



Image from Disney's Aladdin, 1992

Instructor: Third Andresen | Autumn 2014 | M/W 11:30-1:20 | I&S Credit | VLPA Credit

HOLLYWOOD: The Portrayal Of Minority Groups in the Motion Picture Industry

Hollywood: *hol-ee-wood* n. a city in Los Angeles and the center of American film industry.

Thesaurus: big screen, cinema, and silver screen Synonyms: fake, false, fictitious, misleading, assumed.

Antonyms: genuine, real, and true.

This course will provide the opportunity to learn more about U.S. society and Hollywood films by exploring minority groups in the United States and how the media have reflected, reinforced, and often times transformed existing perceptions and practices affecting communities, and particularly people of color. One of the most interesting aspects of this course is the opportunity for students to explore how films portray race, ethnicity, language, gender, nationality, and social class. Beyond race and ethnicity, the class will watch films that also include intersectional discussions on gender, orientation, abilities, and class. Although watching films are central to the course, we will also examine other media, including advertising and TV shows to gain more perspective on how they portray minorities in movies.