1. LOCATOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Carole Weatherford
Course Number and Name: ENGL 233-HB1 Hip Hop: Poetry, Politics and Pop Culture
Credit Hours: 3
Course Dates: August 18 – December 11, 2015 (Fall Break: October 15-16, 2015)
Course Meeting Time: TR, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Location: Nursing 235
e-mail: cweatherford@uncfsu.edu (preferred mode of communication)
Office Location: Butler 127
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-5:30 p.m.
Telephone: 910-672-2149 (office); 336-870-3503 (mobile/preferred)

FSU Policy on Electronic Mail: Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail.

Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at
http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf

II. COURSE 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.

Blended Learning Course
This course utilizes the classroom and Blackboard for student/faculty interaction. You are expected to know and utilize all the different elements of Blackboard for communication with your peers and with the instructor. Unless otherwise indicated, assignments are to be uploaded to Blackboard’s Assignments
page or to the Blog tool, depending on the assignment’s instructions. One of the Discussion forums in this course is called “Q&A.” Throughout the course, this discussion board will be open for questions and answers about the class. You are expected to assist each other in discovering the answers to the questions that arise.

This course combines the best of web-based and face-to-face learning. However, the course may be more challenging for the student because it requires greater technological skills and, most of all, because it requires you to be a highly motivated self-learner. You will be expected to be able to work independently and via online groups to accomplish a variety of tasks.

Minimum Technological Prerequisites
You must have access to a computer with the following capabilities:
- Broadband or DSL high-speed Internet access.
- Complete MS Office software
  - All documents must be submitted in MS WORD
  - Some presentations utilize PowerPoint
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (Can be downloaded for free from the internet) [http://get.adobe.com/reader/]

The MS Office software suite is available for remote (off-campus) use through the FSU Citrix portal. [https://fsuportal.uncfsu.edu/Citrix/AccessPlatform/auth/login.aspx]

III. Disabled Student Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

IV. Title IX – Sexual Misconduct
Fayetteville State University (University) is committed to fostering a safe campus environment where sexual misconduct — including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking - is unacceptable and is not tolerated. The University encourages students who may have experienced sexual misconduct to speak with someone at the University so that the University can provide the support that is needed and respond appropriately. The Sexual Misconduct policy can be found at the following link: [http://www.uncfsu.edu/Documents/Policy/students/SexualMisconduct.pdf]

Consulting with a Health Care Professional - A student who wishes to confidentially speak about an incident of sexual misconduct should contact either of the following individuals who are required to maintain confidentiality:

Ms. Dionne Hall
Licensed Professional Counselor
Spaulding Building, Room 167
(910) 672-2167
dhall9@uncfsu.edu

Ms. Linda Melvin
Director, Student Health Services
Spaulding Building, Room 121
(910) 672-1454
lmelvi10@uncfsu.edu
Reporting an Incident of Sexual Misconduct—The University encourages students to report incidents of sexual misconduct. A student who wishes to report sexual misconduct or has questions about University policies and procedures regarding sexual misconduct should contact the following individual:

Title IX Coordinator
Barber Building, Room 242
(910) 672-1141

Unlike the Licensed Professional Counselor or the Director of Student Health Services, the Deputy Title IX Coordinator is legally obligated to investigate reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore cannot guarantee confidentiality, but a request for confidentiality will be considered and respected to the extent possible.

Students are also encouraged to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the University’s Police and Public Safety Department at (910) 672-1911.

V. TEXTBOOK
There is no formal textbook for this course. However, there is a workbook which includes all assignments. Print the syllabus and workbook.

VI. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

2. Compare and contrast elements within two or more texts.
3. Identify basic theories and principles of ethical and civic responsibility.
4. Develop analyses or arguments using principles of ethical and civic responsibility.
5. Create research and creative projects that engage with the local community.

VII. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA
Final grades are calculated on a four-point system and affect a student’s grade point average as indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Hours attempted and earned</td>
<td>4 per credit hour</td>
<td>Exceptionally high (90-100 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Hours attempted and earned</td>
<td>3 per credit hour</td>
<td>Good (80-89 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Hours attempted and earned</td>
<td>2 per credit hour</td>
<td>Satisfactory (70-79 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Hours attempted and earned</td>
<td>1 per credit hour</td>
<td>Marginally passing (60-69 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Hours attempted – Not earned</td>
<td>0 per credit hour</td>
<td>Failing (0-59 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FN</td>
<td>Hours attempted – Not earned</td>
<td>0 per credit hour</td>
<td>Failing due to non-attendance. (Student registered, but never attended.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Hours attempted – Not earned</td>
<td>No impact on GPA</td>
<td>Class withdrawal prior to deadline (see Academic Calendar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Hours attempted and earned</td>
<td>No impact on GPA</td>
<td>Satisfactory - Assigned only in classes specified as Pass/Fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WU</td>
<td>Hours attempted – Not earned</td>
<td>No impact on GPA</td>
<td>Withdrawal from all classes for semester or term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>Hours attempted – Not earned</td>
<td>No impact on GPA</td>
<td>Auditing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| AU | Hours attempted – Not earned | No impact on GPA  | Auditing                                                      |

a. **Attendance Requirements**  
Log onto the course site regularly.

