

**Rhymes and Reasons: Hip Hop and Philosophy**  
**Rutgers University | Fall 2025**

**Course Information for Section 2**

**Teaching Assistant:** Rose Fonth

**Email:** rose.fonth@rutgers.edu

**Office Hours:** Mondays, 2-3:00pm, Room 527, Rutgers Philosophy Department, 106 Somerset St. 5<sup>th</sup> floor (or by appointment)

**Recitation Meeting Room:** ED-025A

**Recitation Schedule**

*Recitation Meeting Date*

*Journal Entry Due*

**Section 2:** Thurs. Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

[N/A]

**Section 2:** Thurs. Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon., Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59pm

**Section 2:** Thurs. Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon., Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59pm

**Section 2:** Thurs. Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon., Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59pm

**Section 2:** Thurs. Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon., Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm

**Section 2:** Thurs. Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon., Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59pm

**Section 2:** Thurs. Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 12:10-1:30pm

Mon. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59pm

**Recitation Section Policies**

***Grading***

Your recitation grade makes up **20%** of your total course grade.

Discussion grades will be determined by: **Attendance** and **Journal Entries**.

1) Attendance (worth 50% of your recitation grade)

Attendance to sections are mandatory. Attendance will be taken each class at the beginning of class. If you are missing a class, please go through the appropriate channels to receive an excused absence.

2) Journal Entries (worth 50% of your recitation grade)

There are **six** journal entries due throughout the semester. These will be turned in via Canvas by the due dates listed above.

Journal entries should be a minimum of 250 words and should include reflections on the discussions of the previous recitation. Journal entries will be graded based on how they critically engage with the content of the recitations. This should be clear to a reader of your journal entries – you are strongly encouraged to **signpost your thoughts on our discussions with phrases like “As we talked about in...,” “This is relevant to our discussion because...,” and so on.**

Journal entries will be graded on a check plus (10/10 points), check (8/10 points), and check minus (6/10 points) system. Journal entries that are not turned in on time will be given zeros.

Check plus: Journal entry includes thoughtful reflections and commentary on recitation discussion, with clear reference to topics and issues raised within the recitation.

Check: Journal entry includes reference to recitation discussion but fails to engage critically with the topics at hand.

Check minus: Journal entry includes no reference to recitation discussions and fails to engage critically with the material.

***Preparation and participation***

Part of what we will be doing in recitation is sharing songs that are relevant to the week's discussion questions. If you have a song you'd like to discuss for that week's discussion questions, please **send it to me by 5pm the day before that week's section**. Note: If I notice that you are not sending in songs, then this will result in a **loss of points** for your participation grade; to participate in the course also consists in your *timely* submission of songs for at least most of our recitation sessions.

***Essays***

You will write three short papers (750-1250 words) throughout the course of the semester. Due dates will be determined by Professor Derrick Darby.

Please include a word count on your papers. Please **do not** include your name on the paper, since these will be graded anonymously. You will submit your papers via Canvas using the Turnitin link provided. Your essays will be graded according to Rutgers's grading scale (A, B+, B, B-, and so on), using the rubric provided at the end of the course syllabus.

### ***Late work***

Late papers cannot receive full credit and will be penalized in relationship to the lateness of the submission (standardly, by one partial-letter grade each day it is late e.g., B to B-). If you need an extension, email me at least 24 hours before the original due date so that we can discuss and set an amended date. If you wish to discuss a late submission, feel free to email me.

Extensions on papers will be granted only for: 1) compelling academic reasons (e.g., conflicts with other due dates); or 2) compelling personal reasons (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis).

### ***Extra Credit***

There is no extra credit offered in this course.

### ***Academic Integrity***

Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses. Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writing as your own. Cheating is the attempted or unauthorized use of materials, information, notes, study aids, devices or communication during an academic exercise. Students are responsible for being aware of what constitutes plagiarism and cheating and for avoiding both. Please familiarize yourself with Rutgers's policies regarding academic integrity, found here: <https://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/current.pdf>.

If you have doubts or questions about this policy, just ask. I would rather grant an extension than receive plagiarized work.

### ***Resources for Students***

It's okay to need help! Rutgers has great resources for students who want to improve their writing capacities, such as the writing center. Below is the link where you can sign up to receive tutoring.

*Writing Center:* <https://writingctr.rutgers.edu/>.