Teaching for Transformative Change: Part 2

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Bridging the University and Neighborhood Divides
Mapping South Los Angeles’s Past, Present, Future: Stories for Connection and Community

USC New Media For Social Change, Profs. V. Callahan and Shelly Wattenbarger
Challenges to Community Based Course

- Skills
- Commitment
- University/Community Divides
- Logistics
  - Media (equipment, access and LAUSD firewalls)
  - Transport
  - Communication
- Context

From: A People’s Guide to LA; Pulido, Barraclough, and Cheng
Challenges of Time

• Practical
  + semester
  + our class time + high school (LAUSD procedures)

• Historical Time
  + the perpetual present
  + South LA history

Charlotta Bass and *The California Eagle*, poster by Kayla Anfang
Audio-Visions of Time: The Past, Present, Future of South LA

Core Texts:
- Theresa Gaye Johnson, *Spaces of Conflict, Sounds of Solidarity*
- bell hooks, “White Privilege” and “Active Listening” in *Writing Beyond Race*
- Ytasha L. Womack, *Afrofuturism: The World of Black Sci-Fi and Fantasy*

Core Concepts from Johnson
- “spatial displacement”
- “spatial entitlement” (creating new spaces through the arts)

Project 1: *Sleepy Lagoon Murder, Jun Gi Min*
The Project: 
http://newmedia4socialchange.org/

- The Map
- 3 Projects
  + Past, through Posters and Zines
  + Present: Active Listening, Audio-Visual Essay
  + Future – Speculative Fictions across media

Collaboration with Ambrielle Moore and Jennifer Murillo on The Black Panther Party poster and zine
http://newmedia4socialchange.org/?page_id=212
Project 1: Poster and Zine History
Project 2: “Sonic Spatial Imaginaries”: Audio-Visual Essays of Place Based on Active-Listening

• Begin by interviewing West Adams students
• Project could then develop further that interview or could interview someone in the community
• Icebreaker questions:
  1. What is your favorite part about living in the neighborhood?
  2. What would you most like to see changed in the community?

“Tony B. Conscious,” Haley Madigan, in collaboration with Jennifer M. and Darwin G.
http://newmedia4socialchange.org/?page_id=707
Project #3: Future Media Texts: Team Projects with West Adams Prep

Project Prompt:
• Create a counter history, alternative future, parallel universe for a critical look at social issues or historical forces and provide a pathway to an egalitarian future.
• Using Afrofuturist experimentation as an aesthetic point of inspiration, imagine a future employing the media platform of your choice (video, zine, game, or interactive experience).

http://newmedia4socialchange.org/?page_id=1038
Daniella Seguera and Jennifer M.
Collaborative Presentations

West Adams students visit USC to showcase their work
Extending the Conversation
Bridging the Divide
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