

Important Summer Session 2009 Dates

	Session I	7-wk Sess	8-wk Sess	10-wk Sess	Session II
Last day to enroll/add online	June 27 (Sat) (11:59 pm)	June 27 (Sat) (11:59 pm)	June 27 (Sat) (11:59 pm)	July 4 (Sat) (11:59 pm)	Aug 1 (Sat) (11:59 pm)
Last day to drop online	June 28 (Sun) (11:59 pm)	June 28 (Sun) (11:59 pm)	June 28 (Sun) (11:59 pm)	July 5 (Sun) (11:59 pm)	Aug 2 (Sun) (11:59 pm)
Withdrawal Period at Summer Office (no refund)	June 29 – July 10 (8:00-4:00)	June 29 – July 17 (8:00-4:00)	June 29 – July 24 (8:00-4:00)	July 6 – July 31 (8:00-4:00)	August 3 – August 14 (8:00-4:00)
Note that during Summer Session there is no auditing of classes, no "Add by Petition" and no "Administrative Drop by Instructor". Failure to attend class does not constitute a "Drop". All deadlines are final.					

Instructor: Sarah Yahm

CMMU 80C - 20 years after Loma Prieta: an oral history of the effects of the earthquake on the city of Santa Cruz

This course will be a five-week intensive study of the effects of the Loma Prieta earthquake on the city of Santa Cruz. It will result in an audio/photo tour which we will donate to the Santa Cruz Museum of art and history. The goal of the class will be twofold: 1) to document the community we live in and to better understand the ways in which it was concretely effected and changed by 15 seconds 20 years ago 2)to use Santa Cruz and Loma Prieta as a window in to larger questions about trauma, community building, gentrification, and memory. You will leave this class with a working knowledge of how to conduct oral history interviews and how to archive and display them.

Communities rarely have an opportunity to actively re-envision themselves. Because of the earthquake Santa Cruz had a series of public debates about the identity and character of the town and made a series of concrete decisions about what the town should become. These debates are a crucial glimpse into larger controversies going on right now in urban planning, development, community building, etc.

This course will be taught in collaboration with the Social Sciences media lab and with Irene Reti from the Regional Oral History Project. Hopefully we will display the final product in a public place in the community like the Loudon Nelson Center of the Santa Cruz Public Library. This course will concretely contribute to the historical archives of Santa Cruz.

Evaluations:

Class Participation – 10%

Reading Responses: 10%

Group exercises – 20%

Archival research 10%

Final Project – 50% (divided into group and individual)

Books:

Course Reader

The Oral History Reader by Robert Perks, Alistair Thompson.

WEEK I – Natural? Disasters

Readings:

-selections from Craddock, Susan. *City of Plagues*

selections from **Oral History Reader Section I:**

“The voice of the past: oral history,” Paul Thompson

“What makes oral history different” by Alessandro Portelli

“On oral history interviewing” by Charles T. Morrissey

“Ways of listening” by Hugo Slim and Paul Thompson , with
Olivia Bennett and Nigel Cross

“Learning to listen: interview techniques and analyses” Kathryn Anderson and
Dana C. Jack

In class:

-Examination of other disaster oral history projects specifically Katrina

<http://www.aliveintruth.org/>

-<http://www.prx.org/pieces/3162> *Rip, Rift, and Panic: Earthquake Stories of Life
and Death Along the Faultlines*

-Selections from *The Loma Prieta Earthquake of October 17, 1989: A UCSC Student
Oral History Project* in McHenry special collections

Activities: on the street activity -

mapping exercise – Santa Cruz today

compare with archival maps of santa cruz pre-earthquake

**Divide up into groups based on geographical areas (Beach Flats, Downtown,
West Side). Pick select parts of town and map/document them:**

Local businesses. Interviews and tours: where they were, where they are.
(bookshop santa cruz)

WEEK 2 – BEST OF PEOPLE/WORST OF PEOPLE: Memory and myth

Readings:

The Leftmost Coast chapter 5

More selections from *The Loma Prieta Earthquake of October 17, 1989: A
UCSC Student Oral History Project* in McHenry special collections

And from the **Oral History Reader: Part IV Interpreting memories**

“Structure and validity in oral evidence,” Trevor Lummis

“Evidence, empathy and ethics: lessons from oral histories of the
Klan” by Kathleen Blee

Activity: Collecting myths about the earthquake.

What are the major themes/meanings attributed to the earthquake in town?

*What are the different perspectives: street musicians, homeowners,
homeless, store owners, students, etc.*

**Beginning interviews (I have already contacted representatives of these
different groups for interviewing)**

WEEK 3 – REBUILDING – PUBLIC SPACE I (Vision Santa Cruz)

Readings:

Selections from Smith, Neil. *The New Urban Frontier: Gentrification and the Revanchist City*

Selections from *Theorizing the City: The New Urban Anthropology Reader*.

From *Oral History Reader* "Archival science and oral sources" by Jean-Pierre Wallot and Normand Fortier

Activities: Interviews with members of Vision Santa Cruz and representatives of different interest groups at the time: business owners, property owners, activists, environmentalists, homeless, etc.

Archival Collections: Tom Szajek (comic news). Archive of 911 calls. Vision Santa Cruz archives.

WEEK 4 – REBUILDING –PUBLIC SPACE II

Readings: Public Space

Oral History Reader: "The future of oral history and moving images"

"Presenting voices in different media: print, radio and CD-ROM" by Peter Read

and "The exhibition that speaks for itself: oral history and museums" Shaun Nethercott and Neil Leighton

Continue Interviews and Vox Pops on the streets of Santa Cruz

Transcribing

WEEK 5 – PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER...Production

Recreating earthquake sounds from oral history interviews.

Scripting

Recording narrative.

Editing interviews

At the end of this week we will have an oral history tour of post-earthquake Santa Cruz that we will donate to the museum. This will include audio and photographs/archival materials. It will be in the correct format for a video ipod.