

## #BlackLivesMatter Class Projects – Individual and Group

### TOPICS

Black Twitter (e.g., #BLM, #BOC, #SayHerName, #BlackGirlMagic, etc.)

Black Activism (e.g., <http://www.assatassyllabus.org/>, African American Policy Forum by Kimberle Crenshaw, SATX4, Black Excellence by Kwame Rose, The Race Card Project by Michele Norris: <http://theracecardproject.com/>)

Address criticisms against #BLM, for example:

- 1) #AllLivesMatter, #BlueLivesMatter
- 2) Black on Black crime
- 3) Welfare
- 4) Racism (can Blacks be racist?)

Address issues of racism, discrimination, etc. against African Americans. For example:

- 1) African Americans have been free from slavery for 150 years. Why aren't they doing better? Other Black groups, like Caribbeans and Africans are doing fine.
- 2) Children's literature: dearth of African Americans in texts
- 3) Higher Education: Low rates of African American faculty, especially at Full Professor; Low rates of African American administrators; historical racist educational policies
- 4) Mass Incarceration: High/disproportionate rates of African Americans, prison industrial complex; cradle to prison pipeline
- 5) K-12 Education: disproportionately in special education, disproportionate disciplinary actions, fewer services, less experienced teachers, lower matriculation, etc. of African Americans
- 6) Why do we need Black History Month, Black themed dorms/cultural centers; Why do all the Black kids sit together in the cafeteria?
- 7) Health disparities
- 8) Medical Racism
- 9) Black disenfranchisement
- 10) Black Power
- 11) Voter Suppression (e.g., Voting Rights Act, Gerrymandering of Black Voters)
- 12) Dog-whistle politics and media reporting
- 13) Policing of African American neighborhoods, e.g., stop and frisk
- 14) Environmental racism, e.g., Flint, MI, Alabama TB, landfills, etc.
- 15) Black women. Nuff said
- 16) Wealth disparity, e.g., land/property
- 17) Housing discrimination
- 18) Gender and sexual identity equity
- 19) Violence
- 20) Police Violence/Brutality
- 21) #OscarsSoWhite. HBO Exec Commissions#BlackLivesMatter Documentary In Lieu Of #OscarsSoWhite: <http://hellobeautiful.com/2016/01/24/hbo-exec-commissions-blacklivesmatter-documentary-in-lieu-of-oscarssowhite/#.VqpupnZrb2U.mailto>

### Issues related to Black communities

1. Blacks and religion (esp. Conservative, fundamentalism)
2. Local human rights campaigns
3. Black perspectives on immigration policy
4. Presidential politics and the interests of Black Americans
5. Efficacy of Blacks having their own political party
6. Interracial coalitions for criminal justice reform

### **TYPES**

Digital Humanities Project

Traditional Research Paper

Application Paper

Curriculum Module (K-12; college)

Short Film/Documentary

Art Exhibit/Installation

Website

Wiki

Blog

Play

Original Music, Spoken Word, Poetry

Community Service/Service Learning

Annotation

Community organizing/activism

### **ANALYSIS/TOOLS**

Critical Discourse Analysis

Critical Race Theory

Black Feminist Theory

AfroPessimism / AfroFuturism

Landscape Ethnography

Portraiture

Autoethnography

Critical Whiteness Studies