

**REACT**  
to > **FILM**

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
**EDUCATION**  
**PROGRAM >**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDE**

## **MEDIA, HEALTH & IDENTITY**

A documentary-based  
semester or year  
of exploration and action

*Recommended for grade levels 7 and up.  
Aligned to the 8th, 9-10th, and 11-12<sup>th</sup>  
grade 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.9-10.1
- W.9-10.2
- W.9-10.3
- W.9-10.4
- W.9-10.6
- W.9-10.7
- W.9-10.9
- W.9-10.10

### **READING INFORMATIONAL TEXT:**

- RI.9-10.1
- RI.9-10.6
- RI.9-10.8

### **READING LITERATURE**

- RI.9-10.4
- RI.9-10.7

### **HISTORY/ SOCIAL STUDIES:**

- RH.9-10.1

### **SCIENCE/ TECH. SUBJECTS:**

- RST.9-10.4

**PACING:** To complete this course, you should allocate a minimum of 84 sessions of 45 minutes each, or 42 sessions of 90 minutes each.

\*8<sup>th</sup> grade and 11-12<sup>th</sup> grade standards also available. 9-10 listed as example.



# MEDIA, HEALTH & IDENTITY COURSE

## SEMESTER CALENDAR:

<input type="checkbox"/> Introductory Manual Lessons	5 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Inocente Film Unit	10-12 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Born Into Brothels Film Unit	12-14 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Buck Film Unit	10-12 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Representation Film Unit	12-16 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> The Mask You Live In Film Unit	12-16 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Let's Talk About Sex Unit	12-15 sessions
<input type="checkbox"/> Culminating Project/Exam (At Teacher Discretion)	11-13 sessions

**Average session length: 45 minutes**

**Total: 84-103 sessions**

## PRIMING QUESTIONS

- What are some reasons families become homeless?
- How does experience influence coping skills?
- What is the purpose of a biography?
- What does it mean when child rights are threatened?
- Which character traits that influence success?
- Do violent video games contribute to domestic violence?
- Do you think sexuality informs identity? How and why?



# INOCENTE



Runtime: 40 min

INOCENTE is an intensely personal and vibrant coming of age documentary about a young artist's fierce determination to never surrender to the bleakness of her surroundings. INOCENTE is both a timeless story about the transformative power of art and a timely snapshot of the new face of homelessness in America, children. Neither sentimental nor sensational, INOCENTE will immerse you in the very real, day-to-day existence of a young girl who is battling a war that we rarely see. The challenges are staggering, but the hope in Inocente's story proves that the hand she has been dealt does not define her, her dreams do.

## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- 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 4

## SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Art as a Coping Mechanism
- Immigration Debate
- Writing to Inocente

- Academy Award Winner - Best Documentary Short Subject - 2013
- Winner - Best Documentary Short, San Antonio Film Festival
- Winner - Special Jury Prize, Arizona International Film Festival
- Winner - UNICEF Special Award – EBS International Documentary Festival
- Winner - Audience Award Best Documentary – Women + Film VOICES Festival



# BORN INTO BROTHELS



Runtime: 85 min

In Calcutta's red light district appear a group of unforgettable children. Feisty, resilient and wickedly funny - they are the children of prostitutes. Trying to evade a doomed future, they embark on a transformational journey with New York based photographer Zana Briski, who teaches them photography. This humorous and heartfelt story, **BORN INTO BROTHELS**, portrays the power of art and the courage of those willing to change their own lives.

### COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.a
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.b
- 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 4

- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 3
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 5
- Writing, Standard 7

- Writing, Standard 8
- Writing, Standard 10

### SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Exploring Themes: The Power of Art & Illustration
- Researching: The Evolution of an Organization
- Character Trait Analysis
- Tell a Story through Photography

- Won an Oscar for Best Documentary – 2005
- Won an Emmy at the News and Documentary Emmy Awards for Best Documentary – 2006
- Won the Golden Space Needle for Best Documentary at the Seattle International Film Festival – 2004
- Won the Audience Award and was Nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival – 2004



# BUCK



Runtime: 88 min

Cindy Meehl's documentary called BUCK follows the life of the cowboy-philosopher Buck Brannaman, as he works his magic with horses and their owners. A real-life "horse-whisperer," he rejects the violence of his upbringing and teaches people to communicate with their horses through leadership and sensitivity, not punishment. A truly American story about an unsung hero, BUCK is about an ordinary man who has made an extraordinary life despite tremendous odds.

## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- 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 6
  
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 5

## SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Role Model Biographies
- Creating a Motivational Quilt

- National Board of Review Award for Top Five Documentaries – 2011
- Audience Award for Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival – 2011
- Audience Award for Documentary at the Warsaw International Film Festival – 2011



# MISS REPRESENTATION



Runtime: 85 min

MISS REPRESENTATION posits, “You can’t be what you can’t see.” In American media, the portrayals of women often highlight their youth, beauty, and sexuality, rather than her leadership capabilities. This lack of focus on women’s capacities to be strong and powerful individuals creates a culture in which it is more difficult for girls to recognize their potential and strive for influential positions. The documentary film challenges these views and asks that its audiences examine the facts and spread the word.

## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
  - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.a
  - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.b
  - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.c
  - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.d
  - Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.e
  - 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 1.a
  - Writing, Standard 2
  - Writing, Standard 4

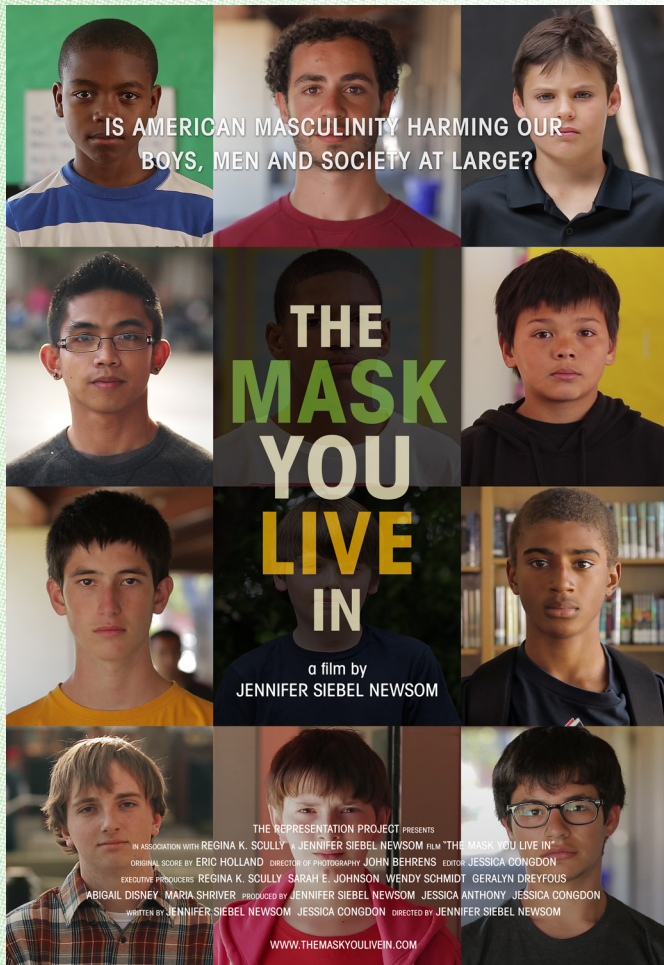
## SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Glogster Activity
- Re-appropriating Images
- Persuasive Writing to Media Conglomerate Stakeholders

- Won Audience Award at Sonoma Film Festival – 2011
- Official Selection at Sundance Film Festival – 2011
- Official Selection at San Francisco Film Festival – 2011
- Official Selection at Silver Docs Film Festival – 2011



# THE MASK YOU LIVE IN



Runtime: 90 min

THE MASK YOU LIVE IN follows boys and young men as they struggle to stay true to themselves while negotiating America’s narrow definition of masculinity.

