

ETHN 100C:

SOCIAL/JUSTICE/PRAXIS

Instructor:

Dr. Roshanak Kheshti
rkheshti@ucsd.edu

Office Hours:

Social Sciences 231
Wednesdays 1:30-3pm & by appointment

Teaching Asst.

Kai Small
krsmall@ucsd.edu

Description:

Considered independently, the concepts “social,” “justice” and “praxis” have important critical functions, which will each be taken up individually as a project of this practicum:

So-cial— *adjective* \ˈsō-shəl\ of or relating to human [society](#), the interaction of the individual and the group, or the welfare of human beings as members of society

Jus-tice— *noun* \ˈjəs-təs\ the principle or ideal of just dealing or right action (2) : conformity to this principle or ideal

Prax-is— *noun* \ˈprak-səs\ 1: [action](#), [practice](#): as *a* : exercise or practice of an art, science, or skill *b* : customary practice or conduct 2: practical application of a theory

Taken together, the concepts perform a semiotic function that has important implications for the project of ethnic studies. Through an advanced exploration of praxis-based approaches to the social world and to the utopian and futurist project of justice, in this capstone course students apply their ethnic studies theoretical training alongside research methods developed in ETHN 100A & ETHN 100B to original research projects. The course culminates in the delivery of a public talk organized around your original research.

Course Design:

Every Tuesday the class will participate in an interactive lecture-style format. Every Thursday beginning week 3, students will join in small-group, roundtable style workshops that focus on research development exercises or workshops, which are run by an Ethnic Studies PhD student. Students will rotate into different small-groups weekly.

Thursdays students will read essays that a classmate contributed.

Grading & Assignment Detail:

Co-Authored Syllabus Contribution and Presentation (20% of final grade):

- Each student is responsible for contributing one reading to the syllabus
- Each student is responsible for facilitating a Thursday roundtable discussion organized around the piece they contributed to the syllabus

Attendance and Participation (20% of final grade)

- Presence and preparedness are key aspects to the successful fulfillment of requirements for this course. Because this course meets a total of twenty times, more than two absences will absolutely not be tolerated. *You may miss a total of **2** lectures and this will not affect your ability to receive an A+. However, every unexcused absence

thereafter will result in 5 points removed from your final grade. Participation is determined by your active presence and preparedness, which are key aspects to the successful fulfillment of requirements for this course. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to keep up with the notes, any films and assignment submission schedule. It is advised that you network with peers on this matter. If you miss more than two classes $\frac{1}{2}$ a letter grade will be deducted from your final grade.

Research design proposal (10% of final grade): propose a critical research project including the format for the final project (written, sonic, visual or performative). Due April 21th in class.

Reflection Papers (25% of grade): Each student is responsible for handing in a weekly reflection paper (through May 19th) that synthesizes the readings with the student's capstone project.

Rough draft and Work in Progress Presentation at ES Symposium (25% of grade): Each student will undertake a small-scale project in which knowledge is produced **collaboratively** with your interlocutor(s) or **sympiotically** with your environment or medium. The objective of the project is to determine how to best achieve collaboration and symbiosis. Your presentations will focus on your process of determining this rather than the end result of your "findings". You will receive detailed instructions on how to move forward by week 5. I will focus your evaluation on the presentation of your *process* rather than your research outcomes or findings.

A Rough Draft of research project will be submitted in class on May 12th in lieu of a reflection paper.

☺Some students will need to utilize office hour time in order to get necessary background and direction on the material. ESL students are highly encouraged to consult the resources at the OASIS center (858-534-3760) in order to earn full points on assignments. It is your responsibility to seek and utilize these resources as the need arises.

Course Schedule:

Week 1 Why Social/Justice/Praxis?

March 29 Course introductions; small group theme selections

March 31 Workshop theme: Stakes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-lyamaAbxM>

Week 2 On Collaborative Learning as Praxis

April 5 -Karl Marx “Theses on Feuerbach” in *The German Ideology*

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| Syllabus Contribution Due |
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April 7 -Stuart Hall “Gramsci’s Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity”

-https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOP2V_np2c0

Week 3 Globalized Social Justice?

April 12 -Nancy Fraser “Reframing Justice in a Globalizing World” in *(Mis)Recognition, Social Inequality and Social Justice*

-Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBKbBSUq1W4>

& <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=diHzbQNYO2k>

April 14 Workshop theme: Stakes

Week 4 Postmodern Social Justice?

April 19 -Chela Sandoval, Pt. II in Chela Sandoval *Methodology of the Oppressed*

-Watch: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pK0f_7XeYJA

<http://artery.wbur.org/2013/03/04/nick-cave-soundsuits-peabody-essex>

<http://nickcaveart.com/Main/Intro.html>

April 21 Workshop theme: Audience

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| Research Design Due |
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Week 5 Abolition Justice?

April 26 Ruth Wilson Gilmore “What is to be Done” in *Golden Gulag*

Watch: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=sTPjC-7EDkc

April 28 Workshop theme: Futurity

Week 6 Feminist Social Justice?

May 3 -“Feminist Appropriations of Bourdieu” in *(Mis)Recognition, Social Inequality and Social Justice*

-Listen: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ct2FjSTkcks>

May 5 Workshop theme: Gender

Week 7 Queer/Social/Justice?

Version 2/10/16

May 10 -Christina Hanhardt "Butterflies, whistles, and fists: Gay safe streets patrols and the new gay ghetto, 1976-1981"
-watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbSgPw1QabQ>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4VX6z5FV4Y>

May 12 Workshop theme: sexuality
Rough draft submitted in class

Week 8 Law and Justice?

May 17 -Pt. I in Patricia Williams *The Alchemy of Race and Rights*
-Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNKbGFoYC1Q>

May 19 Workshop theme: justice

Week 9

May 24 Presentation preparations

May 26 Presentation preparations

Week 10 Presentation preparations

May 31

WED JUNE 1 ETHNIC STUDIES SYMPOSIUM 2-4PM CCC

June 2 Conclusions