World Regional Geography Assignment: Name: Luke Pepin

**Race and Culture in Brazil**

Answer these questions as you watch the movie Black in Latin America, Ep. 2: Brazil: A Racial Paradise? You can find the movie at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7c46U5hhY&t=7s

How is race characterized in Brazil?

Why were slaves brought from Africa to Brazil and by whom?

What was the role of capoeira for slaves and how is it part of culture today?

How is the Candomblé religion a reflection of the mixing of cultures in Brazil?

What was the source of wealth of Minas Gerais?

How were race relations during the 1800’s and 1900’s different in Minas Gerais, compared to Salvador da Bahia?

How did the life of Xica DaSilva differ from the life of a “typical” slave?

When did Brazil abolish slavery? What did the government do to change the racial composition of Brazil following abolition?

How did race relations on Brazilian plantations differ from race relations in the US? How was this reflected in differences in post-slavery race relations in the two countries?

How are racial differences expressed in modern Brazil?

Is Brazil a “racial democracy”? Why or why not?

What are some ways in which Brazil is trying to increase racial equality?

**Follow-up discussion in class:** Have students discuss issues of race in the Americas in small groups following the movie. Discuss questions one at a time in small groups and ask for responses to whole class before moving on to the next question.

1. In what way has the legacy of slavery influenced race relations in Brazil in the present day?
2. How are race relations in Brazil similar to, and different from, race relations in the United States?
3. What aspects of the way Brazilian race relations work might lead to better race relations in the United States? In what ways might the US model for race relations indicate possible models for better relations in Brazil?