

LALS 172: Visualizing Human Rights
Tuesday and Thursday, 1pm-4:30pm, SocSci 2 137
Professor Brenda Ávila-Hanna (bavilaha@ucsc.edu)
Office: Crown 227 Hours: Wed. 3pm-5pm & by appointment
*Syllabus subject to change

In recent years, human rights have emerged as a major tool for documenting social justice. At the same time, audiovisual and social media are having a profound impact in shaping how we understand and document human rights. In “visualizing human rights” we will take a critical and historical look at how human rights and media intersect. We will explore how media-makers address human rights and respond to social justice issues facing the Latina/o and Latin American communities. Students will develop a deeper understanding about the meanings and significance of human rights by exploring how mediactivists and activists document issues like indigenous struggles for autonomy, immigrant campaigns for rights, gender justice, sexual rights and movements to end poverty, violence and state terror. We will investigate what media techniques are best suited to explore these issues and what platforms are commonly used to communicate a human rights issue.

Textbooks:

*Clapham, A. Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction, Oxford University Press, 2007

*Cárdenas, Sonia. Human Rights in Latin America, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010

*Additional readings will be available on eCommons

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADE POINTS:

Assignment 1: Group Facilitation	10pts.
Assignment 2: 3-page Proposal	5pts.
Assignment 3: Mid-term #1	20 pts.
Assignment 4: 3-4 page Progress Report	5pts.
Assignment 5: Mid-term #2	20 pts.
Assignment 6: Media Project	30 pts.
Participation and Attendance	10 pts.
TOTAL POINTS	100

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

A (94-100%) B- (80-82%)

A- (90-93%) C+ (77-79%)

B+ (87-89%) C (70-76%)

B (83-86%) D (60-69%)

ASSIGNMENT #1: GROUP FACILITATIONS

You will work in groups of 2 students to facilitate a class discussion. Go to

<http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/zgaep> to sign up ASAP. Group facilitations will begin on Week 2. You must co-ordinate among your group and prepare to facilitate for 25-30 minutes. On your assigned date you and your group will identify the author's main arguments for all readings assigned for that day (with the exception of Cardena's book). You will all lead a class discussion or/and an in-class activity. The goal is to stimulate discussion.

You are required to come prepared to class with readings in hand every day even if you are not facilitating discussion. Always bring an electronic or a hard copy of the readings/books.

ASSIGNMENT #2

A 3-page written proposal on your Final Project topic (details later)

ASSIGNMENT #3 MIDTERM EXAM

There will be 2 mid-term exams based on readings, lectures, media viewings and class discussions.

ASSIGNMENT #4:

A 3-4-page progress report (details later)

ASSIGNMENT #6: COLLABORATIVE MEDIA PROJECT

You will be evaluated on the basis of a collaborative media project that includes an oral presentation and a written research paper. Together, each team is required to select a human rights issue to address through the medium of your choice. It is up to you and your colleagues to choose the medium (documentary, photo essay, printed art, experimental video, etc.) for representing a human rights issue. Finally, a 3-4-page written self-assessment must accompany the Media Project.

ATTENDANCE:

Consistent classroom attendance and active, skilled participation is expected. For this class, participation means that you have completed all the reading assignments due for the day and that you are engaged in class discussion. Be sure to complete all the reading assignments before coming to class. Failure to come prepared for class discussions will trigger the "pop quiz" option. If you have an emergency that prevents you from attending class, please notify me as soon as possible before class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students should be aware that I will be especially vigilant in responding to academic dishonesty and plagiarism in this class. Students must properly cite sources of all work that is not their own. Consult faculty or other teaching assistants in case of uncertainty. Students should be aware that penalties for plagiarism are outlined at <http://oasas.ucsc.edu/avcue/integrity/student/htm>. No mercy will be shown in this class toward plagiarism. When in doubt, ask.

OFFICE OF STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES:

If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please submit your

Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me during my office hours in a timely manner, preferably within the first week of class. Contact DRC at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu. If you have not already done so, please be sure and register with the Disability Resource Center. You must register with the DRC prior to receiving assistance.

Course Schedule

*All media materials available at the UCSC Library, Netflix or at free online platforms (all links available on ecommons).

