ES 399: RACE AND RESISTANCE IN U.S. HISTORY
Fall 2011 Syllabus
Second-Year Seminar, University of Oregon
Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00-11:20
RM: 204 CHA. CRN: 17076

Professor: Daniel Martinez HoSang
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Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-3; Friday 12:30-2

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"Even if segregation is gone, we will still need to be free; we will
still have to see that everyone has a job. Even if we can all vote,
if people are still hungry, we will not be free ... Singing alone is
not enough; we need schools and learning ... Remember, we are
not fighting for the freedom of the Negro alone, but for the
freedom of the human spirit, a larger freedom that encompasses
all mankind."

-Ella Baker, 1964

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the history of political, social and artistic movements to achieve racial
justice in the US. We’ll go beyond the familiar stories of civil rights marches to consider
the uncommon efforts of common people who sought (and continue to seek) a robust and
vigorou democracy for all of us: the singers, the workers, the parents, the poets, and the
students who embraced organizer Ella Baker’s call: “We who believe in freedom cannot
rest until it comes.” We will consider the meaning of freedom in a variety of contexts—
political, social, economic—and their broad relationship to racial justice. The class will use
a variety of digital tools to explore how these efforts have shaped the world around us.

As a Second-Year Seminar, our course will prioritize student engagement and student
initiative. The assignments will emphasize student collaboration and participatory
engagement using multimedia tools including Prezi, a course wiki site, and a discussion
forum. In addition, several assignments will require research utilizing various electronic
resources in the UO library.

B. REQUIRED TEXTS (AVAILABLE IN UO DUCKSTORE)

Salomon, Larry R. Roots of Justice: Stories of Organizing in Communities of Color. San Francisco:
McGuire, Danielle L. 2010. At the dark end of the street: black women, rape, and resistance-a
new history of the civil rights movement from Rosa Parks to the rise of black power. New York:
Alfred A. Knopf.

NOTE: Bruce Watson’s Freedom Summer (2010) is optional, not required.
C. ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Prezi project:** In groups, students will create a prezi presentation for the course topics during weeks 4-9 to help facilitate the weekly discussion. This assignment will require the use of digital resources in the library. **25% of final grade.**

2. **Digital citizenship:** Students are required to participate every week in the course discussions and wiki site, and contribute to the weekly in class music forum. Grading will be done based on both frequency and quality of the contribution. See criteria posted on Blackboard. **25% of final grade.**

3. **Final project:** “Freedom Summer 2014.” A project including a 4-5 page paper and a related digital presentation proposing a Freedom Summer project for 2014 based on an issue of your choice. Details distributed separately. Can be done individually or in groups. Due by Weeks 9 or 10. **25% of final grade.**

4. **Attendance and participation:** Attendance at all classes is mandatory. You must notify the instructor in advance of any absences related to university activities (e.g. athletics, music) or for any other personal reasons. Make up work is required for any missed class. Active participation is required in all classes. **25% of final grade.**

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Students can attend events outside the class for up to 3 points of extra credit toward the final grade. Either select from one of the events posted (and regularly updated) below or notify Professor HoSang via email if you see an event you would like to attend.

After attending the event, you should create a Blog post (On Blackboard under course tools, blogs) of at least 500 words that does the following:

A. Briefly give an overview of the event--what it was, who was there, the key arguments or points made
B. How you see the arguments or points relating to course readings, discussions, or themes
C. At least two questions that the event raised for you related to the course

Post your response on the blog within one week of attending the event. In addition, to get full credit for the assignment, please leave a comment on at least two other blogs by the end of the term. Finally, if more than one students attend the same event, the blog entries should be distinct, so be sure you read the entries of others before posting your own.

If you cannot attend an event but would like to read *Freedom Summer* for extra credit, please email Professor HoSang

D. **OTHER COURSE POLICIES**

1. **CLASSROOM CONDUCT.** We are all accountable to create a climate of mutual respect in the classroom. While differences of opinion and perspective are vital and will be encouraged, common courtesy as well as University policy prohibits personal attacks and discriminatory conduct.

2. **INCOMPLETES.** No incompletes will be given for this course.
3. **ATTENDANCE.** You are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. Regular tardiness, early departures or absences can result in your final grade being lowered by up to a full letter grade. You must see the instructor during the first week if you have any university-approved absences (e.g. for athletics or other university-approved reasons).

4. **EMAIL CORRESPONDANCE.** Please identify yourself and the name of our course in all correspondence with the professor.

