

REACT
to > **FILM**

HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATION
PROGRAM >
CURRICULUM GUIDE

CIVIL RIGHTS
PAST AND PRESENT:

A documentary-based
semester or year
of exploration and action

*Recommended for grade levels 8 and up.
Aligned to the 9-10 Common Core
Standards.*

SEMESTER OBJECTIVES



COMMON CORE STANDARDS COVERED THROUGH THE SEMESTER:

SPEAKING & LISTENING:

- SL.9-10.1
- SL.9-10.2
- SL.9-10.3
- SL.9-10.4
- SL.9-10.5
- SL.9-10.6

WRITING:

- W.9-10.3
- W.9-10.4
- W.9-10.5
- W.9-10.6
- W.9-10.7
- W.9-10.9

READING INFORMATIONAL TEXT:

- RI.9-10.2
- RI.9-10.3
- RI.9-10.4
- RI.9-10.6
- RI.9-10.7
- RI.9-10.8

HISTORY/ SOCIAL STUDIES:

- RH.9-10.1
- RH.9-10.2
- RH.9-10.6
- RH.9-10.7
- RH.9-10.9

PACING: To complete this course, you should allocate a minimum of 75 sessions of 45 minutes each, or 38 sessions of 90 minutes each.

CIVIL RIGHTS PAST & PRESENT SEMESTER

SEMESTER CALENDAR:

<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights past & Present Intro Unit	5 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Power Mixtape	9-11 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> From Black Power Mixtape to Planet Rock	2 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Planet Rock	10-12 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Midterm Group Project	3-4 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Midterm Exam	1-2 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> The House I Live In	12-15 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> From The House I Live In to The Interrupters	1 session
<input type="checkbox"/> The Interrupters	13-15 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> From The Interrupters to Sing Your Song	1 session
<input type="checkbox"/> Sing Your Song	9-12 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Passing the Civil Rights Baton	2-3 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Group Project	5 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Exam	1-2 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension Unit: 3 ½ Minutes, Ten Bullets	8-12 sessions

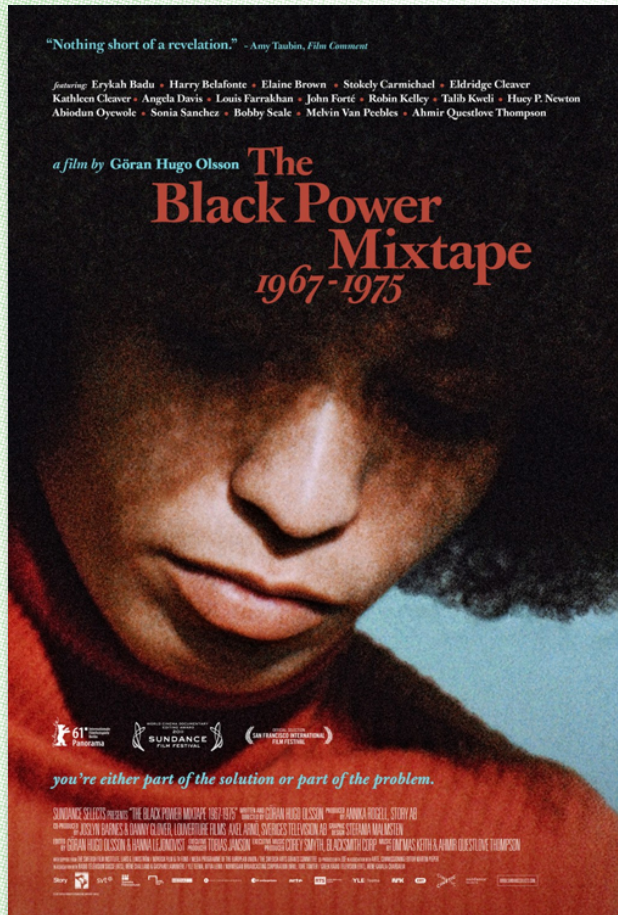
Average session length: 45 minutes

Total: 75-98 sessions

PRIMING QUESTIONS

- What are civil rights?
- What was/is the American Civil Rights movement?
- Is the Civil Rights movement over?
- Do Civil Rights issues still exist?
- Is there a need for a Civil Rights movement today?
- Is there a Civil Rights movement today?
- What tactics are and have been used in the fight for Civil Rights?
- Is one tactic more successful than another?

