**Spring Final**

**Your task is to creatively answer the following question:**

**What does it mean to be American?**

What to do:

- Develop your own central response to the question; this should be meaningful to you and representative of your individual identity as well as how you fit into the collective sense of America.

- Allude to and make reference of the various works of literature and non-fiction texts we’ve covered this year. You may also reference films/TedTalks/documentaries viewed in class, presentations, assignments, literary movements, etc. These allusions should be related in some way to your thesis, or central response.

- Consider a creative way to demonstrate your response to the question. This can take a variety of forms: painting, advertisement, video (commercial, trailer, music video, news report, etc.), skit, song or rap (lyrics must be original), speech, short story, poem, essay – the options are endless!

How you present will depend on the type of project you do. Below is the given set of times for presentations:

* 2 min for one person
* 3 min for two people
* 4 min for three people

If you’re doing a video, you will not likely have time to explain it. If you’re doing a painting, then most of your time will be used explaining the choices made in your work.

You will be assessed for:

**Creativity** – Consider what format will be best to present your ideas. I want you to demonstrate thought, originality and authenticity. Use your imagination!

**Strength of response to prompt** – Make sure that you have a clear focus that is representative and meaningful to you, not just what other people think it should be.

**Quality of allusions and references** – You do not need to fully explain your references during your presentation, but the allusions should be relatively obvious and your explanation will clarify your use of them.

**Preparation** – This is a demonstration of the skills and ideas learned in this class. Take the time to make sure you feel confident and ready to present.

Project Explanation

You will turn in a 1-page explanation of your final work. State your thesis and explain how your project demonstrates your ideas, allusions and originality. Basically, help me to understand the ‘behind-the-scenes’ thought process and show me the quality of your progress as a student.

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