

UWJCC Appr 4/5/05 Senate Info 4/26/05  
04-20

**Undergraduate Distance Education Review Form**

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**Gail Sechrist**

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From: "Joseph E Nolan" <jnolan@iup.edu>

Mon Oct 12 2004 10:42 AM

**SYLLABUS : LBST 499 Advocacy or Prejudice: Perceptions of Disabilities as Portrayed by Media and Film**

**Dr. Joe Nolan – Davis 213 (724) 357-5677 [inolan@iun.edu](mailto:inolan@iun.edu)**

**Office Hours – T 4-6, W 3-6, Th 4-6, or by appointment.**

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Many opinions about individuals with disabilities are formed by the media. Recent films**

c.) The Other Sister – Intimate relationships between Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities

d.) Stand and Deliver – At risk students, Cultural issues affecting women. Societal attitudes towards diverse populations.

e.) Blind Fury – Blind Martial Arts master. A really different perspective.

f.) A surprise film to be announced.

2. Discussions of film viewings. Synthesis and discourse based on the perspective of each discipline represented in the class. Note: The good portion of the first class period will be spent in discussion and ice breaking activities to familiarize the instructor and each student with the backgrounds and major disciplines of the class members.

B. Case Studies (5) These case studies will be discussed in class based upon outlines prepared before class concerning the following topics:

1. The “Timmy” Phenomenon – When is it ok to laugh?
2. The heroic character with a disability – Effects on the public.
3. ADHD as portrayed in the media – Effects on society.
4. The system, its services and red tape.

f. Fundraising efforts through the media

case study discussion. Student will be graded upon the paper and its usefulness to the discussion.

20% Group Powernoint Presentation. Students will be graded on the substance and

The presentation should contain at a minimum:  
Name of Film, disability of the main character (s), the plot, Was the person with the disability portrayed favorably? How was that person treated by the community? Was the film realistic and accurate? If you were the screenwriter, what would you have done differently?

### Television Programs

South Park – Episode introducing “Timmy”

Ironman excerpts on Ricky Hoyt

CBC report on Rick Hansen

Chris Rock “Bigger and Blacker”.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Although there is no formal attendance policy for this class, it should be noted that participation and course journal requirements depend upon student attendance. If a

student needs to miss class due to health or family emergency, or for a religious holiday, he or she should contact the instructor by phone or email prior to the missed class session.

### VI. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Altman, B. & Kiger, G. (1995). Interpreting the Zola Legacy in Sociology: Now and in the Future. Journal of Disability Policy Studies 6, (2), 39-54.

Berry, G. & Asamen, J. (Eds.) (1993). Children and Television: Images in a Changing Sociocultural World. Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, CA.

Drake, D. & Leong, C. (Eds.) (1985), Understanding learning disabilities: International and multidisciplinary views. Plenum Press: New York, NY.

Ebo, B. (Ed.) (1998). Cyberghetto or Cybertopia?: Race, class, and gender on the Internet. Praeger Publishers: Westport, CT.

4/08 Film # 5 and discussion, Case History # 5 Introduction  
4/15 Discussion of Case History #5, Powerpoint presentation #5  
4/22 Film # 6 and discussion, Powerpoint presentation #6  
4/29 Powerpoints # 7 & 8  
5/06 Synthesis papers and Journals due- Final Activity Discussion.

Group Assignments

Group 1  
Jennifer Basil

Group 2  
Michael Carlson

Carrie Burkett  
Johan Carlstrom

Carrie Fluhrer  
Melissa Isenberg

Group 3  
Lori Christopher  
Randi Ford  
Hope Foust

Group 4  
Jennifer Gansberger  
Katie Haunstein  
Kimberly Jewell







2004 Threaded Discussion Outlines On an index card, prepare at least 2 main points that

you will be prepared to address in the discussion. Copies of outlines will be e-mailed to

