**ABSTRACT**

ASHLEY DAUGHTRIDGE. Teaching Social Justice, Empathy, and Critical Race Theory through *The Hate U Give.* (Under the direction of Professor Barbara Bennett.)

[This Capstone project includes (1) a literature review on techniques for teaching social justice, empathy, and Critical Race Theory and why doing so is crucial for students, and (2) a unit plan for teaching 11th grade high school students Angie Thomas’ 2017 novel, *The Hate U Give.* Below are brief previews of the literature review and unit plan:

* Literature Review:

 Before teaching a unit on *The Hate U Give*, teachers first need to understand how to best utilize the kairotic timing of the Black Lives Matter Movement to fuel the teaching of social justice, empathy, and critical race theory. Therefore, a review of the literature on the importance and technique of teaching social justice, empathy, and critical race theory through literature is necessary to inform teaching practices of *The Hate U Give*. The selected literature includes qualitative/quantitative studies and personal narratives in an attempt to find the best way to teach students to advocate for social justice, experience feelings of empathy, and explore text through critical race theory. The literature review informs instructors on how to conduct a classroom environment that is safe, inclusive, and productive, which would not be clear from a unit plan alone. Discussion questions, journal prompts, essay prompts, ect. were informed by the findings in this literature review.

* Unit Plan**:**

 Thiseight day unit plan uses *The Hate U Give* as the primary text to teach social justice and empathy through Critical Race Theory. Almost each day includes discussions of themes (social justice, race, silence/voice, etc.) which showcases close reading and analytical skills, while also including some form of daily writing. The unit plan is designed for 11 grade English Honors or AP students, though with small adjustments to the timeline, this unit can be adapted for students of various academic abilities.

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