

# ENGL 2239

## Breakin' It Down: Exploring the Poetics of Hip Hop

### General Information

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**Instructor:** Thor Polukoshko [tpolukoshko@langara.ca](mailto:tpolukoshko@langara.ca) (Office: A324b)

**Course Times:** Online

**Credits:** 3 (for information about transfer credit, visit [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca))

### Course Description

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This course will examine the historical development of hip hop and its poetic form/conventions. Our studies will incorporate a wide spectrum of hip hop, from the violent class/race politics of gangsta rap and the misogynistic lyrics of club rap to the Afrocentric messages of early 90s hip hop and the socio-political commentary of contemporary conscious rap.

### Course Texts

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- Adam Badley & Andrew DuBois (eds.) – *The Anthology of Rap*
- Adam Bradley – *Book of Rhymes: The Poetics of Hip Hop*
- **ENGL 2239 Courseware Package** which includes critical writing from hip hop scholars such as Michael Eric Dyson and Tricia Rose, and newer lyrics from artists such as Childish Gambino, Kendrick Lamar, Kool A.D., etc.

**\*course texts are subject to change before the semester begins**