THE BLACK POWER MIXTAPE



Runtime: 100 min

THE BLACK POWER MIXTAPE is an archive- and music- driven documentary that examines the evolution of the Black Power Movement in the African-American community and Diaspora from 1967 to 1975. Combining startlingly fresh and meaningful 16mm footage that had been lying undiscovered in the cellar of Swedish Television for the past 30 years, with contemporary audio interviews from leading African-American artists, activists, musicians and scholars, Mixtape looks at the people, society, culture and style that fuelled a change. Utilizing an innovative format that riffs on the popular 70s mixtape format, the Black Power Mixtape is a cinematic and musical journey into the ghettos of America.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

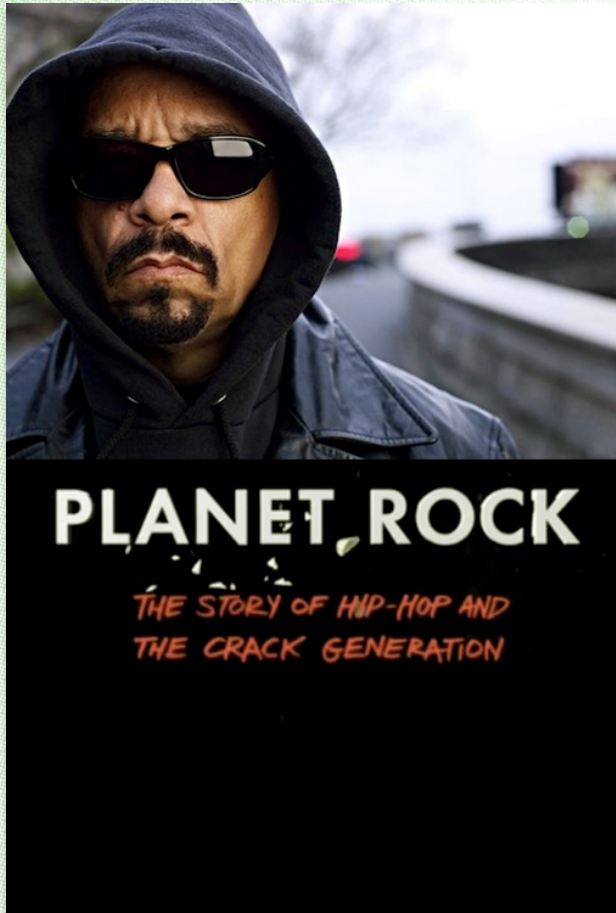
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.a
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.d
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 3
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 4
 - Speaking and Listening, Standard 5
-
- Writing, Standard 1
 - Writing, Standard 2
 - Writing, Standard 3
 - Writing, Standard 4
 - Writing, Standard 10

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Analyzing Song Lyrics
- Reframing
- Interview an Elder
- Culture via the Media

- Won the Sundance Film Festival, World Documentary Editing Award – 2011

PLANET ROCK



Runtime: 84 min

Twenty-five years ago, in the summer of 1986, crack cocaine swept through inner-city neighborhoods like a "white tornado," leaving families in turmoil and profoundly affecting public policy, mass media and popular culture. **PLANET ROCK: THE STORY OF CRACK AND THE HIP-HOP GENERATION** is the first documentary to focus in-depth on the relationship between crack and hip hop. Narrated and executive-produced by rapper Ice-T, Planet Rock chronicles the crack epidemic and hip hop - more than any other art form - reflected and documented the chaos, including its effects on music, fashion, movies and television. Planet Rock is told primarily through the personal stories of rap luminaries Snoop Dogg, B-Real, RZA and Raekwon, all of whom grew up poor, dealt crack as a way out, and were ultimately saved by hip hop.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.c
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.d
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 3
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 6

- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 3
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 7

- Reading Literature, Standard 4
- Reading Literature, Standard 9
- Reading Literature, Standard 10

- Reading Information, Standard 8

CROSS CONTENT CONNECTIONS:

