

2009; UCSD

Alan Lechusza Aquallo– Lecturer

ETHN 128 x MUS 152 Hip Hop: The Politics of Culture

SECTION ID: 645653

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 – 3:20pm

CSB-002

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 1 – 2pm and 3:30 – 4pm (other times by appointment only)

Office Location: SSB 232

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Course Description:

Hip Hop has dramatically transformed the cultural landscape of the United States and has influences that stretch around the world. This course investigates Hip Hop as a cultural form, with a critical focus on race, popular culture, gender, and the inter-political dynamics of creative expression. We will explore the history and development of the six Elements of Hip Hop; discuss controversies within identity and authenticity; and analyze cultural shifts within the global structure and re-presentation of Hip Hop culture. This course will examine the technology, lyrics, dance and artwork of this genre noting its influences on film, music video and the media. The socio-political contexts of culture (de-)constructed through the creative agent of Hip Hop will be analyzed as a tool for self-expression and resistance.

Course Schedule:

Lectures begin – Tuesday March 31, 2009

Midterm – Thursday May 7, 2009

Lecture – Thursday June 4, 2009

Final Exam – Monday June 8, 2009 3 – 6pm

Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

In order to gain the most from this course, all requirements must be met and completed. Any missed assignment will result in a failing grade, which includes attendance and participation. Late work will not be accepted. You need not inform me if you will be absent from a lecture, however you are still responsible for all the information/work and discussion information offered during class time. All assignments must be turned in on time for full credit. Again, no late work will be accepted. Grades will be calculated as such:

- 1) Attendance and active class participation **10%**
- 2) Midterm: Assigned date: Thursday May 7, 2009 (6th week)
Midterm: DUE DATE: Friday May 8, 2009 (6th week) 20%
- 3) Paper Abstract: Due Tuesday May 12, 2009 (7th week) **10%**

- 4) Final: Assigned date: Tuesday June 4, 2009 (10th week)
Final Exam: DUE DATE Monday June 8, 2009 (11th/Finals week) **30%**
Final Paper submission: June 8, 2009 **30%**

Course Policy:

- Make sure to turn off all phones, pagers and sounding electronic devices at the start of class and they should remain silent throughout the duration of class.
- Always bring the text(s) with which we are currently working from to class.
- All readings must be completed before class.
- Make sure to come to class prepared to discuss the readings and/or any other materials selected for use.
- Proof read all your work before turning in your assignments.
- All assignments must be submitted/turned-in by the person who authored the document.

Course Schedule:

There will be general discussion in class about the readings in which you are encouraged to participate. As stated previously, please be prepared with the readings before class meetings. Additionally, there may be times when it is necessary for the schedule to be flexible due to unforeseen situations. Please be aware of these changes if any arise.

March 31 – April 2: Introduction/Overview, Critical Concepts, Theory and Background History of Hip Hop.

Rose Ch. 2, Keyes Ch. 1 - 2

April 7 – 9: The further Evolution of the Hip Hop art form.

Keyes Ch. 3 - 4

April 14 – 16: Not Why Hip Hop Matters, but How Hip Hop Matters!

selections from the course reader

April 21 – 23: Protest, Social Consciousness and Pop Culture

Rose Ch. 4, Keyes 6

April 28 – 30: The O.G.'s; Gangsta Hip Hop

selections from the course reader

May 5 – 7: Going Native! The Redvolution of Native American Hip Hop

selections from the course reader

Midterm Due: Friday May 8, 2009

May 12 – 14: Ladies First!; Hip Hop Divas

Rose Ch. 5, Keyes Ch. 7

Paper Abstract Due: Tuesday May 12, 2009

May 19 – 21: Beyond Black, Brown and Beige; Asian Hip Hop

selections from the course reader

May 26 – 28: Marketing Hip Hop Culture
Rose 1, Keyes Ch. 8

June 2 – 4: The Global Impact of Hip Hop
selections from the course reader

Final Exam: Monday June 8, 2009

Research Paper Due: Monday June 8, 2009

Research Paper, Abstract and Examinations:

Students will complete one major research paper for this course. This paper will consist of the following: a minimum of 10 pages (full written text), at least 5 scholarly references with four being from different sources, a minimum of 3 different media resources (recordings, personal interviews, film, etc.) included for the research document. All written work must be typed in 12 pt., Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. For proper paper format and citation guidelines, please refer to an MLA stylebook. Paginate all work in the upper left-hand corner. The research abstract will include: a minimum of 2 pages (full written text) detailing the methodology of research to be completed, a minimum of 3 scholarly sources that will be used for reference and research. No late work will be accepted.

The Midterm and Final exams will follow a short answer and essay question style. Submissions for the Midterm, Final Examination and Research Paper are to be done online through WebCT.

On the day of each Exam students will be able to access the exam through WebCT with the Due Dates for each exam strictly enforced. No late work will be accepted.

Cheating, Unethical Scholarship and Plagiarism:

Cheating, unethical scholarship and plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assignment and may further result in a substantial lowering of the student's overall grade in the course. Plagiarism includes copying or paraphrasing any work (such as information from the internet, your own written work from other courses, papers written by other students, and information from books, magazines, articles, etc.) without full attribution. Sources must be indicated with footnotes or other citation formats. Use quote marks around any text directly copied from another source. Please refer to an MLA style handbook for further reference information.

UCSD Rule of Community and Code of Conduct:

This course is designed to promote intellectual engagement and discussion of sensitive and sometimes controversial topics and issues. Rude, disrespectful conduct or speech directed toward the Instructor or other students will not be tolerated. Varying viewpoints are encouraged which may not always reach agreement. UCSD Principles of Community will guide our discussion, especially: "We affirm the right to freedom of expression at UCSD. We promote open expression of our individuality and our diversity within the bounds of courtesy, sensitivity, confidentiality and respect."

Text Book List:

Please review this list very carefully! All books, unless otherwise noted, are available at Groundworks Bookstore (UCSD):
groundworkscollective@yahoo.com

1. Rose, Tricia, Black noise: rap music and black culture in contemporary America. Wesleyan University Press: England, 1994.
2. Keyes, Cheryl L., Rap Music and Street Consciousness. University of Illinois Press: Urbana and Chicago, 2002.
3. Course Reader available at Soft Reserves

Majoring or Minor in Ethnic Studies at UCSD

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a social science, non-contiguous, or other college requirement. Often students have taken three or four classes out of “interest” yet have no information about the major or minor and don’t realize how close they are to a major, a minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, public policy, government and politics, journalism, education, public health, social work, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor at UCSD, please contact Yolanda Escamilla, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor, at

858-534-3277 or yescamilla@ucsd.edu.