

MCES 0205: Hip Hop Cultures



COURSE DESCRIPTION: Hip Hop refers primarily to a mode of self-expression for urban youth culture through rap, turntablism, graffiti and breaking. It has evolved not only within the confines of American mainstream culture, but it has also become a global movement. Tracing the musical, corporeal, visual, spoken and literary manifestations of hip-hop in the American cultural imaginary, we will also investigate specific cultural practices that have given rise to its various idioms, and discuss how the media portrays and profits from the impact hip-hop. Some of the topics that we will study closely include, but are not limited to gender, cross-cultural impact of hip-hop, identity formation, sexism and homophobia.