

spring 2018

Professor K. Wayne Yang, kwayne@ucsd.edu

Teaching Assistant Katherine Steelman, ksteelma@ucsd.edu

Writing Studio / Salon Hours: Fridays, 11:30 - 12:30, HSS 2136

Individual Office Hours: By appointment

Description

“Social justice” and “praxis” are terms rich with desires. What critical functions do these terms perform? How should we be critical of these terms? Their etymologies are entwined in Eurocentric philosophy and revolutionary thought. Yet many movements have come to claim and redefine these terms. Some common definitions attributed to these terms include:

Social justice:

(1) The fair distribution of privileges and disadvantages in society. (2) Gender, racial and social equality. (3) Justice for migrants, prisoners, the environment, the physically and mentally disabled. (4) Justice that exceeds formal justice and moral justice as defined by law and religion.

Praxis:

(1) Theory and practice. Theory and action. (3) Action and reflection “directed at the structures to be transformed,” according to Paulo Freire in *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. (4) The practical application of a theory. (5) The exercise or practice of an art, science, or skill. (6) The process by which a theory, lesson, or skill is enacted, embodied, or realized. (7) The act of engaging, applying, exercising, realizing, or practicing ideas.

How might you re-define these terms? How might you apply them to your life?

These concepts will be activated in the **original senior 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: There are no print readings for this class.

Senior Project Options

Option A: Art exhibition or performance.

Visual, sonic, multimedia or performance piece that you propose. Artwork will be installed/performed at the Ethnic Studies Symposium.

Accompanied by a short, creative essay, 5-8 pages.

Option B: Research poster.

Color, 24 x 36", professionally printed (cost is about \$37).

Accompanied by a short research paper 5-10 pages.

Option C: Paper presentation.

A traditional 12-minute presentation of an academic paper at the Ethnic Studies Symposium.

Accompanied by a thesis, which is lengthy research manuscript divided into separate "chapters" of 25-50 pages.

Honors Thesis students are usually expected to do this option. If you want to do something different from a paper presentation, please check with your advisor.

Option D: Symposium director and gallery curator.

Please speak to me if you are interested in this role. This person produces the final exhibition booklet, coordinates the performances and gallery installation / de-installation.

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.

Course evaluation

As a course about praxis, your grade will reflect your process, your practice, your praxis of being in an intellectual community, and not just about your final product.

- Attendance is mandatory
- 20% Creative Board Assignments, due Fridays
- 10% Weekly writing group meetings outside of class.
- 10% First draft of senior project, due April 19
- 10% Conference Week participation, May 2 - 5
- 20% Senior Project - symposium portion, due May 22
- 10% Symposium participation on June 6 at the Cross Cultural Center
- 20% Senior Project - written portion, due June 11

Attendance is mandatory

Absences. I will allow 1 excused absence, provided you communicate with me in a timely way and follow up about your absence. After that, each excused absence = -4%, and unexcused absence = -6%

Notebook and devices. You are required to bring a notebook to class, and drafts of any work. You may also bring laptops or any devices if your “notebook” is digital.

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

Creative Board Assignments, due Fridays

These are short creative assignments due on **Fridays**. They will include short writings, audio/video recordings of yourself reading or performing, images with captions, quotes from your research, etc. Upload your assignment to the class google drive. They will be shared in class. Graded credit/no-credit

Weekly writing group meetings outside of class, weeks 2-9

Create a writing group with with a least one other person that meets each week for at least 1 hour. The purpose of the group is to hold one another mutually accountable, and to provide feedback and support. Please email Katherine and Wayne your meeting time, location, and names of participants. Each meeting, take a selfie each meeting and email it to us. You may also attend our Friday writing studio to fulfill this requirement.

First draft of senior project, due April 19

Plan to have about 50% of your writing done by April 19, along with a draft of your symposium presentation/performance/artwork. Instructions forthcoming.

Conference Week participation, May 2 - 5

Schedule a 20-minute timeslot to meet and answer questions about your First Draft with Katherine and/or Wayne. Signup and instructions forthcoming.

Senior Project - symposium portion, due May 22

Instructions forthcoming

Symposium participation on June 6 at the Cross Cultural Center

This is our final event, which includes the art gallery, paper presentations, and the Ethnic Studies commencement. Please schedule this afternoon, 2 - 4:30pm, in your calendars. In addition to presenting your work, you will be assigned a support role at the symposium. Instructions forthcoming.

Senior Project - written portion, due June 11

Instructions forthcoming

Course Calendar

Week 1	Apr 3	Apr 5
Week 2	Apr 10 Proposal Due	Apr 12 no class. Work.
Week 3	Apr 17 no class. Work.	Apr 19 Draft project due
Week 4	Apr 24	Apr 26
Week 5	May 1 Conference week	May 3 Conference week
Week 6	May 8	May 10
Week 7	May 15	May 17 no class. Work.
Week 8	May 22 Symposium materials due	May 24
Week 9	May 29	May 31 installation date & rehearsal

Week 10	June 5 installation & rehearsal	June 6 Wed 2-4:30pm Ethnic Studies Symposium	June 7 De-installation and last day
---------	---------------------------------------	--	--