Hip Hop Remix!!

One of our goals in this course is to learn how to use race, gender, and/or sexuality as a lens(es) for critique and analysis. Through critical analysis, you will examine how socially-constructed ideas about race, gender, and sexuality frame experiences on the micro, meso, macro and global levels. This type of critique challenges us to question these constructions and explore alternatives to the monolithic ideas about identity that are produced by our culture. For this assignment, you will work in teams to create a ‘remix’ of a hip hop artifact: a popular song, music video, book, commercial, tv show, film, etc.

This project has two components:
1) Each team will present and/or perform your hip hop remix in class. 
2) Each individual team member will write an Annotated Bibliography.

What is a Hip Hop Remix?
A hip hop ‘remix’ is an alternative interpretation that highlights the problematic assumptions about race, gender, sexuality, class (and other aspects of identity) that are embedded in the stories proliferated by our culture. Your ‘remix’ should complicate and critique the assumptions, contradictions and double standards that are produced by your artifact- using the concepts that we have been discussing this quarter.

What does a Hip Hop Remix look like?
Your group should work together to choose an artifact, analyze its content and produce your remix. You are free (and encouraged) to get creative with this assignment- the bigger the production, the better! Here are some possible ideas:

- Write a remix of a popular song and record it to music or perform it as a group.
- Create a remix of a popular music video by making your own Youtube video or by performing it in class.
- Create an alternative ending for a popular film clip or TV episode and perform it as a skit.
- Dub a new script over a film clip or TV Episode.

Hip Hop Remix Guidelines & Deadlines
- Teams will perform/present their remix and then deliver an oral defense in which you thoroughly explain the rationale behind your remix to the class. All team members are required to participate in the creation of the remix, the performance and oral defense. Teams should be prepared to field questions from the audience about their analysis.
- You will have approximately 15 minutes to present your remix, oral defense and field questions.
- See MOODLE for forms and instructions:

Annotated Bibliography
Each individual student will submit an annotated bibliography with 4 sources that explicates the social, political and cultural dimensions of your remix artifact. For each annotation you will explain how your group utilized the concepts, readings and vocabulary of the course. See MOODLE for additional instructions.
Grading
This project has two components which together count as 30% of your final grade in the course: 1) the Remix Presentation developed by your team and 2) your Individual Annotated Bibliography that you write on your own. You will receive an individual grade for the Annotated Bibliography; however, your Remix Presentation grade will be a team grade- that is, everyone on the team will receive the same grade for the remix presentation. Your remix grade will consist of evaluations by the instructor AND by the other teams in the class. If the Self Evaluations indicate that a member of the group was not ‘pulling their own weight’, I reserve the right to assign individual Remix Presentation grades for that particular group.

Grading Formula:
Individual Annotated Bibliography (15%) +
Remix Presentation Grade (Instructor Evaluation (10%) + Team Evaluations (5%)) = Final Remix Grade (30% of course grade)

HIP HOP REMIX PROJECT CHECKLIST:

Team #_____________________
Members: ______________________
Presentation Date: ______________

☐ Preliminary Proposal
☐ Progress Report & Special Requests
☐ Develop your Hip Hop Remix (Don’t forget to make sure your technology, audio, props, etc. are in order)
☐ Print Presentation Handouts, if applicable
☐ Complete Self-Evaluation
☐ Team Presentation/Performance of Your Hip Hop Remix!
☐ Team Oral Defense of Remix Rationale
☐ Submit Annotated Bibliography

NOTE: I reserve the right to announce additional guidelines in the event that a problem arises or a team asks a question that might be relevant to the entire class.