

Warrensville Heights High School Course Syllabus

2011/2012 Academic School Year

Keller – KAP American Studies

Honors English III

AMST 108 Introduction to American Studies (Credit: 0.5)

This course introduces students to the principles of American studies through the exploration of American history and culture in the 1960s. We will seek to understand the nature of American society in that critical period through the study of the struggle for political reform, the role of women, the civil rights movement, and the counter-culture. Guest lectures, films, and student presentations complement the course, and students will be asked to engage actively in its development. No prerequisites.

Course Standards:

- Acquisition of Vocabulary
- Reading Process: Concepts of Print, Comprehension Strategies and Self-Monitoring Strategies
- Reading Applications: Informational, Technical and Persuasive Text
- Reading Applications: Literary Text
- Writing Process
- Writing Applications
- Writing Conventions
- Research Standard
- Communication: Oral and Visual Standard

Grading: Grades are determined by totaling the amount of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Grades are comprised of a variety of tests, quizzes, writing assignments, activities, participation and projects.

Participation/Attendance: Students are expected to be participants in class, on time every day. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Excessive absence and tardiness will result in a failing grade, removal from the class and no college credit.

Discipline: Please refer to the WHHS PBIS Discipline Plan

E-Mail: Anne.Keller@whcsd.org

Required Books

The Autobiography of Malcolm X, by Alex Haley

Promises of Power, by Carl Stokes

Many Minds, One Heart: SNCC's Dream for a New America by Wesley Hogan

The Feminine Mystique, by Betty Friedan

Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics by bell hooks

The Things They Carried, by Tim O'Brien

Bloods, by Wallace Terry

An American Daughter Goes to War, by Winnie Smith

First Quarter - Civil Rights to Black Power

Week #1 Course Introduction and Who We Are

KAP Overview, Expectations and Guidelines

“The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till”

Discussion and Reflection Paper

Weeks #2 and #3 The Movement Begins

“Heat of the Night”

Civil Rights Leaders

Read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*

Early Civil Rights: Birmingham

Reflection Paper

Weeks #4 and #5 The Movement in Cleveland

“Uptight”

Blaxploitation

Carl Stokes

Read *Promises of Power*

Analysis of Power Paper

Week #6 Black Panthers and Black Militancy

“Malcolm X”

The Rise of the Black Panthers

Huey Newton

Society's Perception vs. Reality

Book Vs. Movie Compare/Contrast Essay

Week #7 Race Riots in Cleveland

“Rough Hough”

Glenville Shootout

Guest Speakers?

Week #8 Black Power and Solidarity

“Eyes on the Prize”

“Shaft”

What is Black Power? Then vs. Now

Discussion and Reflection Paper

Week #9 Moving Forward

Student Projects, Presentations and Mid-Term

Second Quarter – A Participatory Democracy

Week #1 The Hispanic and Chicano Civil Rights Movement

Mendez vs. Westchester Supreme Court

Hernandez vs. Texas

The Poor People’s March

Reflection Paper

Week #2 Students for a Democratic Society and The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

Read excerpts from “Port Huron Statement”

SDS and SNCC

Nonviolence

Nonviolence Essay

Week #3 McCarthyism

Communism and The Red Scare

The House Committee on Un-American Activities

Read excerpts from Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible”

Week #4 Welfare Rights Movement

Read *An Interracial Movement of the Poor* by Jennifer Frost

Demonstrations in Cleveland

Oral History Viewing and Analysis

Creation of Oral History

Week #5 and #6 Counterculture

Drug Use

Communes and Cults

“Easy Rider”

Woodstock

Read excerpts of *Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* by Tom Wolfe

Character Analysis Paper

Week #7 Political Violence

Assassinations

“ 1968” History Channel Presentation

Discussion Paper

Weeks #8 and #9 1968

“Medium Cool”

Chicago

Democratic National Convention

Week #10 A Time of Change

Student Projects, Presentations and Examination

Third Quarter – Feminism

Week #1- What is Feminism?

The Origins of Feminism

“Salt of the Earth”

Week #2 Interracial Relationships

“Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner”

Film Analysis and Discussion

Evolution of race relations

Weeks #3 and #4 The Feminine Mystique

Read and discuss *The Feminine Mystique*

Interviews Project

Week #5 Multicultural Feminism

Spread of Feminism

Chicana Feminism

Weeks #6 and #7 Perception Vs. Reality

Progression of domesticated woman to working woman

"The Stepford Wives" excerpts

Sylvia Plath and Anne Sexton poetry

Week # 8 Feminism-It’s For Everyone!

Read excerpts of *Feminism is for Everybody*

What is a Feminist?

Feminism Today

Week #9 We're All in This Together
Student projects and presentations

Fourth Quarter –Vietnam

Week #1 -Introduction and History of the Vietnam War
“Vietnam, A Television History, PBS”
Episode 4: “LBJ Goes To War “
Episode 5: “America Takes Charge”
Discussion

Weeks #2 and #3 – African American Soldiers in Vietnam
Read and discuss *Bloods* by Wallace Terry
“The 20th Century, Integration in the Military, CBS”
“Soul Soldiers “ You Tube Video
Discussion
Photography Analysis

Week #4 –The Conflict Abroad
“Platoon”
The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
Discussion

Week #5
The Things They Carried
Student Projects and Presentations

Weeks #6 and #7 -Women at War
Read and discuss *An American Daughter Goes to War* by Winnie Smith
“Vietnam Nurses”
“Heaven and Earth”
Discussion and reflection

Weeks #7 and 8 -The Anti-War Movement
“Easy Rider”
Woodstock
Nixon Election
Jackson State and Kent State Protests and Shootings

Weeks #9 and 10- The Aftermath
“Born on the Fourth of July”
“The Fog of War”
Vietnam Today
Student Projects and Presentations