Description: This course draws connections between rap, oral traditions, and African-American poetry. The course also explores hip hop’s intersection with commerce, social policy, ethics, and civic engagement. Students will read articles, watch videos, and listen to podcasts addressing not only artistry, but also such issues as censorship, sexism, obscenity, social responsibility and race politics in the U.S. as they relate to hip-hop culture. Students will write essays, reports, and raps, and engage in service learning projects. Prerequisites: ENGL 110. Prerequisite: ENGL 110. Service learning course and core course in Ethics & Civic Engagement.

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