AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE--FINAL ESSAY Write a 7-8 page argumentative essay on either of the slave narratives (Frederick Douglass or Harriet Jacobs/Linda Brent), the texts by Booker T. Washington or W.E.B. DuBois, Toni Morrison’s Beloved, or August Wilson’s Joe Turner’s Come and Gone. Writing this essay should be a process of discovery for you, so choose a topic that interests you the most. You argument may be about the significance of a cultural element or elements in the text, a stylistic device, use of language, a theme, figure of speech, etc., or you may consider the relation of the text to questions of race, class, gender, sexuality, religion, cultural identity, etc. Your essay should make a clear and precise argument about the significance, role, or impact that the specific element or idea you examine has in the text. The focus of your essay should be relatively narrow: strive for depth rather than breadth. Engage in conversation with literary and cultural critics who have written on the subject. Give ample and relevant textual evidence in support of your argument from both your primary source (the literary work that you are writing about) as well as from secondary sources (scholarly texts that help you analyze the literary work.). You should include at least four secondary sources. Your secondary sources should be scholarly, peer reviewed articles or book chapters. IMPORANT: You will find the best sources via SUNY Cobleskill Library website. These sources are much more reliable than what you may find in Google Scholar. DO NOT VISIT INTERNET SITES THAT OFFER SYNOPSES AND ANALYSES ON TEXTS, AS THESE SITES ARE NOT SCHOLARLY NOR RELIABLE. MOREOVER, THIS STRATEGY LEADS EASILY TO PLAGIARISM. Use MLA style documentation in your paper, and double space your text, using Times New Roman 12pts; leave 1” margins. Remember also to give your paper a relevant and informative title. For the current MLA style of documentation (8th edition) visit: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\_and\_citation/mla\_style/mla\_style\_introduction.html I will evaluate your paper based on: 1) the strength of your argument 2) your ability to sustain the focus of your essay 3) the quality and organization of your ideas 4) effectiveness of your textual evidence 5) analysis of the evidence 6) your prose style (clarity, precision, and eloquence of your writing) 7) mechanics of writing (spelling, punctuation, names, titles, accurate quotations etc.) 8) grammar 9) documentation 10) quality of and engagement with secondary sources.