Your Name

Instructor Name

Course Number

Date

Part I: Film Study

# Group 1: Birth of a nation 2017

The birth of a nation film is based on the story of an African slave (Nat Turner), who considers himself as a child of God. This Virginia- born slave has this rare quality of witnessing himself as the child of God. He, therefore, considers himself as learned. The honour (Samuel Turner) of the slave uses him this ability to subdue the other free slaves. Nat believes in himself that he should use his abilities to work for bettering the living conditions of other slaves. As, throughout his life, he has been witnessing atrocities of the fellow slaves, therefore he decides to make the people aware of their destiny. He finally orchestrates the uprising, making his people stand against the regime. Although there remains no considerable success on Nat's part, he remains successful in igniting the sense of populism in his people. This film, therefore, reveals that how populism works for the subdued communities.

If populism as a social phenomenon is traced, one may find its history dating back to the same times in the 1800s. Since populism is the politics for the ordinary people, therefore Nat's efforts in *the Birth of a nation* conforms to each attribute of populism. Populism just as a concept was introduced in 1892 by the Greenback Party(Müller), as argued by Muller in Parsing Populism. But, this could not be argued that populism found its traces in the last decades of the nineteenth century. It has been there throughout the 1800s. Similarly, *the birth of a nation* has focused on the African American slave struggles in the early years of the nineteenth century. In the twentieth century, it took over the form of conservative party politics(Müller). The governor of Alabama, George Wallace had been the forerunner of the populist narrative in the early twentieth century. Then in the last decade of the same century, Ross Perot had remained the bearer of populist politics. In the present century, there could the rise of the tea party after the election of President Obama, the 2011 financial crisis (Occupy Wall Street) and Bernie Sanders rise to the Presidential race are some events that conform to the populist narrative. *The Birth of a nation* is an ultimate reflection of how the populist narrative with time creates its space and make the people stand together for a similar cause.

# Group 2: The Best Years of our Life

This film is related to the experiences of three military persons when they return home and try to adjust themselves in civilian life. Since the life of this military personnel had to remain busy in challenging the enemy camps during the world wars, therefore at first they face serious difficulties in managing their lifestyles as a civilian person. The film has set over the plot that these British soldiers spent their majority life in challenging the American forces in the two world wars. It appears from the movie that how these soldiers stand against the opposite military campaigns and kept challenging the U.S hegemony. This reflects how the populist narrative has to focus on standing upright against the challengers. This challenge has been reflected in two ways, one in the form of life during their services for the army and secondly in the form of managing themselves in the civilian lives.

As Safran has argued that *the best years of our life* depicts that how any single person or a single self must have to oppose the narratives, which are disturbing for the shelf-life of any person(Safran). This is what he has classified as the disability of the characters if they are not challenging any established narrative. In terms of this movie Fredrich March, Carver Andrews and Harold Russell, who are shown as the military personnel facing challenges in their personal and the career life are actually challenging the populism. The populism in terms of this movie is what the classic sense of personal life and of professional life is. This went on the same for the people of today. Many times in this world of today, people face challenges that make them stand against an established narrative on the workplace or even in personal life too. *The best years of our life* therefore in this way remains relevant in becoming a populist in the personal and the professional life of ours.

# Group 3: Roma

Roma- the movie presents the idea that how to fake love is present in the lives of everyone. The filmmakers have based the plot of this movie on the traditional notion that the males leave their so-called loves, just to go away with the responsibilities. The males have been portrayed in Roma as deceiving their partners, with whom they have enjoyed a pleasant time in person. Roma goes on with the traditional norm of the society, we live in. This society has been based on the pretext that male has the right to subdue the female on the pretext of sharing pleasant moments, as to how Fermin has done with Cleo. The other female character of this movie- Sofia is also been treated in the same way by his husband, who is dodging the four children of them as well. The movie is about how worst the living condition of a woman is if her husband or her partner abandons her.

Durgnat argues that populism is very much relevant to the private lives of our(Durgnat). Although the article is quite old and was published in the year 1975, it presents the idea of how populism can serve the individual life of ours. As in the movie Roma, the female characters at the end start tracing their male partners holistically and start arguing with them about why they have been bitter towards them. This is how Durgnat presents his perspective of challenging the personal circle of ours. This is the populism in the personal and the private lives of ours. Durgnat has also based his opinion on the notion that populism starts the day one starts challenges the self of his or her. This self, Durgnat mentions is related to our private lives also. Roma that's how to accommodate the populist narrative, but this time the narrative is too squeezed. It is narrowed in making the personal self-aware, just in case if one hopes to stand amongst the populists.

