

PAAS 495/520/521: POP CULTURE IN ASIA

Instructor: Tri Phuong

Email: tphuong@uvic.ca

Phone: 250-721-7211

Course description:

This course explores popular culture and social protest at a time when digital technologies have come to saturate everyday life. From the Arab Spring to the global Occupy and youth-led revolutions in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Myanmar, social media has been hailed as turnkey in catalyzing change between people and the state. In the Asia-Pacific region, instances of everyday play often turn political, the political perdures as playful, or messages could go awry bringing about retaliations from the state. This course examines media and meaning in relations to popular culture and popular dissent in times of social (re)mediation.

Proposed assignments:

- Class Participation (group work, weekly forum response, attendance): 50 points
- Short Essay #1: 10 points
- Short Essay #2: 10 points
- Final Research Paper: 30 points
- **Total: 100 points**

Proposed reading list:

Claudio Sopranzetti, "Owners of the Map" (University of California Press 2018).

Doreen Lee, "Activist Archives" (Duke University Press 2016).

Nahid Siamdoust, "Soundtrack of the Revolution" (Stanford University Press 2017).