Instructor Name and Contact Information
Mr. Adam Wiskerchen
Room 105
Open Periods: 3, 6, and 7
Email: arwiskerchen@gbaps.org

Course Description
This course is designed to teach a complex and critical understanding of race, culture and other systems of oppression within contemporary US society and its institutions, including institutions of education. We examine media images related to race, culture, and other systems of oppression as part of our shared learning and as part of a broader recognition of the ways in which media impact worldviews, interpersonal and intercultural relations, and institutional power dynamics in education. We also use specific academic concepts as the basis of our analysis and discussion. Key areas in the development of critical understanding include:

- Critical analyses that include recognition of inequity as systemic and institutional and that apply academic theories and concepts as central bases of analysis;
- Ongoing acquisition of and use of appropriate academic vocabulary and terminology;
- Interdisciplinary engagement of relevant issues;
- College-level reading of academic research; and
- The continuous development of discussion and analytical skills.

Students are expected to be able to apply these terms, concepts and theories in analysis throughout the course and in their future professional and personal behaviors.

UWGB Programmatic Outcomes
1. A commitment to effective communication and ethical decision making.
2. Proficiency through performance-based assessment.
3. Environments that promote inquiry as the basis for authentic learning.
4. Extensive and intensive field-based experiences.
5. The integration of technology.
6. A strong focus on content and pedagogy.
8. A shared vision of teaching excellence.

Course Topics
1. Developing Critical Communication
2. Gender and Sexuality
3. Colorism
4. Intersectionality
5. Histories of Race and Institutional Racism
6. Institutional Racism: How the Past Forms the Present
7. Immigration: Historical Context and Fact-Checking
8. Immigration
9. First Nations Peoples and Sovereignty
Evaluation and Assessment

Course Assignments:
- An autobiographical sketch, which will reflect on personal connections to culture and society.
- A journal of cultural images in literature, informational text, media, and/or contemporary society.
- Various assignments throughout the semester.

Midterm Research Paper:
- The midterm project is a four-page, double-spaced research paper on a problem or issue relevant to the course. You must consult with Mr. Wiskerchen as to the appropriateness of your topic prior to writing the paper. The midterm research paper will serve as the basis of the final project, as the final will further develop and build upon the information from the midterm. Midterm research papers should use a minimum of four outside peer-reviewed sources (will be discussed in class) and cite using APA style.

Final Project:
- The final project builds on the topic first studied in the midterm research paper and focuses on solutions and problem-solving. For example, if you focused on school segregation for the midterm, the final project should focus on investigating positive actions that have been/are being taken to alleviate school segregation. The solutions should be specific, research-based, and supported by outside sources. Stronger projects will connect the researched solutions to local context, meaning the outside sources should connect to Wisconsin if possible. The final project can be a research paper (4 pages, double-spaced, with APA format for all citations), a Google Slide presentation (with APA format for all citations), or some other format that you choose.

Course Assignments 60%
Midterm Research Paper 20%
Final Project 20%

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