Communication 441 (Blended Course)

Race In Media

Class Meets in Swan Hall/ Room _______ & On- Line

Class Times:

Thursday Jan 2, 8am – 1pm
Friday Jan 3 8am – 1pm
Mon Jan 6, 8am – 1pm* (On-Line)
Tues Jan 7, 8am – 1pm
Wed Jan 8 8am – 1pm
Thurs Jan 9 8am – 1pm
Monday Jan 13 8am – 10:30am *
(Final Exam On-line)

Required Texts:
1. THE RACE AND MEDIA READER Edited by Gilbert Rodman
2. NEWS FOR ALL THE PEOPLE by Juan Gonzalez and Joseph Torres
3. New York Times Newspaper Daily Reading

Professor - Dr. Vanessa Wynder Quainoo
Associate Professor of Communication Studies
And Africana Studies
Office #209A Davis Hall
Office Phone #401 874-4730
Office Hours During J-Term - By Appointment
E-mail - Vquainoo@uri.edu

Akwaaba! Welcome to Com 441/Studies in Race & Class in the Media
In this course, you will have an opportunity to learn how depictions of race and class in the American Media have historically shaped our perceptions and impacted our life choices.
As a student in the course, you will have an opportunity to participate in conceptualizing and completing a video –a "multimedia" project. The project will have two goals: The first is to enable you to understand the relationship between media and race relations and second, to critique
image formation and other factors of race and class in the media by actually creating your own video about race in America. In effect, at the same time we will critique the established Media institution in America, we will also “try our hand” at creating a media production, hopefully, one that is culturally sensitive, affirming of racial identity and ultimately, not racist. As your Instructor, I am looking forward to engaging with you in lively discussion, meaningful critical inquiry and innovative learning.

ASSIGNMENTS:
1.) Two Quizzes – Jan 3rd and Jan 8th (50 points each)
   Each quiz will consist of a critique of a major documentary on race and race relations Total = 100 points

2.) Race in Media Research Paper (7 pages) - Due Jan 7th (Upload to your dropbox by 11:00pm) - 100 points
   Your paper topic must be selected from one of the following categories:
   A.) Race/White American Privilege in American Media
   B.) Asian Americans in American Media
   C.) Native Americans in American Media
   D.) Hispanic/Latino Americans in American Media
   E.) African Americans in American Media

3.) Video Journal Presentation — (See Video Journal Assignment Explanation)
   Due Thursday, Jan 9th

4.) Final Exam will be on-line - Jan 15th 8am
   Total Points = 100 points

5.) Class Participation and Attendance = 100 Points

Total Possible Points For The Class = 500 points
Ruberic for Grading
A= 500 -475
A- = 474 – 450
B+ = 449 – 435
B = 434 – 415
C+ = 414 – 385
C = 384 – 365
C- = 364 – 350
D = 300
Lower than 300 points equals failing grade of F.
Class Responsibilities
*Class Attendance is Required
Promptness is required. Excessive absence and/or lateness will adversely affect your grade

*Submit **ALL** Assignments to your Sakai DROPBOX. Thank you.
Keep a copy of all of your submitted work in your files.
*Assignments are expected to be handed in on time. The research paper grade will be reduced each day past the due date for 7 days. After 7 days, the paper will not be accepted without a documented reason for lateness.

*Grading, extensions, re-submission of assignments are at the discretion of the Instructor.

*Respect is the philosophical, practical value that undergirds this class, which is a non-discriminatory class. Adjustments for students with special requirements for learning can be made with appropriate notification. Everyone is welcome to the class inasmuch as everyone has an obligation to promote a welcoming atmosphere in the class.

*It is my sincere wish that you have a successful semester.
From,
Dr. Vanessa Wynder Quainoo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>Quick Summary of Assignments &amp; Due Dates</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.) Quiz #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.) Quiz #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.) Research Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.) Video Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.) Final Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.) Class Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Information on the Race in Media Research Paper**
(5 pages) - **Due Tuesday, Jan 7**th **(By 11pm)** - **100 points**

**WHAT IS THE TOPIC FOR MY RESEARCH PAPER?**
Your paper Topic must be selected from one of the following categories:
   A.) Race/White American Privilege in American Media
   B.) Asian Americans in American Media
   C.) Native Americans in American Media
   D.) Hispanic/Latino Americans in American Media
   E.) African Americans in American Media

**WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES FOR WRITING MY PAPER?**
Here are the Guidelines for the Race in Media Research Paper
1.) Your paper focus should be selected from one of the above topics
2.) Your research paper is designed to investigate the following: How is/was your subject covered in the media? How does race play a role in the coverage of your subject? Who are the people who make up the audience and how does the media coverage of your subject effect the audience?
3.) 7 pages including the following:
   a.) Cover page with the title of your paper, Student’s name, Date submitted & Professor’s name

   b.) Thesis page with only the thesis statement

   c.) Methodology page – explaining your topic and your method of research

   d.) Analysis – thoroughly examining your data and critically comparing your subject with other subjects in the same genre (Approximately 4 pages)

   e.) Summary – Re-stating the main points of your paper
f.) Bibliography – Use at least 5 references. You may use any or all of the class texts as references.

