

IDH2930 Section 138F - Hands Up: Text as Protest

Course Information

Instructor: Shelby Marie Boehm sboehm@pky.ufl.edu

Date: Wednesdays, Period 9 (4:05-4:55) Spring 2018

Location: Little Hall 119

Office Hours: *by appointment only, schedule via email*

Required Texts

[*How It Went Down* by Kekla Magoon](#) ISBN: 1250068231

Course Description

Who is telling the story, and how does this perspective impact the narrative? What happens when this question prompts controversy over the killing of an unarmed African American teenager? The course will use *How It Went Down* by Kekla Magoon to consider how perspective influences storytelling and how societal structures are used as both physical and emotional oppressors. In the novel, sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson dies from two gunshot wounds, and the story varies from the witnesses, the community, and the shooter himself. In our society, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, and countless others have died at the hands of police officers, yet their uncertain narratives are questioned due to their identities. Our end goal will be to contemplate how we can continue to examine varying perspectives within society in order to be socially proactive citizens conscious of not falling for a single story.

Assignments & Grading Criteria

Community Participation-- 50%

Students are expected to participate in personal inquiry by attending all class meetings, being prepared for class through the completion of required readings and assignments, and contributing to class discussions.

Final project and presentation-- 50%

Students will create a Visual Exploration Project displaying their understanding of how the world responds to race through their study of *How It Went Down* and other supplemental resources which will be discussed throughout the seminar course. They may create this product using various virtual mediums (Google Drive, InfoGraphics through Piktochart, Prezi) or traditional non-virtual methods. Students will present their findings to the group and draw further wonderings about how race affects identity.

More information on grades and grading policies can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Schedule

See attached

Class Attendance and Makeup Policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.asp>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>