The focus of this course will train itself upon American Popular Culture. American Popular Culture as seen through the eyes and experienced by a number of affinity groups in the US. These groups will include, but not be exclusive to, race, religion, sexuality, and even military service men and women. No text required.

To examine and comprehend American pop culture via its affinity groups, TV shows, music, literature, movies, comic books, and art (fine and low) will all be considered.

POP. IT’S NOT JUST FOR CORN.

**Image Credits:** Roseanne film still, Ozomatli S/T album cover, Banksy “Kissing Coppers”, Rozputiin “The Boondocks Wallpaper”, Jarhead film still, American Born Chinese cover art
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Course Description: HUMA 1302 – Introduction to Humanities II

This stand-alone course is an interdisciplinary survey of cultures focusing on the philosophical and aesthetic factors in human values with an emphasis on the historical development of the individual and society and the need to create. (3 Lec.)

Theme: Using American mainstream and non-mainstream pop-culture texts, this course covers such traditional topics in the humanities as aesthetics (e.g., visual and narrative form) as well as social and cultural issues (e.g., race, gender, history, sexuality, politics). The course assumes that all such issues can be introduced and explored through textual analysis and case studies of individual pop-culture texts. The course introduces students to a variety of critical studies topics and methods in the humanities. It is tempting to think that we can simply watch a film or a television program or read a comic book and start talking, for example, about how women, people of racial or sexual minorities, are represented. To carefully analyze issues of race, gender, sexuality, etc. through a historical perspective in the media, however, requires that we pay careful attention to how the media shapes, forms, and constructs those images.

Prerequisites: The following must be met: TSI Reading Standard

Class Times/Locations: MW 12:00 – 1:20 P.M., D202

Class Activities: A regular class session may consist of the following:
- Lectures on specific aspects of culture and society
- Student-led discussions of assigned readings
- In class activities; individual or group work

Textbook: NO COURSE TEXTBOOK; reading materials will be provided

CCIC – Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies: Humanities 1315 satisfies the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:
1. *Reading: the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials – books, documents, and articles – above 12th grade level.
2. *Writing: the ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience – above 12th grade level.
3. Speaking: the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience – above 12th grade level.
4. *Listening: analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading – above 12th grade level.
5. *Critical Thinking: think and analyze at a critical level.

*Required by District Humanities Discipline Committee

EEO – Exemplary Educational Objectives: Humanities 1315, as part of the Core Curriculum, satisfies the following Exemplary Educational Objectives as set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:
- *Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities. (EEO1 = CO A/E/F) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
- *Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context. (EEO2 = CO C/D/G/H) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
- *Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities. (EEO3 = CO D) (CCIC = 5)
- *Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the author or visual or performing artist. (EEO4 = CO D/F/H)
- *Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities. (EEO5 = CO B/D) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5).
- *Develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the humanities and arts. (EEO6 = CO A/I) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
- *Demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences. (EEO7 = CO A/C/E) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)

*Required by District Humanities Discipline Committee
CO – Course Objectives: Objectives for the course are as follows:
A. Demonstrate an understanding of the term ‘humanities’ and the role the arts play in it. (CCIC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
B. Discuss form and content in relationship to the arts using appropriate vocabulary. (CCIC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
C. Demonstrate an understanding of how the arts reflect time and place. (CCIC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
D. Demonstrate skills in critical analysis. (CCIC 5)
E. Demonstrate an awareness of community offerings in the arts. (CCIC 1, 2, 4, 6)
F. Experience a variety of exhibitions and performances. (CCIC 1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
G. Develop an understanding of how the arts express human values. (CCIC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
H. Clarify their own values as a result of encountering the values of others. (CCIC 3, 4, 5)
I. Define the creative process and be aware of the reasons humans create. (CCIC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
- Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- Articulate how these works express the values of the individual and society within an historical and social context.
- Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts on cultural experiences.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the creative process and why humans create.

Grading:
A 90 – 100%  B 80 – 89%
C 70 – 79%  D 60 – 69%  F 0 – 59%

Assignments:
- Attendance 5 pts.
- Class Discussions 40 pts.
- Essay (1 x 10, 2 x 15 pts.) 40 pts.
- Final 15 pts.
- Total Points Possible 100 pts.

Some course assignments will come as a direct result of either course lectures, readings, or discussions. Other course assignments will come as a result of the student’s ability to explore and research specific topics and subject matter in and throughout the popular culture; local or national. The above assignments/point distribution may/will change as the semester progresses.

Course Information: Make-Ups – None.
*ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE DUE DATE;
*NO REASONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS.
*EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Cell Phones/Pagers – Turn off all cell phones and pagers before you come into class.

Absolutely NO children or visitors allowed in class, under any circumstances.

You must have Internet access and a current e-mail address. Students may obtain a free e-mail account by visiting www.brookhavencollege.edu, then clicking on ‘N’ for NetMail.

Online Links: Brookhaven College Institutional Policies
Brookhaven College Academic Calendar

Important Notes: All information provided in this document is subject to change.

Culture is often controversial. Some of the subject matter we may view and discuss in class may conflict with your personal, ethical, religious, or political views and beliefs. We may screen subject matter that may contain nudity, profanity, sexuality and violence. If you are generally uncomfortable with this kind of subject matter, please seek advice about other classes that might be more enjoyable for you.