Pressured by the media, their peer group, and even the adults in their lives, our protagonists confront messages encouraging them to disconnect from their emotions, devalue authentic friendships, objectify and degrade women, and resolve conflicts through violence. These gender stereotypes interconnect with race, class, and circumstance, creating a maze of identity issues boys and young men must navigate to become “real” men.

Experts in neuroscience, psychology, sociology, sports, education, and media also weigh in, offering empirical evidence of the “boy crisis” and tactics to combat it. THE MASK YOU LIVE IN ultimately illustrates how we, as a society, can raise a healthier generation of boys and young men.

## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Language, Standard 4
- Language, Standard 5
- Language, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 7
- Writing, Standard 9
- Writing, Standard 10
- Reading Literature, Standard 4
- Reading Literature, Standard 7
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 2
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 3
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 4
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 3

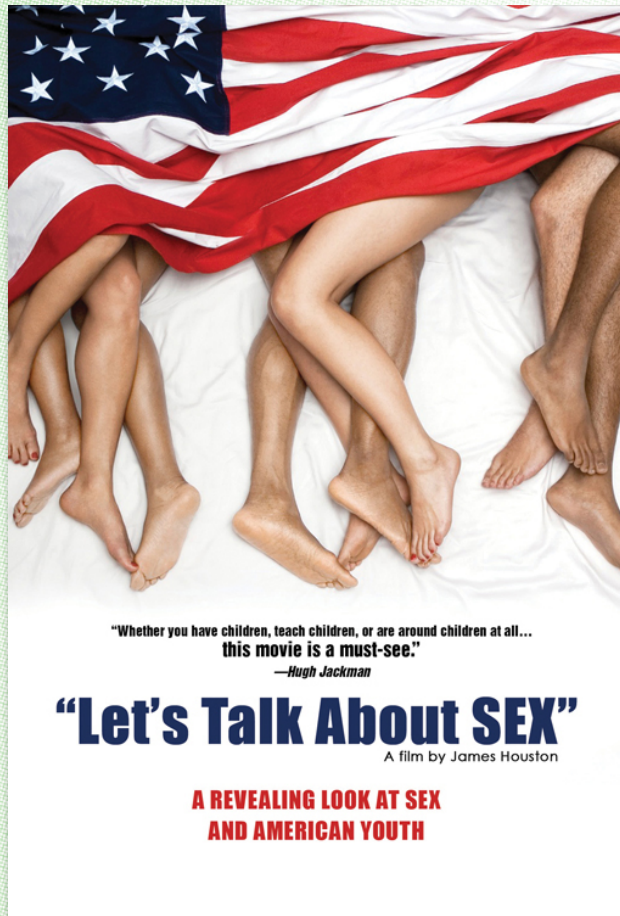
## SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Performing Counter-Narrative Skits
- Griot Circle Storytelling
- “If the Walls Could Talk” Action Step

- Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2015
- Best Achievement Woman Director Las Vegas Film Festival 2015



# LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX



Runtime: 62 min

LET’S TALK ABOUT SEX is a film that takes a revealing look at how American attitudes towards adolescent sexuality impact today’s teenagers. In a society that uses sex to sell everything from Levi’s to laptops, teens are paying a terrible price in poor sexual health outcomes. American taxpayers are paying a hefty price as well to treat these growing problems. Australian photographer James Houston is based in New York and takes us on a journey to examine trends in American society as personified by a cast of diverse characters.

### COMMON CORE STATE STANDARD CONNECTIONS:

- Reading Informational Text, Standard 1
- Reading Informational Text, Standard 6
- Reading Informational Text, Standard 8
  
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.a
- Speaking and Listening, Standard 1.b
- 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 4
  
- Writing, Standard 1
- Writing, Standard 2
- Writing, Standard 4
- Writing, Standard 5
- Writing, Standard 6
- Writing, Standard 7

### CROSS CONTENT CONNECTIONS:

- Reading Science and Technical Subjects, Standard 4
- Reading History/Social Studies, Standard 1

### SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

- Defining Sexuality Puzzle
- Comprehensive V. Abstinence Only Sex Education Debate
- Interviewing Stakeholders
- Drafting a Sex Education Petition