



**Instructor: Eric C. Davis**

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**Online Availability: 10:30a–11:20a M–Th**

## Course Catalog Description

Critically analyze popular culture that surrounds us every day and learn about the racialized, classed, and gendered messages we consume. Examine how popular culture reinforces and challenges race, class and gender norms and what pop culture representations say about the lived realities of marginalized groups. Specific topics may include social media, blogs, reality television, consumerism, advertising and images, current social issues, film, and music.

**After completing this class, students should be able to:**

- Demonstrate an understanding of how popular culture reflects, reinforces, and/or disrupts social norms
- Critically analyze how race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability function in popular culture and the impact that these messages have on individual and group experiences
- Critically "read" popular culture artifacts and events and investigate pop culture consumption, production, and resistance
- Reflect on how one consumes and resists popular culture in one's own life

## Course Content

CES 286 includes provocative content and adult themes. While every attempt will be made to keep things PG-13, please know that there will be times where R-rated content (language, images, etc.) is necessary to examine course topics within an academic context. If you have any questions or concerns about course content or classroom climate, feel free to speak with me about it at any time.

Required Textbook/App:

**Top Hat** Access is required for CES 286

<https://tophat.com/students/>

JOIN CODE: **511374**

(Note: be sure to fill out your first and last name...)

An electronic version of the textbook is built into the Top Hat App and includes the ability to download a PDF.

If you would like to purchase a separate print version of the textbook (at an additional cost), here is the information needed:

**Popular Culture in the US: People, Politics and Power.**

Jenn Brandt and Callie Clare. Bloomsbury Academic  
New York. NY ISBN: 978-1-5013-2057-6

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## A note about Remote Learning

This course will not be a synchronous (real time, at the same time) classroom experience as originally planned but our topic—Popular Culture—is obviously well suited for an asynchronous online set up.

So, while we will not be in a physical classroom together, I will be online and available M–Th from 10:30–11:20am—the same exact times we were scheduled to be in class. I will be doing interactive discussions via Top Hat at that time and if I find the right media tool, I may even have live lectures on a weekly basis.

To be clear: Students are not REQUIRED to be in class or online at 10:30am but, if you are available, please plan to interact with me during our regularly scheduled class time, M–Th 10:30a–11:20a.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics/Readings</b>
Welcome Week (4/8-10)	Review of Syllabus; Remote learning orientation Video introductions; Overview of the topic
Week 1: (4/13-4/17)	Introduction, p. 1-26; “Marshawn Lynch: A History”
Week 2: (4/20-4/24)	Cultural Myths and the American Dream, p. 27-50
Week 3: (4/27-5/1)	Genres and the Culture Industries, p. 51-102
Week 4: (5/4-5/8)	Heroes and Celebrities, p. 103-124
Week 5: (5/11-5/15)	Identity, p. 125—166
Week 6: (5/18-5/22)	Material Culture, p.167-194
Week 7: (5/26-5/29)	Community, p.195-222
Week 8: (6/1-6/5)	Rituals and Ceremonies, p. 223-250
Week 9: (6/8-6/12)	Final Projects Due

## Course Requirements:

### • TOP HAT Content (50%)

- Week to week classroom using the Top Hat App includes:
  - Textbook Readings with embedded assessment content
  - Reflection Questions at the close of each textbook chapter
  - Discussion Boards based on readings and other media
  - Review Quizzes focused on key terms and concepts

### • Movie screening and Essay (20%)

- Students are required to choose a feature film from a provided list (see the YouTube clip on Top Hat for your movie choices).
- The films chosen are deemed highly influential when it comes to popular culture. Students are asked to watch one film of choice and then write a paper that discussion the influence of said film on the broader societal culture i.e. **how and why did the film make such an impact?**

### • Popular Culture Analysis / Media Project (30%)

- [See Assignment handout for details](#)

### Grading:

95% = (4.0) A	72% = (2.3) C+	> 56% =(0.0) Fail
90% = (3.7) A-	69% = (2.0) C	
85% = (3.3) B+	65% = (1.7) C-	
80% = (3.0) B	60% = (1.3) D+	
75% = (2.7) B-	56% = (1.0) D	

### Late Work Policy:

Students are expected to turn in all coursework in a timely manner. That being said, Life Happens. Assignments that are turned in late will receive a 10% deduction per day for each day past the due date.

### **Bellevue College Email:**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC.

### **Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\***

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.

### **Incomplete**

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

## **F Grade**

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of “F.”

## **Final Examination Schedule**

NO FINAL EXAM IN CES 286

## **Withdrawal From Class**

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

## **Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

## **Religious Holidays**

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

### **College Anti-Discrimination Statement**

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

### **Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/).

For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

### **Public Safety and Emergencies**

Public Safety is located in the K building and can be reached at 425-564-2400 (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at RAVE Alert Registration

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:

- 1) Take directions from those in charge of the response –We all need to be working together.
- 2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to) – Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.
- 3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the Public Safety web page for answers to your questions.

## **Academic Calendar**

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

## **Enrollment Calendar**

On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.

## **College Calendar**

This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.



**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Neurodiversity Navigators. Their Email and phone number is on the web page. NDN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is DRCatBC (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually DRCatBC). Please visit our website at Disability Resource Center for application information into our program and other helpful links.

**Accessibility**

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

**NOTES:**