Week One:

7.28.15 INTRO/The role of the Witness

Gregory, "Transnational Storytelling"

Solnit, "Hope: the Care and Feeding Of"

VIEWING: Amnezac from the Fulana Collection (HEMI)

Now (Santiago Alvarez ,1964)

Voice of Art "Migration is Beautiful" pt.1-2

Selections from the Witness project

RECOMMENDED: Koenig, "Human Rights as a Way of Life"

7.30.15 State/Institutional Violence and the Role of the Witness

**Students must select Final Project Teams and Class Facilitation Teams by the beginning of today's class.

Cárdenas, Introduction, Chapter 1 & Appendix (pp. 209-221) in Human Rights in Latin America

Clapham, Chapter 1 & Appendix (pp. 182-189) in Human Rights: A very short intro

VIEWING: Machuca (d. Andrés Wood, 2004)

Week 2:

8.4.15 State/Institutional Violence and the Role of the Witness (cont.)/The Racial Order of Things

Group 1 GROUP PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE

Clapham, Chapter 2 in Human Rights: A very short intro

Vivancos Perez, "Marjorie Agosin's poetics of Memory"

Bernardi, "The Tenacity of Memory"

VIEWING: El Poeta (Nefertiti Kelley Farias, 2014)

Which Way Home? (Rebeca Cammisa, 2009)

RECOMMENDED: Eisler, "Terror, Domination, Partnership"

Pollock, "Thinking Memory and Art Together"

8.6.15 The Racial Order of Things (cont.)

Cárdenas, chapter 2 in Human Rights in Latin America

Schmidt-Camacho, "Hailing the Twelve Million"

Hernández, (2008) "Pursuant to Deportation: Latinos & Mass Detention"

VIEWING: Excerpts from Human Rights Watch "Torn Apart: Families and US Immigration Reform)

Documented (Jose Antonio Vargas, 2013)

RECOMMENDED: Dunbar, A. "Follow the GPS, Ése: The Transborder Immigrant Tool Helps Mexicans Cross Over Safely

Clapham, chapter 5 in Human Rights: A very short introduction

Week 3:

8.11.15 Artworlds, Memories and Performing Truth

****Group 2****

Taylor, "You Are Here"

Clapham, chapter 4 in Human Rights

VIEWING: Los Rubios (D. Albertina Carri, 2003)

8.13.15 The Human Rights System, Neoliberalism, and Human Rights Defenders

MIDTERM #1

Cárdenas, chapters 3 & 4 in Human Rights in Latin America

Hernández-Truyol, "Human Rights, Globalization & Culture"

Fregoso, "Maquilapolis: An Interview with Funari and de la Torre"

VIEWING: Maquilapolis (d. Vicky Funari and Sergio de la Torre)

RECOMMENDED: Clapham, chapter 3 in Human Rights

Week 4:

8.18.15 Subjecthood/ Sexual and Gendered-based Rights

****Group 3**** PROGRESS REPORT DUE

Kaplan, "Women's Rights as Human Rights"

Bettinger-López, "Jessica Gonzalez v. United States: An Emerging Model for Domestic Violence and Human Rights Advocacy in the United States"

Clapham, chapter 8 in Human Rights

RECOMMENDED: Villalón, "Violence Against Latina Immigrants"

VIEWING: Macho (Men against Violence) (D. Lucinda Broadbent, 2000)

8.20.15 Subjecthood/ Sexual and Gendered-based Rights

Hua, "Refiguring Slavery"

Saiz, "Bracketing Sexuality"

Corrales, "Latin American Gays: the Post Left-Leftist"
"Roque-Ramirez, "Memory and Mourning: Living Oral
History..."

RECOMMENDED: Silverman, et al, "The National Latina Health Organization",
Silverman, Fried, Ross and Gutiérrez, "Women of Color and their Struggle for
Reproductive Rights"; and "We Will No Longer be Invisible"; and "The Colorado
Org. for Latina Opportunity"

VIEWING: Hummingbird (D. Holly Mosher, 2007)

We're All Meant to Be REINAS (Miguel Astudillo-Hirsch, 2012)

Week 5:

8.25.15 Rights of Solidarity: Collective, Indigenous and Environmental

Group 4

Cárdenas, chapter 5 in Human Rights in Latin America

Holder & Corntassel, "Indigenous Peoples and Multicultural Citizenship:
Bridging Individual and Collective Rights"

Speed, "Exercising Rights"

VIEWING: "Eufrosina's Revolution" (Luciana Kaplan, 2013) or Even the Rain (Icía
Bollaín, 2010).

Excerpts from Los Caracoles (Chiapas Media Project)

8.27.15 Economic, Social and Cultural Rights/ Justice and Accountability

FINAL PROJECT/2nd MIDTERM EXAM

Cárdenas, chapters 6 & 7, Human Rights in Latin America

Jacob, "Claiming Health and Culture as Human Rights"

Briker-Jenkins & Baptist, "The Movement to End Poverty in U.S."

Solnit, "Hope in the Dark"

Clapham, chapter 7 and "Appendix 1" ICESCR, in Human Rights

RECOMMENDED: Goleman, "From Them to Us"

VIEWING: Justicia Now! (D. Martin O'Brien and Robbie Proctor, 2007)

FINAL PROJECT DUE THURSDAY AUGUST 27th IN-CLASS