

## Multicultural Literature: Novel Assignments & Calendar

**Lakota Woman:** Mary Brave Bird grew up fatherless in a one-room cabin, without running water or electricity, on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Rebelling against the aimless drinking, punishing missionary school, narrow strictures for women, and violence and hopelessness of reservation life, she joined the new movement of tribal pride sweeping Native American communities in the sixties and seventies. Mary eventually married Leonard Crow Dog, the American Indian Movement's chief medicine man, who revived the sacred but outlawed Ghost Dance.

Originally published in 1990, *Lakota Woman* was a national best seller and winner of the American Book Award. It is a unique document, unparalleled in American Indian literature, a story of death, of determination against all odds, of the cruelties perpetuated against American Indians, and of the Native American struggle for rights. Working with Richard Erdoes, one of the twentieth century's leading writers on Native American affairs, Brave Bird recounts her difficult upbringing and the path of her fascinating life.

*\*263 pages (16 chapters + epilogue)*

**All American Boys:** In this New York Times bestselling novel, two teens—one black, one white—grapple with the repercussions of a single violent act that leaves their school, their community, and, ultimately, the country bitterly divided by racial tension.

A bag of chips. That's all sixteen-year-old Rashad is looking for at the corner bodega. What he finds instead is a fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, who mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's pleadings that he's stolen nothing for belligerence, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance and refusal to STAY STILL as ordered. But how can you stay still when someone is pounding your face into the concrete pavement?

There were witnesses: Quinn Collins—a varsity basketball player and Rashad's classmate who has been raised by Paul since his own father died in Afghanistan—and a video camera. Soon the beating is all over the news and Paul is getting threatened with accusations of prejudice and racial brutality. Quinn refuses to believe that the man who has basically been his savior could possibly be guilty. But then Rashad is absent. And absent again. And again. And the basketball team—half of whom are Rashad's best friends—start to take sides. As does the school. And the town. Simmering tensions threaten to explode as Rashad and Quinn are forced to face decisions and consequences they had never considered before.

Written in tandem by two award-winning authors, this four-starred reviewed tour de force shares the alternating perspectives of Rashad and Quinn as the complications from that single violent moment, the type taken directly from today's headlines, unfold and reverberate to highlight an unwelcome truth.

*\*336 pages (17 chapters)*

## Novel Assignment Schedule

Quiz/Assignment Due Date	Lakota Woman	All American Boys
Fri. March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Chp. 1-5 (p. 3-72)	Fri. Rashad-Sat. Quinn (p. 5-82)
Fri. March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Chp. 6-9 (p. 73-143)	Sun. Rashad-Mon. Quinn (p. 85-140)
Fri. March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Chp. 10-14 (p. 144-214)	Mon. Rashad-Wed. Quinn (p. 141-225)
Fri. March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Chp. 15-16 + epilogue (p. 215-263)	Wed. Rashad-Fri. Quinn+Rashad (p. 226-310)

## Novel Assignment: Literary Analysis Paper (due each quarter)

Based on the attached description of ways to analyze a novel, write a literary analysis paper that explores the combination of **3-4 aspects of the text** (ex. symbolism, theme, and conflict). The length of this essay should be at least 5 paragraphs.