b. **Policy on Late Work**  
I provide a no-penalty, no-excuses grace period for submission of up to two late assignments. Exceptions to this policy will be made only for medical reasons and deaths in the family. Documentation (a doctor’s note or an obituary) must be provided. To count toward your final grade, all late work must be turned in by the last due date.

c. **Assessments**  
Work will usually be graded within a week of the due date.  
Grading will be based on a total of 100 points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Percentage of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Film Analyses (8 @ 4 points; choose 8 of 11 films)</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Answer Exercises (8 @ 3 points; choose 8 of 10)</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original raps (2 @ 3 points)</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text to Text Comparisons (3 @ 4 points &amp; 1 @ 6 points)</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning Project (20 points)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: If these evaluation criteria must be revised because of extraordinary circumstances, the instructor will distribute a written amendment to the syllabus.

VII. **Academic Support Resources**

**Smartthinking**
Tutoring in writing, mathematics, the sciences, economics, accounting, finance, statistics, and Spanish. Online tutors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Access Smarthinking through Blackboard's home page. Select "Smarthinking Student Site;" then select "Tools" form the menu on the left. Click on "Smarthinking" login. After logging in, click Smarthinking Student Handbook for tips on navigating the website and using the service.

**FSU University College Writing Center**  
Helen T. Chick Building, Room 001B (Basement)  
Phone: (910) 672-1033  
[http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/writingcenter/](http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/writingcenter/)

**VIII. COURSE OUTLINE (with Assignment Schedule)**

**General Assignment Guidelines**
Download and print the course workbook. All assignments are in the course workbook. Most work will be completed in class and will be graded upon completion. The service learning project must be handed in separately.

There are three deadlines in the course. Assignments for each unit are due on the dates specified.  
Assignments for Units 1-3 are due September 11.  
Assignments for Unit 4 are due October 12.  
Service Learning Project, Extra Credit and assignments for Units 5-6 are due December 5.

**ORIENTATION**

1. Read and print the course syllabus, course workbook and course protocols.
2. Browse the Office of Online Education's Training Library. If needed, view training documents or videos about Blackboard. [http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation/training-library](http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation/training-library)

**UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION**
Defining Ethics, Civic Engagement, Plagiarism, and Sampling  
Overview of Service Learning Project

Assignments (3 points each):

- Ethics Checklist
- Ethical Dilemma Worksheet
- Something from Nothing
- Ethics Quiz
- Is Sampling Plagiarism? Worksheet
- Community Elders Worksheet

**UNIT 2: HIP HOP OVERVIEW**
Assignments (3 points each): Defining Hip Hop Worksheet, Style Wars Film Analysis

**UNIT 3: THE PAST, PRESENT & POWER OF HIP HOP**
Assignments (3 points each): Whatever Happened to Hip Hop? Film Analysis  
Analysis of I Used to Love H.E.R. by Common
Assignments for Units 1-3 are due September 11.

UNIT 4: THE POETICS OF HIP HOP

Assignments: Freestyle film analysis Art of 16 Bars film analysis
4 Text to Text Comparisons

Assignments for Unit 4 are due October 12.

UNIT 5: HIP HOP, SOCIAL POLICY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Assignments (3 points each):
Black Power Mixtape film analysis Beyond Beats and Rhyme film analysis
N Word film analysis Bamboozled film analysis
Political Rap worksheet Hip Hop and Race Relations worksheet
8-bar Political Rap

UNIT 6: HIP HOP, COMMERCE, POP CULTURE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Assignments (3 points each): Business as Usual film analysis
Advertising jingle in rap
Hip Hop and Commerce worksheet
Empire television episode analysis (optional/alternative assignment)

Service Learning Project, Extra Credit and assignments for Units 5-6 are due December 5.

IX. Supplemental Reading and External Links
Hip Hop Archive at Harvard University - http://hiphoparchive.org/
Recognize: Hip Hop and Contemporary Portraiture (Smithsonian exhibition) - http://www.npg.si.edu/exhibit/recognize/
Hip-Hop Studies and the New Culture Wars (Journal on Socialism and Democracy online) - http://sdonline.org/36/hip-hop-studies-and-the-new-culture-wars/
Rap and Hip Hop Resources (Columbia College of Chicago Center for Black Music Research) - http://www.colum.edu/CBMR/hiphop/