

**Course Description:** *Multicultural America is a topically structured, interdisciplinary approach to the cultural experience of underrepresented ethnical/racial groups.*

Multicultural America is an on going experiment to see if people of different races, ethnicities, cultures, religions, expectations and class can live fully and fairly together. We will look at how different groups within American society seek justice in the areas of religion, culture, education, the arts, gender, immigration, the environment, the law, politics, and globalism.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To identify, explain and analyze the ideological perspectives of the course material, especially in the required reading texts.
2. To compare and contrast basic values and behaviors of various American minority cultures.
3. To think critically about the diversity of American culture.
4. To recognize the contributions to the richness of the American experience, both past and present, by under represented groups.
5. To contribute your "expertise" from your background to our understanding of Multicultural America.

**Course Requirements:**

2/3 Quizzes @ 50 points	= 100
2/3 Tests	= 150
Paper (1/2)	= 100
Final	= 150
Total Points	= 500

**Grades:**

A= 451-500 B= 401-500 C= 351-400 D= 301-350  
A (+) OR (-) IS ADDED WHEN YOU ARE 10 POINTS WITHIN THE NEXT HIGHEST OR LOWEST GRADE.

**Note Well:**

1. Responsible on-timeliness and attendance are absolutely essential. Poor attendance or chronic lateness will lower your grade. AFTER TWO ABSENCES YOU WILL BE DINGED POINTS FOR EACH ABSENCE. (see The Humanities Dept. Attendance Policy ).
2. Please behave properly during tests and quizzes. All students must take the final.
3. Please see me DURING OFFICE HOURS to discuss problems.
4. Please note that any earned Extra Credit is based on **attendance/performance** and may be revoked at any time. (Late Adds= No XC.)
5. Obtain scantrons #882 for quizzes and tests.
6. PLEASE TURN OFF CELLPHONES/COMPUTERS DURING THE ENTIRE CLASS.
7. Email will not excuse you from class or an assignment.
8. Incompletes are only given for extreme reasons which prevent an otherwise fully engaged student from completing the course. Dishonesty will result in an F grade.
9. ALWAYS BRING THE HANDOUT TO CLASS. No Handout=dinged points!
10. Every accommodation possible will be made for students with a learning disability.

**Required Books:**

ALL NIGHT PARTY, Andrea Barnett  
Growing Up Native American, Patricia Riley  
YELLOW, Don Lee ,  
WHAT'S MY NAME FOOL, Dave Zirin

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THE "IN CLASS ESSAY"  
**USE ONLY ASSIGNED STORIES**

**YOU WILL NEED TO TURN IN A SMALL BLUE BOOK THE WEEK BEFORE IT IS DONE.**

**WA#1:**

**LAST NAME:**

- A-B 1. AMBITION  
2. MALE ANGER

- C-D 1. HAPPINESS  
2. FEMALES AND WORK

- E-F 1. COMMUNITY  
2. SORROW

- G-H 1. SUCCESS  
2. LOVE CONFLICTS

- I-J 1. FAILURE  
2. RIGHT AND WRONG

- K 1. MONEY  
2. INJUSTICE

**WA#2:**

**LAST NAME:**

- L-N 1. FEMALE ANGER  
2. SUCCESS

- O-P. 1. AMBITION  
2. INJUSTICE

- Q-R 1. WORK  
2. HAPPINESS

- S-T 1. COMMUNITY  
2. MALES

- U-W 1. COMPETITION  
2. SORROW

- X-Z 1. BELIEFS  
2. FAMILY

From your two topics, **I will pick ONE for you to write on.** You may use your books and dictionaries, but not your notes.

***YOU MUST USE ASSIGNED STORIES—ONLY ASSIGNED STORIES!***

**SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR SUCCESS**

1. **THESIS:** Look up synonyms for your TOPICS, and narrow each down to a more specific focus related to the books.

TOPIC: Dreams: synonym=hopes.

Thesis: "The stories in Yellow and in Growing Up are similar in how they show that male hopes are generally for happiness in love."

TOPIC: Fear: synonyms= dread—terror.

Thesis: "The stories in What's My Name Fool differ from those in All Night Party by how they show the terror most women feel when entering a male dominated activity. The females in Fool overcome their terror, but those in ALL do not."

***The good thesis IS NO LONGER THAN TWO SENTENCES, MENTIONS THE BOOKS, DESCRIBES A SPECIFIC TOPIC AND SAYS WHETHER ON THE TOPIC THE BOOKS ARE SIMILAR OR NOT.***

2. **Essay Structure:**

WA#1/2

P#1 THESIS

P#2: STORY 1 (BOOK 1)

P#3: STORY 2 (BOOK 1)

WA#3 : USE 3 BOOKS

P#1 THESIS

P#2: STORY/CHAPTER 1 (BOOK 1)

P#3: STORY/CHAPTER 2 (BOOK 1)

P#4: CHAPTER 1(BOOK 2)  
P#5: CHAPTER 2 (BOOK 2)  
P#6: CON

P#4: STORY/CHAPTER (BOOK 2)  
P#5: STORY/CHAPTER (BOOK 3)  
P#6: CON

I am looking to see that you have read carefully and considered critically these books and that you can write intelligently about them.

3. USE CORRECT NAMES AND DESCRIBE EVENTS CORRECTLY.
4. USE AT LEAST 3 SPECIFIC RELEVANT DIRECT QUOTES PER BODY PARAGRAPH.

## SAMPLE ESSAY

*The stories in All Night Party and Yellow are generally similar in how they describe many female characters as being creative.*

*In the story "Long House" in Yellow, the main character Lizzie is a taxi driver, but in her spare time she is incredibly creative. As she says to Tod, her boyfriend, "My entire life is lived for those moments when I can sit at the piano and create music."(32) And when she is not creating music, she's "designing clothes or hats" (41)....*

*In another story from Yellow, "The Banana Grove," the main character is Vincent Ming, a neurotic merchant whose sometimes lover is Grace Cruz, a very creative woman from Manilla. Grace is "one of those people whose entire happiness depends on making or shaping things" (47). In this she is like Lizzie from the previous story....*

*Similarly, two chapters from All Night Party describe several women as being intensely creative. In the first, "Dance, Dance," Mira Vlachek is shown as "a dancer, a poet, a painter, a singer, and a mean trombone player" (24). In way similar to Grace Cruz, Mira lived her life as if every second...*

*Linda Carson in a second story, "Dream First and Last," is another dynamic woman. In her memoirs, quoted in All Night Party, she claims, "Mostly I am selfish and lonely, but that is a small price to pay for my creative freedom." As a sculptor, she went through four marriages and bouts of depression and drug abuse "all in the name of her creative muses" (52). Like Mira Vlachek, Carson often tried to....*

*As you can see these two books depict quite a few women as being similarly creative.*