

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS FOR Ms. MEDINA ZEVAS 2024 - 2025

US Govt: Race, Gender, Power Regular and Honors

Social Movements and Social Justice Regular and Honors

Please scroll down to find your “summer reading.” Or more like summer/winter listening... I tried to pick podcasts that I find informative, relevant, interesting and able to spark discussion. I do hope you enjoy them – they are podcasts that I also listen to in my personal time.

US Govt: Race, Gender and Power:

- Due: First full week of school.
- Listen to **5 episodes of the NPR Politics Podcast.**
 - **At least TWO of those episodes MUST be Friday episodes, which are a bit more in-depth and feature “Can’t Let It Go” (CLIG) at the end. CLIGs are fun!**
 - It is available on Apple Podcasts or wherever you listen to podcasts. Or, you can Google “NPR Politics Podcast.” It comes out 5 days a week.

Write a 500-700-word reflection that addresses all of the following:

- How familiar with politics are you, in general? Do you keep up with the news? Explain why or why not (no judgment!)
- From what dates did you listen to the podcast? What themes or trends came out of the episodes in terms of politics, government, race, gender or power?
- What did you learn? What are some of the key issues, events, etc. that stood out to you from your chosen podcasts?
- What questions or concerns remain for you after having listened?
- What topics do you want to talk about more in class? Why?
 - What is your “Can’t Let it Go”? What is it that you can’t let go of, politics or otherwise?

US Govt: Race, Gender and Power Honors:

- Due: First full week of school.
- Listen to **7 episodes of the NPR Politics Podcast.**
 - **At least TWO of those episodes MUST be Friday episodes, which are a bit more in-depth and feature “Can’t Let It Go” (CLIG) at the end. CLIGs are fun!**

- It is available on Apple Podcasts or wherever you listen to podcasts. Or, you can Google “NPR Politics Podcast.” It comes out 5 days a week.

Write a 750-950-word reflection that addresses all of the following:

- How familiar with politics are you, in general? Do you keep up with the news? Explain why or why not (no judgment!)
- From what dates did you listen to the podcast? What themes or trends came out of the episodes in terms of politics, government, race, gender or power?
- What did you learn? What are some of the key issues, events, etc. that stood out to you from your chosen podcasts?
- What questions or concerns remain for you after having listened?
- What topics do you want to talk about more in class? Why?
- What do you see as the most important political issues facing the nation right now? Why? How would you approach this issue?
- What is your “Can’t Let it Go”? What is it that you can’t let go of, politics or otherwise?

Social Movements and Social Justice:

- Due: First full week of school - in JANUARY.
- Listen to ALL 3 of the following podcasts from the Code Switch Podcast:

1. Listen to the episode entitled **On Whiteness (37 minutes)**, from May 31, 2016. Google it or access it here:
<https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2016/05/31/479733094/the-code-switch-podcast-episode-1-can-we-talk-about-whiteness>
2. Listen to the episode entitled **On Strike! Blow it Up! (37 minutes)**, from March 20, 2019. Google it or access it here:
<https://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=704988020>
3. Listen to the episode entitled **The Racial Reckoning That Wasn’t (36 minutes)**, from June 29, 2021. Google it or access it here: <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1004467239>

TO TURN IN: Write a 2-page summary/reflection (3/4 page minimum per podcast), that gives a summary of the topics discussed and also discusses your reaction/analysis of the content. Your reaction/reflection can address any or all of the following: What stood out to you? What resonated with you? What ideas do you challenge? What questions does this podcast bring up for you that you would like to address/discuss in class?

Social Movements and Social Justice Honors:

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1. Listen to the episode entitled **On Whiteness (37 minutes)**, from May 31, 2016. Google it or access it here:
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TO TURN IN: Write a 3-page summary/reflection (1 -page minimum per podcast), that gives a summary of the topics discussed and also discusses your reaction/analysis of the content. Your reaction/reflection can address any or all of the following: What stood out to you? What resonated with you? What ideas do you challenge? What questions does this podcast bring up for you that you would like to address/discuss in class?