Summer 6-15-2011

ENG 3705-001: American Multicultural Literature

John Martone
Eastern Illinois University

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OVERVIEW
My objective in this class is to focus (with some exceptions) on literature of the first half of the twentieth century, with an eye to the myriad ways in which America’s culture, with its origins in a slave economy, transformed the lives of outsiders.

TEXTS

Lan Cao, *Monkey Bridge* (1997)

Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* (1845)  
http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Literature/Douglass/Autobiography/

Pietro di Donato, *Christ in Concrete* (1939)

Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)

Jacob Riis, *How the Other Half Lives* (1890)

Morris Rosenfeld, *Songs from the Ghetto*  
The Triangle Fire http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/triangle/player/

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION
- **Reading Quizzes.** Note: These cannot be made up if you are absent or tardy. (25% of grade)
- **Class presentation/discussion and five-page paper** (50% of grade)
- **Final examination** (25% of grade)

AGENDA
Week of ...
June 13 – M. Introductory, *The American Other/The Other American*  
Tu, W – Douglass *Narrative*  
Th, F – Bourne, *Transnational America*  

June 20 – Riis, *How the Other Half Lives*  
T – Presenter/ discussion leader  
W – Presenter/ discussion leader  
Th – Presenter/ discussion leader

June 27 – Rosenfeld, *Songs from the Ghetto*  
*American Experience: Triangle Fire*  
T – Presenter/ discussion leader  
W – Presenter/ discussion leader  
Th – Presenter/ discussion leader

July 4 – di Donato, *Christ in Concrete*  
T – Presenter/ discussion leader  
W – Presenter/ discussion leader  
Th – Presenter/ discussion leader

July 11 – Hurston, *Their Eyes were Watching God*  
T – Presenter/ discussion leader  
W – Presenter/ discussion leader  
Th – Presenter/ discussion leader

July 18 – Cao, *Monkey Bridge*  
T – Presenter/ discussion leader  
W – Presenter/ discussion leader  
Th – Presenter/ discussion leader