

Slavery in Contemporary American Popular Imagination

30% of Final Grade

Analyze three different mediums to answer the following prompt:

How do contemporary American narratives imagine the legacies of slavery in ways that explore our racial tensions today? How do contemporary American narratives explore slavery's legacies as a foundation to imagining a liberating future?

Breakdown of Grade out of 100%

Presentation	70%
Annotated Bibliography	20%
Watching and Responding to Other Presentations	10%

Requirements:

You will use three-five mediums to explore this topic. You must include **at least three different mediums**. You may NOT use the movies from the Slavery on Film Analysis assignment.

- One must be a novel—a neo-slave narrative from the following list:
 - Phyllis Alesia Perry—*Stigmata* (1998)
 - Dolen Perkins-Valdez—*Wench* (2010)
 - Toni Morrison—*Beloved* (1987)
 - Colson Whitehead—*The Underground Railroad* (2016)
 - Edward P. Jones—*The Known World* (2003)
 - Sherley Anne Williams—*Dessa Rose* (1986)
 - Ishmael Reed—*Flight to Canada* (1976)
 - Thylias Moss—*Slave Moth* (2004)
 - Sharon Draper—*Copper Sun* (2006)
 - David Bradley—*The Chaneyville Incident* (1981)
 - Toni Morrison—*A Mercy* (2008)

- The other two can be of your choosing and can include but not limited to:
 - ✓ Art—sculpture, painting, weaving, design, illustration, etc
 - ✓ Music
 - ✓ TV shows
 - ✓ Newspapers/magazines
 - ✓ Podcasts
 - ✓ Museum exhibits
 - ✓ Statues, buildings
 - ✓ Films
 - ✓ Speeches
 - ✓ Memes
 - ✓ Social media—TikTok/YouTube/Tweet
 - ✓ Websites
 - ✓ Zines/comics

What else:

When you're doing your analysis, think about how that particular medium affects the public's general knowledge about slavery, its legacies, and its visionary potential. Whatever you pick must be from **2000 until today**, unless you talk to me beforehand.

Presentation:

This assignment does **not** require a final paper. Instead, you and your partner will present your analysis via a **15-23 minute presentation**. You and your partner will pre-record your presentation and upload it to Canvas by **April 19th at 5pm**. Think about how you can present your analysis in a creative way. The only caveat is that you **cannot** use PowerPoint.

You will also be **watching and responding to three other presentations** that I will assign to you. Giving this feedback will be worth 10% of your grade.

Annotated Bibliography

Your annotated bibliography will include a minimum of 5 sources—your three mediums plus two scholarly sources about your chosen novel. It will also include any other sources you decide to use.

Check out the “Annotated Bibliography” handout on Canvas for more details. It is **due April 16th at 11:59pm**.