

## American Antebellum Renegades and Reformers Album Project

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*Now renegades are the people with their own philosophies  
They change the course of history  
Everyday people like you and me  
We're the renegades we're the people  
With our own philosophies  
We change the course of history  
Everyday people like you and me*

*--Rage Against the Machine*

You will be designing an album to honor a person or specific organization from Antebellum American history whom you believe to be worthy of the title "American Renegade(s)." This should be a person who was an Antebellum reformer (Period 4 or 5, 1830 to 1860). They can be a reformer in one of several areas--literature, art, religion, education, anti-war, abolition, women's rights, or any other important reform movement.

*Renegade: an individual who rejects lawful or conventional behavior  
Reformer: one that works for or urges reform*

**What do you need to do? Before you start this project, read Chapters 15 and 16 in your big book.**

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Step #1 – Think about what makes a person a renegade. What are the qualities or characteristics necessary to be given such a title?

Step #2 – Choose a person from American History that fits your description.

Step #3 – I will post a question, "Who is your reformer?" to google classroom. Answer this no later than July 29th. I will approve selections in the order they are submitted to me. For come, first served. I will only allow two people per class to choose the same person. Be sure to check others' selections.

Step #4 – Research this person using various outside scholarly resources. You must incorporate the Media Center's databases (<https://sites.google.com/hpregional.org/mediacenter/home>) as at least TWO of your sources. Keep a list of sources you use, as you will need this to complete the project. You should have at least 6 reliable sources, in either MLA, Chicago, or APA format, printed on paper and submitted with your final product.

Step #5 – Do your parents or grandparents have an old record somewhere? Sweet. Redesign the album to honor your American Renegade. If not? You can just fold some cardboard so that it is **13 inches square**, with one side open so you can insert the required items.

Completely cover the album with construction paper or some other decorative material. Make sure it looks like an album cover.

- The front of the album, at a minimum, should include the name of the group/artist, the name of the album, and any appropriately sized pictures of your “renegade” or related material.
- You may print pictures; the illustrations do not need to be original. But if you’re artsy, have at it!

The back of the album should include the following:

- A list of ten original song titles. These song titles should directly relate to important events in your reformer’s life.
- The list of ten should be divided into two groups of five under the headings “Side A” and “Side B”.
- Below the song titles include a short paragraph of acknowledgments. This list should include a minimum of five individuals who played a significant role in your reformer/renegade’s life. Each acknowledgment should include the person’s name and a sentence identifying their importance to your hero. (ie. “Frederick Douglass – thanks for the support! Missed you at Harpers Ferry.”)

Included inside the album should be:

- The lyrics to one of the original song titles you came up with. The song you write needs to include at least three verses and a chorus. THIS IS BASICALLY A POEM. The lyrics should directly speak to a significant event/happening in your renegade’s life or should serve as a summary of the life of your renegade.
- A one-page (at a minimum) review of the album. This is the only part that will not be written from the perspective of your reformer/renegade. While album reviews are sometimes glowing, they are often critical as well. If your reformer/renegade has a significant flaw this is the place to mention it. Pick a genre of music that fits your hero. (Country? Rock? R+B? Hip-Hop? Jazz?) Use the review to explain why this specific style of music matches your reformer/renegade’s personality. Give some basic background information about your person and their contributions. “Review” at least three songs from the album. In doing so you should address the title of the individual song, discuss how it relates to your reformer/renegade, and explain its significance. BE CREATIVE!
- You will need a minimum of 6 scholarly and reliable sources (Wikipedia does not count) listed in MLA OR APA format. Print and place in your album.

### **BRING YOUR RENEGADE ALBUM IN FOR THE SECOND DAY OF CLASS!**

Step #6 –Give a 2-3 minute presentation on your renegade. Briefly discuss why you chose the particular person that you did. Pick three or four song titles to share with the class and explain the significance of those songs to your hero.

We will have **APUSH GRAMMY AWARDS** in September for the Artist of the Year, Album Title of the Year, Song of the Year, and Album Cover of the Year. :)

The project is worth 50 points and will be graded using the following rubric:

- Front – 10 points (design, images, album title, group name–analysis of history and impact)
- Back – 10 points (Song titles, acknowledgments, work cited–analysis of history and impact)
- Album Review – 10 points (accuracy, creativity–analysis of history and impact)
- Song Lyrics – 5 points (relevance, historical accuracy, creativity)
- Overall Creativity and Neatness – 10 points (overall look, redesigned record, creativity)
- Presentation in class – 5 points (clarity, preparedness, substance, poise)



Chp. 4.9 through 4.12 (Amsco) and Chp. 15 and 16 (Pageant will help).

You might like to peruse these “Best Album Covers of All Time” to get some ideas.

<https://www.billboard.com/photos/best-album-covers-of-all-time-6715351/>