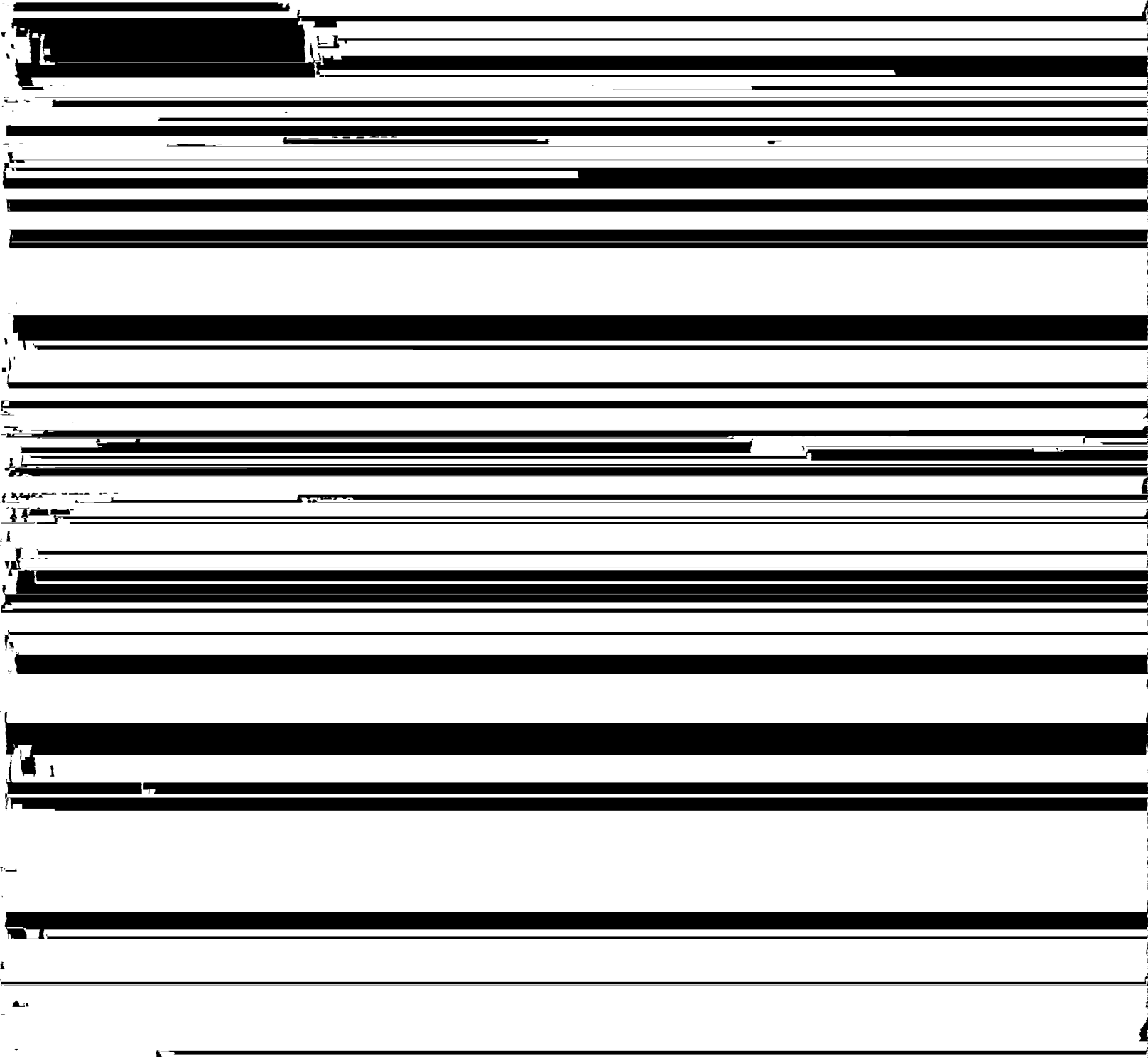
I Am Sam  
A Beautiful Mind  
(additional films can be found online at <http://www.icanonline.org>)

Television Programs

South Park – Episode introducing “Timmy”

CBC report on Rick Hansen

Simon and Schuster “Dissected”



## **SAMPLE MODULE**

### **CASE STUDY #2 – THE HEROIC CHARACTER WITH A DISABILITY- EFFECTS ON THE PUBLIC**

Rick Hansen wheeled around the world in his wheelchair to bring attention to the plight of those who have spinal cord injuries. He raised money through donations while on his tour. Perhaps the most significant contribution Rick received however was a check for \$1 million from the Prime Minister of Canada. This caused an outrage among advocates for other disabilities in Canada who have to stand in line for research funding from the government.

#### **Instructions:**

Go to the CBC website and download the special on Rick Hansen.

<http://archives.cbc.ca/400d.asp?id=1-41-698-4102>

After watching the 30 minute special, prepare your three talking points for the online threaded discussion concerning the use of heroic characters to raise funds for disability research.

When you have developed your three points, email them to me. Make sure I receive them before the start date for the discussion.

