

Multicultural Studies is a one-semester elective history and sociology course that examines the United States as a multicultural nation. The course emphasizes the perspectives of minority groups while allowing students from all backgrounds to better understand and appreciate how race, culture and ethnicity, and identity contribute to their experiences.

Major topics in the course include identity, immigration, assimilation and distinctiveness, power and oppression, struggles for rights, regionalism, culture and the media, and the formation of new cultures.

In online Discussions and Polls, students reflect critically on their own experiences as well as those of others. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond using methods of inquiry from history, sociology, and psychology. Written assignments and Journals provide opportunities for students to practice and develop skills for thinking and communicating about race, culture, ethnicity, and identity.

The content and skill focus of this interdisciplinary course is based on the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Expectations of Excellence: Curriculum Standards for Social Studies as well as the National Standards for History published by the National Center for History in Schools (NCHS).

Length: One Semester

## UNIT 1: IDENTITY

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### LESSON 1: WHAT IS MY IDENTITY?

#### **Study: Poll: Who Am I?**

Answer poll questions about how you define yourself.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Who Am I?**

Explore the different aspects of identity and the factors that influence our identities.

*Duration: 0 hr 25*

*min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Aspects of Identity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30*

*points*

#### **Discuss: What Is Your Identity?**

Map the parts of your identity and reflect on the role each part plays in how you think of

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yourself.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## LESSON 2: FAMILY AND IDENTITY

### **Study: Poll: How Does Family Influence Your Identity?**

Answer poll questions about how family has influenced your identity.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Family and Family History**

Learn about how family influences identity.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Family History and Identity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Practice: Family History and Identity**

Interview a family member about a story from his or her past that has shaped his or her identity.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

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## LESSON 3: SOCIAL IDENTITY

### **Study: Poll: Social Identity**

Answer questions about how you see others and how they might see you.

*Duration: 0 hr 25*

*min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Social Identity**

Explore how our membership in different groups can affect the messages we get about our identity as we go through life.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Social Identity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

### **Journal: My Social Identities**

Choose three of your social identities (for example, race, class, and gender) and reflect on how each has affected your life so far.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring: 40 points*

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## LESSON 4: GROUP CONFLICT AND INTERACTION

### **Study: Poll: Identifying Stereotypes**

Consider your own views about stereotypes and why different groups don't get along in society.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Group Conflict and Interaction**

Examine different theories about what happens when groups interact with each other.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Group Conflict and Interaction**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Discuss: Group Conflict and Interaction**

Discuss with your peers how stereotypes have influenced your social interactions.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## LESSON 5: IDENTITY WRAP-UP

### **Review: Identity**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

*Duration: 2 hr 30 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Test (CS): Identity**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min*

*Scoring: 50 points*

### **Test (TS): Identity**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 50 min*

*Scoring: 50 points*

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## LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC

### **Diagnostic: Identity**

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

*Duration: 0 hr*

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25 min Scoring: 20 points

## UNIT 2: CULTURE IN A MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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### LESSON 1: WHAT IS CULTURE?

#### **Study: Poll: What's Your Culture?**

Consider how you define culture and what cultures you consider yourself to be a part of.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: What Are Your Cultures?**

Explore what culture is and how it shapes our identities.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: What Is Culture?**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Journal: What Cultures Do You Belong To?**

Reflect on your different cultural identities and how they are represented in your life.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring: 40 points*

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### LESSON 2: CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

#### **Study: Poll: Cultural Perspectives**

Consider how culture influences your perspective.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: How Culture Influences Perspective**

Learn how culture can influence one's perspective and ideas about what is "normal" or "right."

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Culture and Perspective**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Discuss: Culture and Perspective**

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Compare your perspective on various scenarios with those of your peers. Discuss the similarities and differences between your points of view.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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### LESSON 3: A MULTICULTURAL POINT OF VIEW

#### **Study: Poll: Cultural Diversity**

Consider your experiences with different ethnic cultures and how they have affected your understanding of yourself and other people.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Living among Other Cultures**

Examine what can be learned from experiencing cultures different from your own.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Cultural Diversity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Practice: Cultural Plunge**

Immerse yourself in another culture and reflect on your observations and experience.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

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### LESSON 4: CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION

#### **Study: Poll: Cross-Cultural Communication**

Consider your comfort and skill level communicating with people from cultures different from your own.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Styles and Strategies of Cross-Cultural Communication**

Explore differences in communication styles across cultures and learn strategies for communicating.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Cross-Cultural Communication**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min  
Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Discuss: Courageous Dialogue**

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Discuss your experience bridging cultural differences in order to communicate with someone.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## LESSON 5: CULTURE IN A MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY WRAP-UP

### **Review: Culture in a Multicultural Society**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

*Duration: 2 hr*

*30 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Test (CS): Culture in a Multicultural Society**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

### **Test (TS): Culture in a Multicultural Society**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 50 min Scoring: 50 points*

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## LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC

### **Diagnostic: Culture in a Multicultural Society**

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 20 points*

## UNIT 3: RACE AND IDENTITY

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### LESSON 1: THE ORIGINS OF RACE AND RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES

#### **Study: Poll: What Are Your Race, Culture, Ethnicity, and Nationality?**

Answer poll questions about your own race, culture, ethnicity, and nationality.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: The Origins of Race and Racism**

Learn about the origins of race and racism in America, including racism's development in conjunction with slavery and its role in determining privilege.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

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### **Quiz: The Origins of Race and Racism**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Discuss: The Origins of Race and Racism**

Write about how the lesson confirmed your ideas about race, raised questions, or changed your viewpoint.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## **LESSON 2: AMERICAN INDIAN IDENTITY**

### **Study: Poll: What Is True about American Indians?**

Answer a series of questions about American Indians.

*Duration: 0*

*hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Native People in This Land**

Learn how perceptions of American Indians have influenced U.S. actions and policy toward native people.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Native People in This Land**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Discuss: Whose Home Is It?**

Reflect on what it means to call the US home — and who has the right to call this land "home."

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## **LESSON 3: IMMIGRATION AND IDENTITY**

### **Journal: Respond: How Did Your Family Come to the United States?**

Write about your family's journey to the United States.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring: 40 points*

### **Study: Poll: What Should the U.S. Immigration Policy Be?**

Answer questions about your views on immigration.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

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### **Study: Immigration and Identity**

Explore the various waves of immigration and various groups' struggles to gain the full rights of American citizens.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Immigration and Identity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring:*

*30 points*

### **Practice: Is This Gold Mountain?**

Demonstrate your understanding of different types of immigration and the discrimination specific groups of immigrants face.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

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## **LESSON 4: CONTESTED RIGHTS**

### **Study: Poll: Do All Americans Have the Same Rights?**

Respond to a series of questions related to different groups' efforts to gain rights in the United States.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Am I an American?**

Learn about resistance movements in which people fought for full citizenship.

*Duration: 0 hr*

*25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Am I an American?**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30*

*points*

### **Journal: How Has Race Affected My Life?**

Write about how race has affected your life.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring:*

*40 points*

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## **LESSON 5: RACE AND IDENTITY WRAP-UP**

### **Review: Race and Identity**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

*Duration: 2 hr 30 min Scoring:*

*0 points*

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### **Test (CS): Race and Identity**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr*

*30 min Scoring: 50 points*

### **Test (TS): Race and Identity**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 50*

*min Scoring: 50 points*

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## **LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC**

### **Diagnostic: Race and Identity**

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 20 points*

## **UNIT 4: THE MEDIA, RACE, AND IDENTITY**

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### **LESSON 1: DECONSTRUCTING THE MEDIA**

#### **Study: Poll: What Messages Are You Sending Me?**

Consider the messages you get from advertisements about what the advertised products could do for you.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Deconstructing the Media**

Learn how to identify the messages being sent to you in any type of medium.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Deconstructing the Media**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Discuss: Break It Down**

Observe and discuss the messages communicated in a number of advertisements.

*Duration: 0*

*hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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### **LESSON 2: STEREOTYPES IN EARLY MEDIA**

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**Study: Poll: What Do You See?**

Consider the stereotypes of different racial groups in early media images.

*Duration: 0 hr*

*25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Study: Stereotypes in Early Media**

Learn about the origins of different racial stereotypes in early media forms.

*Duration:*

*0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Quiz: Stereotypes in Early Media**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

**Journal: Deconstructing Early Media**

Analyze a series of images and discuss whether they reflect or influence society.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring: 40 points*

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**LESSON 3: THE STRUGGLE FOR SELF-REPRESENTATION IN THE MEDIA****Study: Poll: Who Represents Whom?**

Consider whether stereotypes of different races in the media have changed over time.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Study: The Struggle for Self-Representation in the Media**

Examine how and why images of different races in the media have changed over time.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Quiz: The Struggle for Self-Representation in the Media**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

**Practice: What's the Story?**

Analyze and explain the change in images of a particular racial group.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min*

*Scoring: 50 points*

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**LESSON 4: RACE IN TODAY'S MEDIA: WHAT'S THE MESSAGE?**

**Study: Poll: How Is Race Portrayed in the Media Today?**

Consider how race is portrayed in the media today.

*Duration:*

*0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Study: Race in Today's Media: What's the Message?**

Analyze messages about race in present-day media.

*Duration: 0*

*hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

**Quiz: Race in Today's Media: What's the Message?**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

**Discuss: What Do You Believe?**

Develop and share your opinion about how much progress has been made in eliminating racial stereotypes in the media.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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**LESSON 5: THE MEDIA, RACE, AND IDENTITY WRAP-UP****Review: The Media, Race, and Identity**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

*Duration: 2 hr 30*

*min Scoring: 0 points*

**Test (CS): The Media, Race, and Identity**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

**Test (TS): The Media, Race, and Identity**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 50 min Scoring: 50 points*

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**LESSON 6: THE MEDIA, RACE, AND IDENTITY****Diagnostic: The Media, Race, and Identity**

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 20 points*

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## UNIT 5: UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES

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### LESSON 1: RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY

#### **Study: Poll: Is It Racism?**

Read scenarios and decide if you think they are examples of racism.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min*

*Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Racism Today**

Learn about current issues that concern race and explore their connections to historical events.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Racism Today**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Journal: Is This a New Day?**

Reflect upon where we stand with racism today.

*Duration: 0 hr 40 min Scoring: 40 points*

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### LESSON 2: THE STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

#### **Study: Poll: What Are They Fighting For?**

Read scenarios and label whether each group was fighting for political, economic, civil, educational, or cultural rights.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Study: Fighting for Rights Today**

Learn about the modern-day activists and organizations fighting racism.

*Duration: 0 hr*

*25 min Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Quiz: Fighting for Rights Today**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

#### **Practice: The Fight for Rights**

Write an essay in which you compare and contrast a modern-day example of ending racism with a historical one.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

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## LESSON 3: TALKING ABOUT RACE IN AMERICA

### **Study: Poll: Does Race *Still* Matter?**

Read some present-day scenarios and decide if you think race affected the outcome of those situations.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Fitting in a Box**

Learn about the current debate about race in this country.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Conversations about Race**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Discuss: Does Race *Still* Matter?**

Respond to Cornel West's assertion that race still matters in the United States.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## LESSON 4: ENDING RACISM IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES

### **Study: Poll: Ending Racism in Our Personal Lives**

Decide how you would act in different situations involving race.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Study: Ending Racism in Your Life**

Learn about concrete strategies for building meaningful relationships with people of all backgrounds.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Quiz: Ending Racism in Your Life**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

*Duration: 0 hr 20 min*

*Scoring: 30 points*

### **Discuss: What Would You Do?**

Read a scenario about racism and explain how you would respond if it were happening to you.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 15 points*

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## LESSON 5: UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES WRAP-UP

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### **Review: Understanding and Addressing Racism in the United States**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

*Duration: 2 hr 30 min Scoring: 0 points*

### **Test (CS): Understanding and Addressing Racism in the United States**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 30 min Scoring: 50 points*

### **Test (TS): Understanding and Addressing Racism in the United States**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

*Duration: 0 hr 50 min Scoring: 50 points*

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## **LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC**

### **Diagnostic: Understanding and Addressing Racism in the United States**

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

*Duration: 0 hr 25 min Scoring: 20 points*

## **UNIT 6: MULTICULTURAL STUDIES REVIEW AND EXAM**

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### **LESSON 1: MULTICULTURAL STUDIES REVIEW AND EXAM**

#### **Review: Multicultural Studies Review**

Prepare for the exam by reviewing key concepts covered in this course.

*Duration: 3 hr Scoring: 0 points*

#### **Exam: Multicultural Studies**

Take a computer-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered in this course.

*Duration: 1 hr 30 min Scoring: 60 points*

#### **Final Exam: Multicultural Studies**

Take a teacher-scored exam covering important concepts and skills throughout the course.

*Duration: 0 hr 50 min Scoring: 60 points*