Part II: News Reports

# News report 1

***Vocabulary terms***

**Words Definition**

Republican Congressman Congressmen elected on Republican Party nominee

Donald Trump Current President of the United States

Market Share Share of different companies in a market

Foreign relations External relations of different countries

Tariffs Economic penalties

Trade talks Negotiations pertaining to trade

The trade war the term introduced after the U.S- China trade standoff

Democrats’ Supporters or politicians belonging to Democratic Party

Bluffing Dodging

Trade negotiation Talks over the trade terms

***Analysis***

The U.S and China are presently facing the trade war. The trade war is the term introduced after these two countries are engaged in a trade standoff. If viewed historically, the U.S has remained the sole economic partner of global countries(“GOP Senators Back Trump in China Trade War, Saying the Pain Will Be Worth It If It Yields a Deal”). At present, China is giving a tough time to the U.S over global trade. This trade war or trade talks have entered the crucial phases since the history of the bilateral relations between the U.S and China. There is a reason why the trade war has been so intense at present. The reason remains the income inequalities among the citizens of the U.S. Since we have studied that the income inequalities lead toward benefiting the host country, therefore China has been on the gaining edge at present. This has sparked a hot debate in the U.S Senate and the President has been quite critical of the Chinese moves. This shows that both the countries will have to reach some new deals pertaining to the trade and their bilateral economic relations. There is a one more important aspect of this trade war which is global. The economic partners of both countries have urged them to resolve their bilateral economic disputes, as it is leaving others on a losing edge. The history between the U.S and China suggests that they have never remained so cooperative that they will put some efforts to strike a new deal. The economy and rest of the other figures, however, suggest otherwise.

# News Report 2

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

Reinstate Focus Over again

Mining ban State’s ban over mining

Environmentalist One who study environment

Deforestation Annual increase in the cutting of trees

Amazon The World’s largest Rainforest

Carbon emission Average number of Carbon release

Economic potential Potential in terms of the economy

Global Warming Average increase in the global temperature

Biodiversity The diversity in the biology of nature

Backtrack Retrieval from any stance

***Analysis***

Brazil has banned the mining close to the Amazon forest. This ban has come in force after some non- governmental organization that is working for the betterment of the environment have raised their concerns on this mining. These companies claim that the ban was mandatory in terms of the state activities that were seriously undermining the biodiversity of the Amazon forest(“Brazil Will Reinstate a Mining Ban in Parts of the Amazon”). The UN has previously many times have called the countries which neighbour the Amazon forest to limit such activities which undermined the biodiversity of the Amazon forest. The government of Brazil which is considered to be backing the mining activities have backtracked from its initial position. Some legal experts claim that the legal position of the Brazilian government in the court has remained contradictory to the UN laws. They claim that this could also be the reason as to why Brazil has backtracked from its earlier stance on the mining activities. There are than people who also believe that cutting and the mining of the Amazon forest is for the reason of creating new suburbs in Brazil, considering its growing population. Since when the issues of the global warming have come over to reflect some hazardous impacts on the life of the population, many governments and dozens of the non- governmental organizations that are working for the betterment of the environment have started working on creating pressures on governments who are working contrary to such norms. This has also resulted in changing the attitude of masses towards the bettering of the global environment.

# News Report 3

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

Controversial Not agreed upon or which has a dubious annotation

Belt and Road Initiative China's mega infrastructure initiative of the twenty-first century

Mega potential Enormous potential

Economic zones Areas specified for economic activities

Contractors On who agrees on working with the government

BRI Belt and Road Initiative of China

Economic initiative Any initiative for the economic betterment of the country

Protectionism A new economic term which means protecting the domestic

 economy

Influence tool The way how a state influence other states

G7 Group of greater seven states

***Analysis***

The Belt and road initiative of China remains important in deciding the strategic scenario of this century. This mega infrastructure initiative has sparked controversies in different capitals of the world since they are unable to align the economic interests with each other. This suggests that the economic war for the hegemony of the world would keep on infusing and there will be tough competition on seizing the strategic opportunities. This news report suggests that the United States should not be part of the BRI initiative, as it undermines its global superpower position. There are then the policymakers in the U.S, which opines the same. These policymakers and analysts base their reason on the notion that since we have never been with good terms with China, therefore its initiative could be damaging for the U.S(“Commentary”). The U.S policymakers on other sides suggest that since half of the countries of the world are now the parts of this initiative, therefore the U.S should not take this holistically. The critics in the U.S on other side believe that if China remains successful in creating new opportunities for engagement for the smaller countries it will help in bridging the soft power image of China, which could be in the long run destructive for the U.S. the neutral countries of the world argue that there should be a point where this mega initiative should collaborate with the U.S and the economic opportunities could be more divided.

