

English 4343/6343, Spring 2018
Section 1, 10:00-10:50 MWF

Prof. Robert West
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AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

BOOKS:

Douglass, Frederick, and Harriet Jacobs. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave & Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*. (Modern Library Classics, ISBN: 9780345478238)

Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun*. (Vintage, ISBN: 9780679755333)

Harper, Michael S., and Anthony Walton, eds. *The Vintage Book of African American Poetry* (Vintage, ISBN: 978-0375703003)

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. (Harper Perennial, ISBN: 9780060838676)

Johnson, James Weldon. *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*. (Penguin, ISBN: 9780140184020)

Larsen, Nella. *The Complete Fiction of Nella Larsen*. (Anchor, ISBN: 9780385721004)

Wilson, August. *Fences*. (Plume, ISBN: 9780452264014)

Wright, Richard. *Black Boy*. (Harper Perennial, ISBN: 978-0061130243)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

We'll examine work by a number of major African American authors active from the late eighteenth century through the late twentieth. among them Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, James Weldon Johnson, Nella Larsen, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, Zora Neale Hurston, Lorraine Hansberry, August Wilson, and Gwendolyn Brooks. The readings will include autobiographies (including slave narratives), novels, short stories, plays, and poems.

WRITTEN WORK:

Two exams, two papers (6-8 pp. each), and weekly reading journal entries (1-2 pp. each).