English Renaissance literature

1-6 Graduate school papers
   Writing about English Renaissance literature, 19th century British literature

1-7 Graduate school papers
   Writing about literary criticism, religion in late 18th and early 20th century Europe, and English Renaissance literature

1-8 Graduate school papers
   Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-9 Graduate school papers
   Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-10 Graduate school papers
    Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-11 Graduate school papers
    Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-12 Graduate school papers
    Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-13 Graduate school papers
    Writing about English Renaissance literature

1-14 Graduate school papers
    Writing about authorship and dating

1-15 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-16 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-17 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-18 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-19 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-20 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-21 Notes: Graduate school reading
1-22 Notes: Graduate school reading

**Box 2**

2-1 Notes: Graduate school reading
2-2 Notes: Graduate school reading
2-3 Notes: Graduate school reading
2-4 Student papers: American Literature
2-5 Student papers: American Literature
2-6 Student papers: British Literature
2-7 Student papers: British Literature
2-8 Student papers: British Literature
2-9 Student papers: African American Literature
Student papers: Toni Morrison Seminar and unidentified courses
Student papers: Dissertation proposal by Yasmin Y. DeGout
Student papers: Dissertation and publication by Angelyn Mitchell

Sub-Series B: Publications

Box 3

3-1 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison
3-2 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison
3-3 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison
3-4 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Song of Solomon
3-5 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Song of Solomon
3-6 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Sula
3-7 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Sula
3-8 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Tar Baby
3-9 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Tar Baby
3-10 Essays and articles: Toni Morrison, Tar Baby
3-11 Essays and articles: Gloria Naylor
3-12 Essays and articles: Gender and race

Box 4

4-1 Bibliographies
4-2 Bibliographies
4-3 Source lists: Library catalogs
  Sources about women/gender
4-4 Source lists: library catalogs
  Sources about women, race, and society
4-5 Source lists: Library catalogs
  Sources about American literature and literature by women
4-6 Source lists: Library catalogs and MLA Bibliography
  Sources about fantasy literature, early American literature, Romantic literature
4-7 Source lists: Library catalogs and MLA Bibliography
  Sources about the Chicago Renaissance
4-8 Source lists: MLA Bibliography
  Sources about American/African American literature
4-9 Source lists: MLA Bibliography
  Sources about African American literature
4-10 Source lists: MLA Bibliography
  Sources about Toni Morrison
4-11 Source lists: MLA Bibliography
  Sources about American Literature, Gloria Naylor, and Toni Morrison
4-12 Source lists: MLA Bibliography
Sources about African American women writers, New Historicism
4-13 Source lists: Various periodical indices
Contains lists of sources about African American literature, Toni Morrison

Box 5

5-1 Promotional articles: Ron Lee Photography exhibit
5-2 Maps and statistical data
5-4 Directory: Telephone directory, Howard University, 1990

Series 2 Gettysburg College

Sub-Series A: Course Materials

Box 6

6-1 Courses: AAS 130, Introduction to African American Studies
Spring 2000, Spring 2001
6-2 Courses: AAS 217, Slavery and the Literary Imagination
Syllabi/attendance
6-3 Courses: AAS 217, Slavery and the Literary Imagination
Exams/handouts
6-4 Courses: AAS 217, Slavery and the Literary Imagination
Readings (poetry)
6-5 Courses: AAS 217, Slavery and the Literary Imagination
Readings
6-6 Courses: AAS 217, Slavery and the Literary Imagination
Readings
6-7 Courses: ENG 101, English Composition
6-8 Courses: ENG 101, English Composition
6-9 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Syllabi
6-10 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Notes/handouts
6-11 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings (poetry/essays)
6-12 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings
6-13 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings
6-14 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings
6-15 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings
6-16 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings

6-17 Courses: ENG 154, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Readings

Box 7

7-1 Courses: ENG 234, American Literature Survey: 1865-present
Syllabi/handouts

7-2 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Classics
Fall 1999 – syllabi/handouts

7-3 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 1999 – readings

7-4 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 1999 – readings

7-5 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 2000 – syllabi/notes/attendance

7-6 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 2000 – readings

7-7 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 2000 – readings

7-8 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature,
Fall 2000 – readings

7-9 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 2000 – reference sources

7-10 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Fall 2001 – syllabi/notes

7-11 Courses: ENG 235, Survey of African American Literature
Spring 2001 – exam/attendance

7-12 Courses: ENG 250, The Harlem Renaissance and Chicago Renaissance
Syllabus/schedule

