

New Elective Offering!

Developing Critical Literacies

In what ways do our lived experiences with race, class, gender, and sexuality affect how we understand the world and others? --**Critical Literacies** (offered Spring 2017)

“My sense is that the American character lives not in one place or the other, but in the gaps between the places, and in our struggle to be together in our differences. It lives not in what has been fully articulated, but in what is in the process of being articulated, not in the smooth-sounding words, but in the very moment that the smooth-sounding words fail us. It is alive right now. We might not like what we see, but in order to change it, we have to see it.”

— Anna Deavere Smith, *Fires in the Mirror*

We will read, discuss, and embody various theories, including (but not limited to) Visual Culture, Social Justice, and Critical Race Theory.

This course will include strategies for critically responding to art, literature, digital media, and visual culture through dialogue, artmaking, and writing.

What does this mean for YOU?

- You will develop and perform their own spoken word poetry as a vehicle for personal meaning-making in the course.
- Periodically throughout the semester, you will participate in spoken word poetry slams in Baltimore City Schools.
- This course will culminate with the you leading a workshop that will enable young people to critically engage with the world around them. [This workshop is part of the nationwide Louder Than A Bomb spoken word poetry festival!](#)

Developing Critical Literacies is a required course for all MAT students and is an open elective for all undergraduate and graduate students.

Questions? Want more information?

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