

COURSE DETAIL

IMAGE, VOICE, WORD

Country

South Africa

Host Institution

University of Cape Town

Program(s)

University of Cape Town

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

English

UCEAP Course Number

40

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

IMAGE, VOICE, WORD

UCEAP Transcript Title

IMAGE VOICE WORD

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

As an introduction to cultural and literary studies, this course examines an array of modes of expression to understand how texts of various kinds accomplish their acts of meaning making and persuade their readers. Attention is given to the impact of a text's form and context in shaping its message, as well as its content. In trying to understand the rhetorical effects of any given text, the course examines examples from across a variety of genres that use words, images, and even sound to engage their audience or readers, within a variety of historical and political contexts. Objects of study include texts that use sound as well as words (such as contemporary ballads, performance poetry and hip hop, or contemporary adaptations of Shakespeare's plays), visual images (such as posters in a protest action, photographs that document war and suffering, and historical maps that retraced the shape the world), and words collated and presented in particular ways on the page (such as the archived documents from the apartheid censors, the published journal of a fugitive slave, the extended prose of a stream-of-consciousness novel). By drawing on key theoretical insights into the politics of representation, the course develops the critical skills needed to become savvy readers of contemporary culture and politics. DP requirements: All written work to be handed in and at least 75% attendance at tutorials. Assessment: Continuous assessment (coursework essays, projects, tasks etc.) counts 60%; end-of semester examination counts 40%.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ELL1016S

Host Institution Course Title

IMAGE, VOICE, WORD

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.uct.ac.za/sites/default/files/media/documents/2026-hum-handbook-9a-...>

Host Institution Campus

University of Cape Town

Host Institution Faculty

Humanities

Host Institution Degree**Host Institution Department**

English Language & Literature

Course Last Reviewed

2026-2027

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