

**FICTIONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY PROJECT****Due: June 1, 2009 Points 50**

The purpose of this assignment is not only to directly tie historical events into a framework, but more importantly, to place yourself into the mind and life of a European immigrant.

Please write a fictional autobiography in the first person, i.e. "I live" "I hope for" etc. This is a *fictional* account so it should NOT be based on any single individual's life – but rather, based on the shared experiences of a cultural immigrant group. This is also a creative imagination exercise; therefore, all of the small intimate details of your autobiography are up to you. You must base your account, however, with historical accuracy. For example, if you plan on writing about an Irish immigrant from the 1840s, the reason for coming to the United States can not be because a factory took your job, but rather due to the Potato Blight. Likewise, if you are Russian and arriving in the 1980s, you did not arrive through Ellis Island, but rather through an airport.

You must include research in your project. You need to use at least two secondary sources and one primary source. Your completed project should be 5-8 pages.

Your project will be graded on originality, understanding of the immigrant experience, ability to describe your surroundings, your sources used and grammar.

Following is a list of questions that should be answered in within your project:

- |  |                              |                              |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Name  | 2. Gender                    | 3. Married                   |
| 4. Age   | 5. Year Coming to America    | 6. Country of Origin         |
| 7. Religion  | 8. Why did you choose US?    | 9. How did you get here      |
| 10. Reasons for leaving  | 11. Did you travel w/family  | 12. How do you make a living |
| 13. Do you have children   | Where do you live            | Type of living arrangements  |
| How did you learn English  | How is your family adjusting | Do you like your job         |
| Did America meet your expectations                                 |                              |                              |
| Are you glad you came  |                              |                              |
| What are your hopes for your children                              |                              |                              |
| Are you worried about losing your cultural identity                |                              |                              |
| How do you plan on teaching your children your cultural traditions |                              |                              |
| Do you feel like an American                                       |                              |                              |
| Do you ever dream of returning home                                |                              |                              |
| Would you do anything differently?                                 |                              |                              |

Due Dates: On the following due dates, please turn in your work so far for on the following items:

March 27, 2009	2, 3, 4, 11, 13	(Points 5)
April 20, 2009	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	(Points 5)
May 11, 2009	Source List/Annotated Bibliography	(Points 10)
June 1, 2009	FINAL PROJECT	(Points 30)

A Rubric will be available closer to the due date.