

SYLLABUS

NEWS

MEDIA

COVERAGE

OF

RACIAL

ISSUES

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES 499N

JOURNALISM 453

FALL, 2000

Professor Holman

Room 4121

Journalism Building

E-mail: bholman@jmail.umd.edu

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, 11 a.m. - 12 noon, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., 6 - 7 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Purpose of the Course: This course provides an analysis of how the news media have covered issues relating to racial minorities in the United States. The major focus will be

on African-Americans, though attention will be paid to Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Native Americans. The course will provide a historic and cultural perspective as well as concern for contemporary issues.

Course Grade: Final examination, 40 percent; term paper, 30 percent; mid-semester examination, 30 percent.

Textbook: *Race, Multiculturalism, and the Media*, by Clint C. Wilson II and Felix Gutierrez; Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications, 1995.

Students with Disabilities: Students with a specific disability (permanent or temporary, physical or learning) needing special accommodations during the semester should make an appointment to meet with the instructor.

Academic Integrity: Along with certain rights, students have a responsibility to behave honorably in an academic environment. Academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any abridgement of academic integrity standards will be referred directly to the Assistant Dean and forwarded to the University's Office of Judicial Affairs. Confirmation of such incidents can result in expulsion from the University. Students who are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty should consult the University publication entitled *Academic Dishonesty*.

Semester Schedule:

August 30: Orientation and Introduction.

September 4: Videotape: "The Spirit of Crazy Horse"

September 6: Videotape: "The Asianization of America"

September 11: Videotape: "The Americas"

September 13: Videotape: "Ethnic Notions"

September 18: Discussion Topic: Definition of the Journalist's Role and Its Impact on Racial

Coverage

Readings: Wilson & Gutierrez, Chapters 1 through 5

Term paper selection due

September 20: Discussion Topic: Effects of Tradition Journalism Practices on Racial

Coverage

Readings: Wilson & Gutierrez, Chapters 6 and 7

September 25: Guest Speaker

September 27: Discussion Topic: Impediments to Communication with Minority
Communities

October 2: Discussion Topic: The Minority Press
Readings: Wilson & Gutierrez, Chapter 8
Videotape: "The Black Press"

October 4: Mid-Semester Examination

October 9: Guest Speaker

October 11: Discussion Topic: Racial Tension and Conflict
Readings: Kerner Commission Report, Chapter 15

October 16: Videotape: "A Race Against Prime Time"

October 18: Discussion Topic: Training and Employment
Readings: Wilson & Gutierrez, Chapter 9 and 10

October 23: Guest speaker

October 25: Discussion Topic: Future Perspectives
Readings: Wilson & Gutierrez, Chapter 11
Term Papers Due

October 30: Term Paper Discussion Groups

November 1: Term Paper Reports

November 6: Term Paper Reports

November 8: Term Paper Reports

November 13: Term Paper Reports

November 15: Term Paper Reports

November 20: Term Paper Reports

November 27: Term Paper Reports

November 29: Term Paper Reports

December 4: Term Paper Reports

December 6: Term Paper Reports

December 11: Discussion Topic: A Final Word

December 20: Final examination, 8 a.m., Wednesday, December 19