5. **ELECTRONIC DEVICES.** Wireless devices and cell phones must be turned off prior to class. I strongly prefer that laptops not be used during class. You must see me personally if you would like to be exempted from this rule.

6. **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGARISM.** All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with the instructor before you complete any requirement of the course. Please review the University’s policies at: [http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/judicial/conduct/sai.htm](http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/judicial/conduct/sai.htm)

7. **DISABILITY SERVICES.** The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability related barriers to your participation, please notify me as soon as possible. You may also wish to contact the Accessible Education Center (Disability Services) in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155, disabsrv@uoregon.edu or [http://ds.uoregon.edu/DS_home.html](http://ds.uoregon.edu/DS_home.html)

**E. READING SCHEDULE**

**NOTE:** The schedule below lists the anchor reading for each week. For many weeks, there will be 2-3 additional electronic readings or digital files assigned provided at least one week in advance. Most will be relatively short—often first person narratives, primary documents or essays.

**WEEK ONE: Racial justice and the meaning of freedom**

* **September 27**

*Bring to class: (1) Your completed student information sheet (available on Blackboard) and (2) a printout of one article on the Troy Davis case that you found interesting. Simply Google “Troy Davis” to get some background on the case and read through a few articles until you find one that particularly grabs your attention. Be prepared to discuss in class.*

*Film: Freedom Riders (2011)*

* **September 29**
Meet in Knight Library RM #144 (Edminston classroom) on first floor for research workshop with Barbara Jenkins.

Assignment: Register for a free “EduEnjoy” account at Prezi.com (http://prezi.com/profile/signup/edu/). After registering, you should complete the first three online tutorials: “Get Started,” “Go to the Next Level,” “Share Your Prezi.”

WEEK TWO: Freedom and violence

October 4

*Reading: Salomon. “I Never Run Off the Track” Organizing the Underground Railroad.
*Reading: “Address by a Committee of Norfolk Blacks” 26 June 1865. (Blackboard)

October 6


Film: “Soundtrack for a Revolution” (2010)

WEEK THREE: Freedom and land

October 11


Film: “Alcatraz is Not an Island”

October 13

WEEK FOUR: Freedom and housing

October 18

*Reading: Salomon. "No Evictions: We Won't Move!" The Struggle to Save the I-Hotel.
*Reading: Salomon. “Ang Laka Ay Nasa Pagkakaisa.” “Strength is in Union:” Filipino Farmworkers Organize in the 1930s.”

Film: “Fall of the I-Hotel” (1983)
October 20

*Class guest:* Author Larry Salomon
*Group 1 Prezi* Christine Tracy, Andrew Lee, Christina Diego

**WEEK FIVE: Freedom and labor**

October 25

*Reading:* Salomon. *It's Our Union Too:* Chicanas Rescue the "Salt of the Earth" Strike.

*Film:* Salt of the Earth (1954)

October 27


*GROUP 2 Prezi:* Tobias Von Knobelsdorff, Jeffrey Thomas, Noel Crownover

**WEEK SIX: Freedom and politics**

November 1

*Reading:* Salomon. "Stand on a Street and Bounce a Ball:" Organizing the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

*Reading:* Salomon. “Unafraid and Dignified: Welfare Recipients Organize for their Rights.”

November 3

*Film:* “Eyes on the Prize—Mississippi: Is This America?”
*Film:* Testimony of Fannie Lou Hammer to Democratic National Convention, 1964”

*GROUP 3 Prezi:* McKenzie Kurt, Erin McLaughlin, Megan Gaffney, Brittany Rumble

**WEEK SEVEN: Freedom and the body**
November 8


November 10

*Reading: McGuire. Chapters 3-4

*GROUP 4 Prezi: Hannah Whitelock-Wolff, Alex Schwartz, Elizabeth Merchant, Jesse Schwartz

WEEK EIGHT: Freedom and Resistance

November 15

*Reading: McGuire. Chapters 3-5
*Film: Aoki (2010)

November 17

*Reading: McGuire, Chapters 6-8, epilogue

*GROUP 5 Prezi: Jessica Wilcox, Diana Salazar, Mayra Gutierrez

WEEK NINE: Freedom and abandonment

November 22

*Reading: Jeff Chang. Can’t Stop Won’t Stop. “Chapter 9 “1982: Rapture in Reagan’s America.” (Blackboard)
*Film: Letter to the President (2005)

Group 6 Prezi: Aidan Smith, Spencer Knowles, Brandon Parry

November 24: No Class

WEEK TEN: Freedom and the future

November 29

Group Freedom Summer presentations, TBA
December 1

Group Freedom Summer presentations, TBA