7-13 Courses: ENG 254, African American Survey before 1954
Fall 1995 - Syllabus

7-14 Courses: ENG 257, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin: I, Too, Sing America
Spring 1999 – syllabi/essay/student projects

7-15 Courses: ENG 257, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin: I, Too, Sing America
Spring 1999 – student project

7-16 Courses: ENG 257, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin, I, Too, Sing America
Spring 1999 – student project

7-17 Courses: ENG 340, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin
Spring 2001 – notes/handouts

7-18 Courses: ENG 340, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin
Spring 2001 – miscellaneous

7-19 Courses: ENG 340, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin
Spring 2001 – miscellaneous
**Box 8**

8-1 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Spring 1997, Fall 1998, Fall 1999 – syllabi
8-2 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Fall 2000, Spring 2002 – syllabi
8-3 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
No date – syllabi
8-4 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Various dates – syllabi
8-5 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings/handouts
8-6 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-7 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-8 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-9 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-10 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-11 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings
8-12 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings – Toni Morrison
8-13 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings – Toni Morrison
8-14 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings – Toni Morrison
8-15 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings – Toni Morrison, interviews
8-16 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers  
Readings – Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
8-17 Courses: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers,  
Readings – Toni Morrison, *Tar Baby* and *Jazz*

**Box 9**

9-1 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance  
9-2 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance  
Spring 2002
9-3 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance  
Handouts
9-4 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance
Readings (poetry)

9-5 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance
Readings

9-6 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance
Readings

9-7 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance
Readings

9-8 Courses: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance
Readings

9-9 Courses: ENG 404/405, Toni Morrison Seminar
Syllabi, readings

9-10 Courses: ENG 404/405, Toni Morrison Seminar
Readings

9-11 Courses: ENG 404/405, Toni Morrison Seminar
Readings

9-12 Course materials: 1999-2000, websites

9-13 Course materials: 1999-2000, websites

9-14 Course materials: 1999-2000, websites

9-15 Course materials: 1999-2000, essays

9-16 Course materials: 1999-2000, essays

9-17 Course materials: 1999-2000, miscellaneous

Box 10

10-1 Course materials: Fall 2000, handouts

10-2 Course materials: Fall 2000, student papers

10-3 Course materials: Fall 2000, queer theory sources

10-4 Course materials: Fall 2000, essays and articles

10-5 Course materials: Fall 2000, miscellaneous

10-6 Course materials: Spring 2001, sources on women writers

10-7 Course materials: Spring 2001, Dorothy West sources

10-8 Course materials: Spring 2001, Richard Wright sources

10-9 Course materials: Spring 2001, poetry

10-10 Course materials: Spring 2001, poetry

10-11 Course materials: Spring 2001, handouts/notes

10-12 Course materials: Teaching notes

10-13 Course materials: Handouts, miscellaneous

10-14 Course materials: Class record book

Sub-Series B: Student Papers and Coursework

10-15 Student papers: ENG 234, American Literature Survey: 1865-present

10-16 Student papers: ENG 234, American Literature Survey: 1865-present

10-17 Student papers: ENG 240, Antebellum American Literature

10-18 Student papers: ENG 340, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin
10-19 Student papers: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers
10-20 Student papers: ENG 349, Major Contemporary Black Women Writers
10-21 Student papers: ENG 353, Discourses of Resistance

**Box 11**

11-1 Student papers: ENG 405, Toni Morrison Seminar
11-2 Student papers: AAS 217, ENG 154, ENG 235
11-3 Student papers: Unidentified courses
11-4 Student papers: Unidentified courses
11-5 Student papers: Independent study, Spring 1995
   Paper by Katherine E. Carey
11-6 Student papers: Independent study, Fall 1995
   Paper by Keith L. Ford
11-7 Student papers: Independent study, Spring 1996
   Paper by Sharon Harmon
11-8 Student papers: Independent study, no date
   Paper by Leslie Nauser
11-9 Student papers: Senior honors theses, 2000, 2002
   Papers by Jennifer E. Wise, Janel L. Farrell
11-10 Student papers: Richard Wright F.B.I. files, no date
   Project by Patrick T. Currier

**Box 12**

12-1 Student papers: Story book, no date
   By Ruth Homberg and Laura Root
12-2 Video: Class lectures and student speeches, 1992-1993
12-3 Video: “English Class Outtakes”

