

HIS 4485/5485: Comparative Slavery and Emancipation in the Atlantic World
Paper Guidelines for *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*.

Paper Length: 5pgs
Due: Tuesday, April 3

When writing your essays, please answer the following questions:

Who is Frederick Douglass and what was his main purpose in writing this narrative? To whom is he directing his narrative, and why? What does he hope to achieve with its publication?

Perhaps one of the most famous quotes from Douglass' narrative is "You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man." What do you think he meant by this statement, and how does this statement speak to the abolitionist movement as a whole as we see it unfolding in the United States. Does this statement speak to Douglass' goal for writing the narrative, or was it merely a small part of his motivation? Explain.

Why is Douglass' narrative preceded by letters from white abolitionists William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips? What effect do these letters have on the reader, and why do you feel Douglass felt the need to include them in his narrative?

Important Notes:

Please limit your discussion to the materials presented in class and Equiano's narrative. Web research is not allowed.

You will be graded on style and grammar as well as how well you support your argument. Furthermore, points will be deducted for improperly cited sources, so be sure you follow the proper format to the last period.

One letter grade will be deducted from your grade for every day that your paper is late. Email submissions will not be accepted.

Also, be mindful of plagiarism—make sure the work is in your own words because I check every single paper for plagiarism. **DO NOT PARAPHRASE EITHER.** Please be sure to offer citations when needed as either a footnote or endnote

Although I will be happy to look over rough drafts before the official due date, feel free to visit the Excel Center for help and comments as well. Their website is as follows:

<http://www.westga.edu/~EXCELCenter/index3.html>

If you have questions, please ask.
Email me at cvasconc@westga.edu