

spring 2017

Professor K. Wayne Yang, kwayne@ucsd.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays by appointment

Salon Hours: Thursdays 12:30-2p at Inter-Tribal Resource Center

Teaching Assistant América Martinez, amm001@ucsd.edu

Writing Studio Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-2pm at SPACES

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Description

“Social justice” and “praxis” are terms rich with desires. Their etymologies are entwined in Eurocentric philosophy and revolutionary thought. Yet many movements have come to claim and redefine these terms. We must consider what critical functions these terms perform, and we must also be critical of these terms. You might wonder whether you wish to speak them with your own accents.

Some common definitions attributed to these terms include:

Social justice:

The fair distribution of privileges and disadvantages in society. Gender, racial and social equality. Justice for migrants, prisoners, the environment, the physically and mentally disabled. Forms of justice that exceed formal justice and moral justice as defined by law and religion.

Praxis:

Theory and practice. Theory and action. Action and reflection “directed at the structures to be transformed,” according to Paulo Freire in *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. The practical application of a theory. The exercise or practice of an art, science, or skill. The process by which a theory, lesson, or skill is enacted, embodied, or realized. The act of engaging, applying, exercising, realizing, or practicing ideas.

These concepts will be activated in the **original research project** that you produce in this capstone course, for which you will apply the theoretical and methodological training you received in the ETHN 100A and 100B. This course invites you to represent and thoroughly explore your scholarly, social justice, and creative interests and to view yourself as an author/artist making a unique and important contribution.

Required Readings

Future Tense Live. A digital speaker series featuring UCSD alumni. Produced and recorded live in class. Produced by J. I. Albahri and K. Wayne Yang.

There are no print readings for this class. Attendance is mandatory.

Course evaluation

- 20% Participation
- 10% Weekly writing meetings outside of class, due April 6
- 10% Media Proposal, due April 11
- 10% Work in Progress + Crit, April 27
- 20% Future Tense Live - Alternate Timelines miniproject, May 23
- 10% Work in Progress + Crit, May 25
- 20% Final Project Gallery and Symposium, June 7 at the Cross Cultural Center

20% Participation

Notebook and devices. You are required to bring a notebook to class. You may also bring laptops or any devices to share work or to take notes. However, you may not use devices during *Future Tense Live*.

Absences. I will allow 2 excused classes, provided you communicate with me in a timely way and follow up about your absence.

Participation. For this seminar to work, we have to share and discuss our work sincerely, and to give constructive feedback respectfully.

10% Weekly writing meetings outside of class, due April 6

Please schedule a weekly 2-hour writing meeting outside of class, ideally with a least one other person. Please email América and Wayne your meeting time, location, and names of participants.

10% Media Proposal, due April 11

1-page proposal for the final symposium / gallery that takes place June 7. You have 3 options:

- **Research Poster Presentation.** A 3x4 ft professionally printed research poster. You stand in front of the poster during a gallery walk and talk to people who stop to listen. This is usually accompanied by a research paper. This is the default option.
- **Paper presentation.** A traditional 10-minute presentation of an academic paper, accompanied by slides. Honors Thesis students are usually expected to present a paper, accompanied by a written thesis. If you want to do something different from a paper presentation, please check with your advisor.
- **Art exhibition or performance.** Visual, sonic, multimedia or performance piece that you propose. Artwork will be installed/performed at the Cross Cultural Center.

The above are the basic guidelines. You may propose to mix and match these options, or propose something entirely different such as a curriculum, a news editorial or article, a chapbook, a collaborative project, etc.

The format of the proposal should resemble the description for an art piece.

Title. Author/Artist name. Medium (including size). Description (approx. 100-200 words).

OPTION: Symposium director and gallery curator, application due April 18

You may opt to apply to be a symposium director / gallery curator. 2 people in the class will be selected for these positions.

10% Work in Progress + Crit, April 27

Based on your media proposal, you will bring to class a work in progress. Detailed instructions will follow.

20% Future Tense Live - Alternate Timelines miniproject, May 23

This is a miniproject of any creative media that you choose - a poem, a short story, a photo series, an instagram feed, etc. You will submit 2 different timelines representing 2 different future possibilities for yourself.

10% Work in Progress + Crit, May 25

Detailed instructions will follow.

20% Final Project Gallery and Symposium, June 7 at the Cross Cultural Center

This is our final event, which includes the art gallery, paper presentations, and the Ethnic Studies commencement. Please free up this afternoon in your calendars. Detailed instructions will follow.

Future Tense Live Calendar

| | Tues | Tues Speaker | Thurs | Thurs Speaker |
|---------|----------|---|----------|---|
| Week 1 | April 4 | Episode 1: Charlie Morales | April 6 | <i>Writing Meetings schedule due</i> Episode 2: Sam Jung |
| Week 2 | April 11 | <i>Media Proposal due</i> Episode 3: Maxx Phillips | April 13 | <i>Button Praxis</i> Episode 4: Dorothy Young |
| Week 3 | April 18 | <i>Director/Curator application</i> Episode 5: Sam Bostick | April 20 | Episode 6: Hardeep Jandu |
| Week 4 | April 25 | Episode 7: Justice Castaneda | April 27 | <i>Work in Progress + Crit due</i> |
| Week 5 | May 2 | Episode 8: David Ritcherson | May 4 | Episode 9: Patricia Park |
| Week 6 | May 9 | Episode 10: Jumanah Albahri +Meryem Kamil | May 11 | Episode 11: Sy Prescott |
| Week 7 | May 16 | Episode 12: Jamie Lee | May 18 | Episode 13: Thieny Nguyen + David Morales (Live appearance) |
| Week 8 | May 23 | <i>Alternate Timelines miniproject due</i> <i>Screen printing praxis</i> | May 25 | <i>Work in Progress + Crit due</i> |
| Week 9 | May 30 | Episode 14: Christopher Iwobi | June 1 | Episode 15: Maria Mathioudakis |
| Week 10 | June 6 | Episode 16: Lorena Ruiz | June 8 | <i>Closing seminar</i> |

Wed, June 7. Ethnic Studies Symposium at the Cross Cultural Center