

# **POPULAR CULTURE**



"Just as a tree without roots is dead, a people without history or culture also becomes a dead people." -- Malcolm X

Instructor: Mr. Eric Kuhlman E-Mail: ekuhlman@apps.lcchs.edu Phone Extension: 2308 Planning Period: 1<sup>st</sup> Period 8:00-8:45 Study Hall: 2<sup>nd</sup> Period 8:49-9:38 Availability for Extended Help: 7:15-7:45 AM and 3:15-4:00 PM

# **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This elective course analyzes the social atmosphere and political events that have impacted the evolution of popular culture in the United States throughout the  $20^{th}$  century. The focus of this class is to examine the elements of popular culture beginning in the 1920s through the present decade. Each of the topics covered will display the unique cultural aspects of that particular decade. The topics covered include:

- Headline Events
- Slang
- Fashion
- Cultural Icons
- Influential Films
- Sports
- Music
- Radio and Television
- Toys and Games

# **COURSE OUTCOMES**

After taking this course, students will be able to...

- Analyze the impact of political and social events on the evolution of American popular culture.
- Classify fashion trends and slang vocabulary associated with particular decades in U.S. history.
- Identify dialogue, actors/actresses and scenes from iconic American films and television shows.
- Compare and contrast the music genres associated with each decade throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Describe the various toys and board games that have made a lasting impact on American culture.

# EXPECTATIONS.

- Students are required to leave personal belongings in their locker (MP3s, cell phone, make-up, etc.)
- Students are expected to **BE PREPARED** for class with their iPad, binder and a writing utensil.
- Students must have the "HALL PASS" to leave the classroom. (at the discretion of the teacher)
- Students are expected to TAKE NOTES on their iPad using "MetaMoji" (or can be handwritten)
- Students are expected to **PARTICIPATE** during class discussion and during all group activities.
- Students must be **RESPECTFUL** of their classmates during class discussion or group activities.
- Students must write their **FIRST and LAST NAME** on collected assignments at top of the page.
- The STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT will be enforced dress code, tardiness and detentions.
- NO student will **PREVENT** any other student from **LEARNING** or the teacher from teaching.

# **CONSEQUENCES**

- The **Student Code of Conduct** will be **ENFORCED** including the dress code and tardiness.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Verbal Warning 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: School Detention Continued Offenses: Phone Call and Request a Parent Conference

# **PROCEDURES**

In this class, the teacher will instruct the students through power point presentations and class activities, as well as interaction with the material through the use of their iPad, applications and multimedia video. It is the role of the teacher to facilitate student learning and to aid in the organization of their knowledge. Nevertheless, the student is ultimately responsible for their learning and a strong work ethic will be required to be successful in this course. In addition, I am available for additional help outside of class.

Students will earn a percentage calculated based on the "total points" from the following categories:

- Homework Assignment and In-Class Activities 20% of the student's calculated grade
  - Fashion design complete a drawing of a fashion design from that particular decade.
  - Slang skit each group presents a skit using the slang terms from that particular decade.
  - Students that are absent are expected to complete in-class assignments upon their return.
- Popular Films of the Decade 20% 30% of the student's calculated grade
  - Films students answer questions while viewing scenes from famous films of the decade.
  - Students should expect to be view roughly three films from the decade during each unit.
  - <u>Students that are absent</u> during the viewing of a popular film are required to utilize the plot summary on hand-out, search the internet or rent the film to complete the assignment
  - Students absent during the viewing of the film have <u>one week</u> to complete the assignment

#### • Unit Tests – 50% - 60% of the student's calculated grade

- Students will take a test for each decade. The unit for each decade is a month in length.
- At the end of each unit, the teacher will provide students with a review sheet for the test.
- The music section of the test requires students to identify the artist based on a song clip.
- The identify section of the test requires students to identify a famous headline events, fashion designs, popular icons, films, famous athletes, television shows and toys / games.
- In addition, students will respond to a related short answer question based on the image.
- The essay section of the test requires students to utilize the slang terms from the decade based on a provided essay prompt. Points are earned for each slang term used correctly.
- If a student scores poorly on the administered unit test, a student may re-take the unit test, however, the final test grade is based on the average of the initial test and the re-take test.

# **GRADING PROCEDURES**

- This course follows the Lima Central Catholic grading scale located in the Student Handbook.
  - NO LATE WORK will be accepted in accordance with Lima Central Catholic policy.
  - Any work during an absence whether it is excused or unexcused is due within two days.
  - However, students with 6+ unexcused absences will receive only 50% of the points.
  - Students who are <u>absent on the day of the test</u> are required to take the test before school, after school or during their study hall within one week of the test date or result in a zero.
  - Students found cheating will receive a zero, parent phone call and Saturday school.

# **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- It is essential that each student bring their <u>I-PAD</u> with a <u>FULL CHARGE</u> to class every day.
- Each student should have a three-ring 1" Binder and a folder that is to be used for Pop Culture.
- Each student should have a blue or black ink pen or a pencil and college-ruled loose leaf paper.

#### **Class Organization**

I believe my role as an educator goes beyond teaching Popular Culture. I believe a teacher should teach skills that will aid your student's success long after Lima Central Catholic. One of these skills I find extremely important in my own profession is organization. Therefore, I believe it is important that my students develop strong organizational skills in my classroom. However, I can not accomplish this alone. Only together can we motivate our young people to develop these organizational skills as well as a strong work ethic that could determine not only their success in my classroom but their success in their future endeavors after Lima Central Catholic. If there are any questions or concerns please contact me.

Please complete the following information and return with your student:

Time:
nce (e-mail preferred)

# **COPYRIGHT AGREEMENT**

Students are **NOT** permitted to copy or redistribute any of the images provided on PDFs or other handouts. Students are **NOT** permitted to copy or redistribute any of the audio files on the leased CDs for each decade. Students are responsible for any damage or lost CDs provided for each decade and will result in a fine of \$10

I have read and understand the class syllabus and the copyright agreement associated with this course,

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Signature: