

## REFLECTION ESSAY on WIKI

As a group, please write a joint essay (no longer than 7-8 pages) reflecting your experiences in AMS110: American Identities that addresses one or more of **Essential Questions** outlined in the syllabus OR one or more of the following questions:

What did we get out of reading about and discussing issues of identity in American Studies? How have the readings and discussions changed the way we view "Americans," "American culture," popular culture, power and difference? How do we see this course fitting into our overall KU education and our lives outside of the university?

In answering the above questions, you must make meticulous, well-cited, productive use of the texts we have discussed in class.

Please construct this essay collaboratively. You will build this piece by piece on the Wiki tool, using your group Wiki inside the Reflection Essay button. Each group needs to organize parts and also organize editing and an approval system to decide when the essay is complete and offers an analysis that is agreed to by the group. There will be time in class to discuss this, but also use email to the group and comments inside the Wiki tool.

Your grade will be based on the following components:

Proposal	10%	
Final Reflection Essay		20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>(of Final Grade)</b>

### TIMELINE

R 7/10	Proposal Due
R 7/17	30 min. Prep. Time with Group
R 7/24	Draft Due/In-class Workshop
T 7/29	Final Wiki Due on Blackboard

### PROPOSAL DUE – THURSDAY, 7/10

Together, write a short paper or a detailed outline that answers the following five questions:

- Which question(s) will you answer as a group?

- What sources will you consult?\*
- What is your working thesis or argument?
- How do you foresee organizing the parts of the essay/collective analysis as a group in a way that is agreed to by each group member?
- How do you foresee organizing an editing/approval system to decide when the essay is complete as a group?

\*Note: you must use at least one source from **five** of the seven units discussed in class:

- 1) Course Introduction
- 2) Who Is an American?
- 3) Women, the Mass Media, and the F Word
- 4) Color Adjustments
- 5) Maid in the USA
- 6) Why Marriage?
- 7) Obama in '08?

**30 MINUTES OF IN-CLASS PREP TIME WITH GROUP – THURSDAY, 7/17**

On Friday, 7/18, your group will have 30 minutes in-class time to work on your collective essay. Please bring your laptops to class, if you would like.

**DRAFT DUE AND IN-CLASS WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, 7/24**

On **Thursday, 7/24**, we will workshop drafts of these essays in class, “grading” each group’s work using the grading rubric and offering feedback, before the final essay on Wiki is due. Bring a hard copy of your group’s essay draft to class.

**FINAL WIKI DUE ON BLACKBOARD – TUESDAY, 7/29 by 12 noon  
(FINAL GRADES ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, 8/1)**