**Sub-Series C: Publications**

**Box 13**

13-1 Writing by Deborah Barnes: Toni Morrison
13-2 Writing by Deborah Barnes: Arthur P. Davis
13-3 Writing by Deborah Barnes: Arthur P. Davis/Richard Wright
13-4 Writing by Deborah Barnes: Presentations
13-5 Writing by Deborah Barnes: Notes
13-6 Essays and articles: African American literature & culture
13-7 Essays and articles: African American literature & culture
13-8 Essays and articles: African American literature & culture
13-9 Essays and articles: Antebellum period
13-10 Essays and articles: James Baldwin
Box 14

14-1 Essays and articles: Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones)
14-2 Essays and articles: Black Arts Movement
14-3 Essays and articles: Black Nationalism
14-4 Essays and articles: Black Panther Party
14-5 Essays and articles: Black women writers
14-6 Essays and articles: Black women writers
14-7 Essays and articles: Black women writers
14-8 Essays and articles: Black women writers
14-9 Essays and articles: Sterling Brown
14-10 Essays and articles: Arthur P. Davis
14-11 Essays and articles: Arthur P. Davis
14-12 Essays and articles: Frederick Douglass
14-13 Essays and articles: Feminism, African American
14-14 Essays and articles: Harlem Renaissance
14-15 Essays and articles: Harlem Renaissance, bibliography
14-16 Essays and articles: Harlem Renaissance, bibliography

Box 15

15-1 Essays and articles: Langston Hughes
15-2 Essays and articles: Martin Luther King, Jr.
15-3 Essays and articles: Miscellaneous
15-4 Essays and articles: NAACP Publications
15-5 Essays and articles: Larry Neal
15-6 Essays and articles: Négritude
15-7 Essays and articles: Race & ethnicity
15-8 Essays and articles: Race & ethnicity
15-9 Essays and articles: Slavery, resistance
15-10 Essays and articles: Richard Wright
15-11 Poetry, various authors
    Joshua McCarter Simpson, James Weldon Johnson, Phillis Wheatley,
    George Moses Horton, James M. Whitfield, Frances Watkins Harper,
    Khalil Gibran
15-12 Poetry, various authors
    Claude McKay, Georgia Douglas Johnson, Richard Wright, Countee
    Cullen, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Robert E. Hayden
15-13 Poetry, Langston Hughes
15-14 Poetry, various authors
    Larry Neal, Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones), Sonia Sanchez
15-15 Poetry, various authors
    Gwendolyn Brooks, Maya Angelou, Alice Walker, Tracy Chapman

Box 16
16-1 Poetry recordings
   Nikki Giovanni (in Curtis Mayfield CD case), James Weldon Johnson
16-2 Short stories, various authors
   William Attaway, Frank London Brown, Ralph Ellison, Junius Edwards,
   Ronald Fair, Frank Yerby
16-3 Bibliographies
16-4 Bibliographies
16-5 Reference sources, literary
16-6 Maps
16-7 Catalogs for books and media
16-8 Newsletters: Toni Morrison Society
16-9 Websites, African American
16-10 Websites, miscellaneous
16-11 Periodicals, miscellaneous
16-12 Periodicals, miscellaneous

*Sub-Series D: Professional Development*

**Box 17**

17-1 Conferences: 1992-2001
17-2 Conferences: Chairing the Academic Department, February 20-23, 2002
17-3 Conferences: Chairing the Academic Department, February 20-23, 2002
17-4 Conferences: Chairing the Academic Department, February 20-23, 2002
17-5 Professional development: Curriculum Vitae (May 2000), grants, scholarships

*Sub-Series E: Gettysburg College Documents*

17-6 Faculty meeting minutes, 1999-2002 (with gaps)
17-7 Faculty documents, 1992-2001
17-8 Faculty documents, 1992-2001
17-9 Gettysburg College events, 1995-2002
17-10 Expenses: receipts and book orders
17-11 Expenses: purchasing card
17-12 Course scheduling, Gettysburg College, 1998-2001
17-13 Course scheduling, Gettysburg College, 2002-2003
17-14 Tenure review information, Gettysburg College
17-15 African American Studies Department: Documents

**Box 18**

18-1 African American Studies Department: Self Study, 1996-2001
18-2 English Department: Documents and photographs
Sub-Series F: Ephemera

18-3  Ephemera
      Miscellaneous business cards, notes, cartoon, dedication page, fitness tips
18-4  Pocket dictionary and letter opener
18-5  Video: Color Adjustment, from Point of View (POV) on PBS