



Kursbeschreibung

Title: **From Black Power to Hip Hop and Black Lives Matter**

Roots and origin of the Civil Rights Movement, Black Power, Black Lives Matter (BLM), role of literature, music and songs, Hip hop

"No one can tell me that if it had been a group of Black Lives Matter protesting yesterday, they wouldn't have been treated very, very differently than the mob of thugs that stormed the Capitol." (Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Jan 7, 2021)

"BLM activists have held large and influential protests in cities across the United States as well as internationally. A decentralized grassroots movement, Black Lives Matter is led by activists in local chapters who organize their own campaigns and programs. (...)" (*britannica.com*)

What do we talk about when we talk about "black", "blackness", "black power", "black consciousness", "black lives"? What does "black" include, what does it exclude? Who has the right to write or speak about it and in what form? Should we, as Swiss high school students, write and speak about it? If so, how and to whom except to ourselves?

This supplementary course intends to ask questions and find answers to these questions from different current and historical perspectives and based on historical, sociological, and literary knowledge.

We shall be dealing with terms like *racism* and *racial justice*, *racial segregation* and *discrimination*, *racist remarks* or *questions*, *political correctness*, *Afro-futurism*, etc. We shall also be looking at *Hip hop*, which often is inherently political, not only in the US (origin, roots, traditions, schools, topics and issues of rap).

Illustration



Illustration



Prüfungen und Notengebung

Each participant will give a speech or presentation in the spring semester – after submitting the matura paper – about a story, a historical fact, a series of rap texts, or a film relating to the topics on their own.

Examinations and grades are not directly planned, but there will be an exchange with the home subject (Stammfach) English.

Weitere Hinweise

The course is aimed at all 4th graders who choose English as their core subject (Schwerpunktfach).

The course does not prepare students for a specific course of study but is designed to cultivate reading and research in English, to increase general knowledge and to critically question and interpret traditional images and ideas through targeted text, image, and film work.