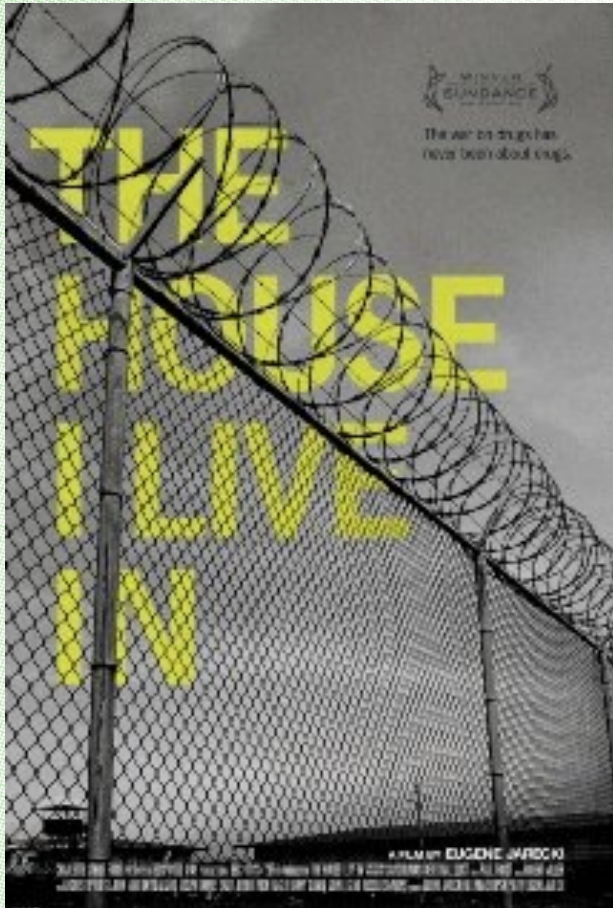
- Reading History, Standard 10

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Poems for Change
- Point of View: "The Wire"
- Awareness Campaign
- Redefining Musical Choices

- Won the Black Reel Award for Outstanding Television Documentary – 2012

THE HOUSE I LIVE IN



Runtime: 110 min

As America remains embroiled in conflict overseas, a less visible war is taking place at home, costing countless lives, destroying families, and inflicting untold damage on future generations of Americans. Over forty years, the War on Drugs has accounted for more than 45 million arrests, made America the world's largest jailer, and damaged poor communities at home and abroad. Yet for all that, drugs are cheaper, purer, and more available today than ever before. Filmed in more than twenty states, *THE HOUSE I LIVE IN* captures heart-wrenching stories from individuals at all levels of America's War on Drugs. From the dealer to the grieving mother, the narcotics officer to the senator, the inmate to the federal judge, the film offers a penetrating look inside America's longest war, offering a definitive portrait and revealing its profound human rights implications.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 3
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 4

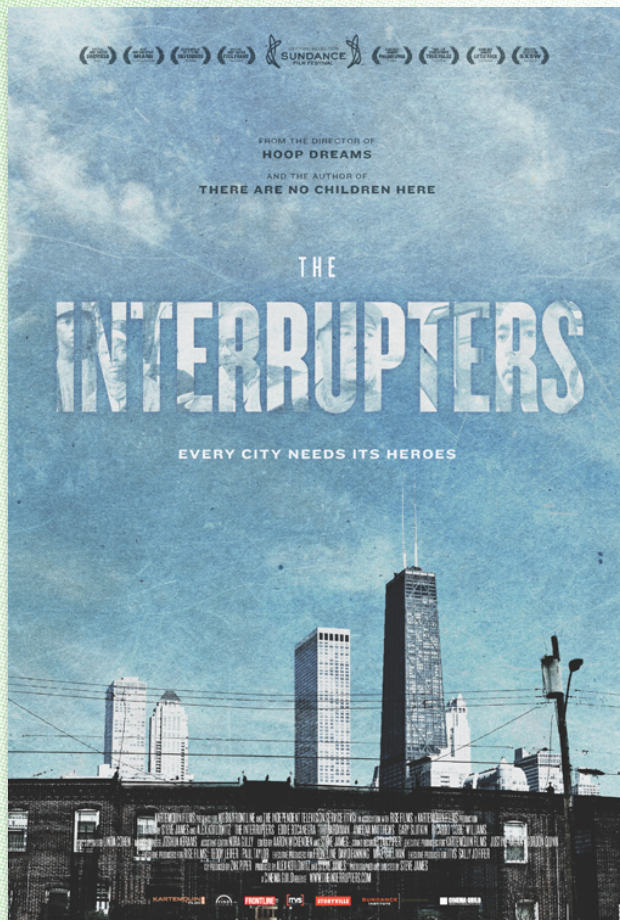
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 7
- Writing, Standard 8

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Sample activities:
- TED Talk, Talk & Blog
- The Arts Speak Out

- Won the Grand Jury Price: Documentary at the Sundance film Festival 2012

THE INTERRUPTERS



Runtime: 125 min

At a time when Chicago stood for violence in America's cities, **THE INTERRUPTERS** takes a look at the mission of an organization of Interrupters, dedicated to ending the spread of violence. Approaching violence as if it were a disease, the Interrupters seek to end the epidemic at its source, targeting the city's youth, who remain vulnerable. The documentary film tells the moving stories of three different members of the group, who have had close encounters with violence and who now mentor at-risk children in hopes of steering them toward bright futures. This film's portrayal of their stories of redemption has earned it several awards and screenings at acclaimed film festivals, such as the Sundance Film Festival.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, 1
- Speaking and Listening, 1.a
- Speaking and Listening, 1.d
- Speaking and Listening, 2
- Speaking and Listening, 3
- Speaking and Listening, 4
- Speaking and Listening, 6

- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 4

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- The Uses of Violence
- Consequences of Anger and Violence
- Animate Your Solution
- Community Interviews

- Won the Chicago Film Critics Association Award for Best Documentary – 2011
- Won the Independent Spirit Award for Best Documentary – 2012
- Won the Grand Jury Prize at Miami Film Festival – 2011

SING YOUR SONG



Runtime: 105 min

During the course of an inspiring life that paralleled the American civil rights movement, artist and crusader Harry Belafonte has tirelessly used his humanitarian influence to advance causes of social justice, while forging a unique career punctuated by prestigious awards and industry firsts. Filmmaker Susanne Rostock tells the rich life story of this remarkable artist and humanitarian in the intimate feature-length documentary SING YOUR SONG.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1c
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1d
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 3

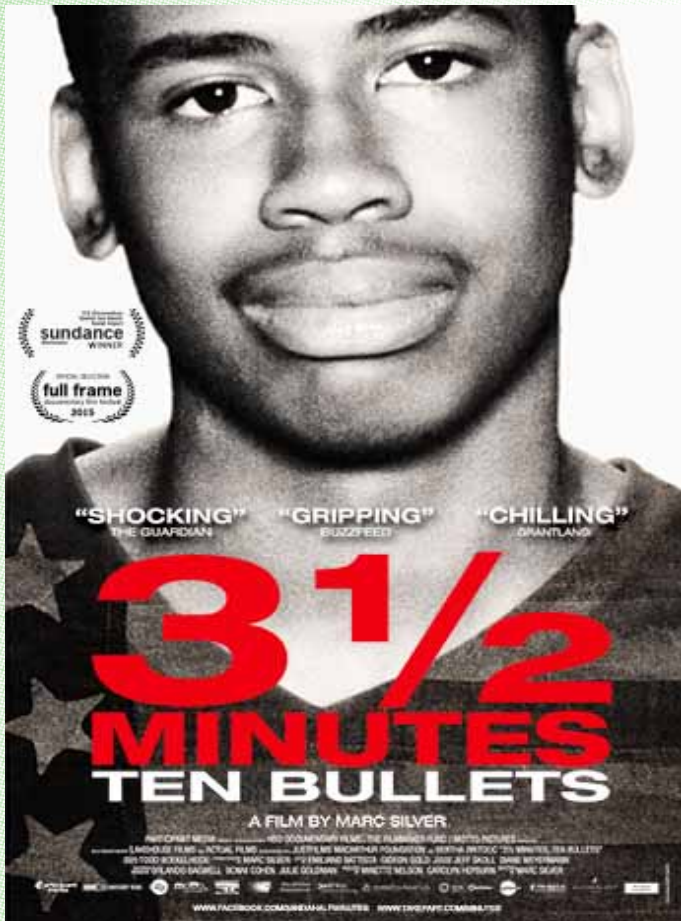
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 3d
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 7

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Implicit Bias and Stereotypes
- Join a Movement
- Civic Duty: Hold a Mock Election

- Official Selection for the Sundance Film Festival 2011
- Official Selection for the Berlin Film Festival 2011
- Won Outstanding Documentary at the NAACP Image Awards 2012

3 ½ MINUTES TEN BULLETS



Runtime: 108 min

Directed by Marc Silver, 3 ½ Minutes, Ten Bullets intercuts powerful exclusive footage from a riveting trial with intimate, observational scenes of Jordan Davis' parents. We see firsthand how difficult it is for them to grapple with unimaginable loss while fighting for justice for their son. The film integrates police interrogation footage with prison phone recordings and interviews. The result is a powerful story about the devastating effects of racial bias, and the search for justice within the judicial system.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.c
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 3
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 4
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 5
- Reading History/Social Studies, 7
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 4

- Writing, Standard 5
- Writing, Standard 7
- Writing, Standard 9

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Guns in America
- Stereotyping & Gun Laws
- Activism from Tragedy
- Writing an Op-Ed

- SUNDANCE – U.S. Documentary Award Social Impact
- Sheffield Doc/Fest – Winner - Truth Jury Award 2015
- Fullframe Documentary Film Festival – Official Selection – 2015
- Seattle Documentary Film Festival – Official Selection – 2015