ENGL 4393: The Autobiographical Tradition

Fr. Romanus Muoneke

Fall 2015

Malloy Rm 229

Phone: 713-525-3178

Office Hrs.: T 10 - 12 PM (appt. only)

T 12 - 5:00 PM

TEXTS:

The Norton Book of American Autobiography

The Confessions of St. Augustine

The Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux

The Confessions by Jean-Jacques Rousseau

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Readings in Autobiography representative of masterpieces of ancient and modern world, with special emphasis on modern American authors.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Regular class attendance and full participation in class discussions.

Careful reading of all assigned material before class

There will be no make-up exams

Written assignments and exams must handed in on time, and should never be emailed.

All tests and exams should be written in ink, not pencil.

Any form of plagiarism will be taken seriously and will result in failure of the paper in question.

EVALUATION:

Two papers.........................40%

Your autobiographical writing.....30%
Final.................................................20%

Attendance & Participation........10%

READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Aug 27: General introduction

Sep 3: Confessions of St. Augustine, Book 1 - 4

Sep 10: Confessions of St. Augustine, Book 5 - 7; **Paper 1**

Sep 17: Confessions of Jean Jacques Rousseau, Book 1 - 3

Sep 24: Confessions of J.J. Rousseau, Book 4 - 6

Oct 1: Story of a Soul (St. Theresa of Lisieux), Ch. 1 - 3; **Paper 1 due**

Oct 8: Story of a Soul, Ch. 4 - 7P; **Paper 2**

Oct 15: Norton, Elizabeth H. Keckley, 174ff; Frederick Douglass, 135 ff

Oct 22: Norton, U.S. Grant, 165 ff; Mark Twain, 197 ff

Oct 29: Norton, Helen Keller, 312 ff; Zora Neale Hurston, 333 ff; **Paper 2 due**

Nov 5: Norton, F. Scott Fitzgerald, 357 ff; Mary Paik Lee, 370 ff; Student Personal Narrative

Nov 12: " Mary McCarthy, 407 ff; Alfred Kazin, 435 ff; SPN

Nov 19: " Malcolm X, 466 ff; Maxine Hong Kingston, 519 ff; SPN

**Nov 25 - 27: Thanksgiving**

Dec 4: Last class; Review

**Dec 10: Final Exam: 4:30 PM**