WHEN IS THE PAPER DUE?
The Research Paper is due Tuesday, Jan 7th. Please submit your paper to your Sakai Drop Box. You will have until 11pm to submit your paper without any penalty. All papers submitted after 11p.m. will be counted late. You will have 3 days after the due date to submit the paper as a late paper. Points will be deducted for each day late. The paper will not be accepted after 3 days except in cases of documented circumstances which constitute an emergency.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PAPER?
The Research Paper assignment gives you an opportunity to examine how race was/is used in the media to contextualize the American narrative. One of the consequences of this contextualization has been the negative stereotyping of certain races as juxtaposed with the positive stereotyping of others. Also, the depiction of social class has been a major characteristic of American media portrayals.

After completing this assignment, you should be able to readily recognize stereotypes, critically evaluate race-related messages in the media, understand how race in the media impacts our daily lives.

Most importantly, race and how race is depicted in the media hugely effects our daily decisions, how we think, how we interact. On a more social scale, race depictions in the media could plausibly impact who gets hired, who gets promoted, and sometimes who gets fired. All of this translates into a bottom-line reality of American culture – who gets paid; the variations in the amount of pay and which ideas get funded and why.
METHODOLOGY
The methodology for the purposes of this assignment is the method or means by which you will collect or conduct your research. You may select one of two research methods.
Method #1
Narrative Analysis – This method will help the researcher to find the “story” within the “story”. There are three questions pertinent to narrative analysis: Who is telling the story and why? Who is the subject of the story and what are the major metaphors which describe the subject? Who is listening to the story and how is the story impacting the listener?

Content Analysis – This method will help the researcher find discrepancies of terms. Key terms are counted, categorized and interpreted by association with other terms. There are three questions pertinent to content analysis for this assignment: What is the context of the report? What are the key terms and how often are they repeated? What are the associated terms and associated “situations” in the report being researched and in similar reports?

Ruberic for Grading the Paper
1.) Appropriate Title page with name of student, name of course, name of Professor, date submitted and title
2.) Thesis page – well-written
3.) Methodology page – well-explained choice of methodology
4.) Content Section well-written and well-organized
5.) Use of headings
6.) Appropriate citations
7.) Appropriate number of references
8.) Excellent summary and suggestions for further research
9.) Bibliography
10.) Overall excellence in writing (Including grammar, sentence structure and word usage)

A range = 9 – 10 Areas completed well
B range = 7 – 8 Areas completed well
C range = 6 – 5 Areas completed well
Below 5 areas completed well in the D or Failing range
VIDEO JOURNAL PROJECT

The Video Journal will allow you the opportunity to select a specific racial group and create a video journal of examples of that racial groups' portrayal in the Media. You will be able to address racial representation in the News, Television programming, Movies, Documentaries and Social Media. **Due Thurs 9th**

Instructions:

1.) Students should select from the following topic groups:
   - A.) African Americans in the Media
   - B.) Asian Americans in the Media
   - C.) Latino, Latina /Hispanics in the Media
   - D.) Native Americans in the Media
   - E.) White Privilege in the Media

2.) Organize groups of approximately 4 students per group to create a video presentation focusing on one of the above topics. The video should be 8 - 10 minutes in length.

3.) The video should have the following:
   - A.) A Title slide with the title and all of the names of the group participants and Com 441/ J-Term 2018 & Professor’s name
   - B.) The Department of Communication Studies
       The Harrington School of Communication
       The University of Rhode Island
       Kingston, Rhode Island 02881
       Uri.edu/Harrington
   - C.) At least one sample news accounts
   - D.) At least one sample television program or movie
   - E.) At least one sample of the group members conducting survey.
   - F.) At least three “slides” with print information from your research papers and key definitions
   - G.) A single slide showing your Fairness Statement
   - H.) A final slide listing all reference
This statement signifies that I have viewed the following two documentaries related to my area of research in Race and Media (Com 441):

Documentary #1
Title:
Author/Filmmaker:
Producer:
Year of Production:
My critical analysis:

____________________________________________________________

Signature ___________________________ Date _____________
Documentary #2

This statement signifies that I have viewed the following two documentaries related to my area of research in Race and Media (Com 441):

Documentary #2
Title:

Author/Filmmaker:

Producer:

Year of Production:

My critical analysis:

____________________________________________________

Signature

Date