# News Report 4

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

Vibrant economies Thriving economies

A swath of the world Destructive world situation

Huge yield in economy Huge output in economic gains

Geographic footprint Geographical presence

Silk Road Old route of Chinese trade

Tax revenue Tax gains for the state

Power shortage Power shortfall

Development issue Problems related to the development

Financial bottleneck Financial issues

Enhanced coordination Increased coordination

***Analysis***

China's BRI is also considered as threatening for the continent of Europe. The author writes that Europe has been trespassed by this initiative of China. The European region has huge economic potential that what the author believes would be of no use if it starts to materialize anytime in the near future. There are many reasons according to the writer which he thinks could be the basis of European's discontent with the BRI initiative of China. He based his reason on the pretext that the BRI is taking away the opportunities of the economy and many such strategic opportunities that could be otherwise benefitting for Europe. The article is important in the sense to analyze as what exactly are the threats in the minds of the European's elite keeping in view the unfolding of the BRI initiative(“What to Know About China’s Controversial Belt and Road Initiative That’s Targeting Europe”). There are than people in Europe who argue that the BRI will provide very cheap facilities in terms of crude oil, electricity and other resources to China. They then argue that this will help in making strong its geographical presence. Based on these reasons this article presents the reasons and the fears why the Europeans call the BRI as the trap by China. As like the U.S believe that this will generate income inequalities in the U.S, the Europeans also believe that this will create inequalities in their continent too. The BRI is, therefore, being considered another controversial issue of the time. The experts believe that the income inequalities is the first and the foremost issue that can erupt from materializing of the BRI.

# News Report 5

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

Delta Airlines A U.S airline company

New York JFK John F. Kennedy Airport in New York

Mumbai City in India

Flight Air trip

Chhatrapati Shivaji Mumbai’s international airport

international airport

 Delta one Suite Business class of Delta airlines

Prolonged extended

Non- stop route 24/7 Continuous route

Jet Airways Indian Airline Company

Flight base Where aeroplanes stop

***Analysis***

This news report is about the resumption of the Delta companies’ flights for India. The article mentions that the U.S Air Company will from now onwards takes some non- stop flights between India and the U.S. considering the mass movement of people between the U.S and India, it is not surprising that the resumption of these flights is a new thing. Prior to this both jet airways and the Delta airways have been operating jointly the flight operations between the U.S and India. This article suggests that transportation has gone to the next level. It is now not the times when the sea route was just available to sail from one part of the world to the other part of the world. The ships are now considered an old technology which is time-consuming. The travel to some faraway places has been replaced by that of the aeroplanes. This article also suggests that the air flight operations that have been once utilized from either side (the American) has now been expanded to both sides. Every Indian airline company has now been using the air bases of the U.S, to continue their flight operations. This has helped the airline companies to boost their business and on another hand, it has helped in facilitating the passengers moving to and from America and India(“Delta to Resume Flights to India with Service between New York JFK and Mumbai”). There is one other thing that is attractive to note. This is the introduction of the business class by both the airways. The business class has been the newest addition to the lifestyle on board.

#  News Report 6

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

John Kasich American politician

Green New deal Proposed new deal on the environment

Climate moderators Who are working for climate betterment

Free Market Open Market

Capitalism An economic system

Coercion A hostile way of doing things

Climate Change Global rise in temperature

Defence department Department that looks over to the defence affairs

Conservatives Who shares a narrow approach

Economic principles Economic rules of engagement

***Analysis***

The free market moderators identified by John Kasich who is an American politician are solely responsible for the climate change He has argued in his article that not the government entities, but the free private investors are responsible for the climate change. He argues that since the many private firms work independently of the government regulations and they have to just fulfil some nominal SOPs, therefore they must be accounted for the havoc of Climate change. In his article, he has also suggested that a new green deal must, therefore, be designed in order to bring them at par with the global regulations on climate change. This article suggests that since there have been very new inputs in the energy sector and many new companies are now part of this sector, therefore the responsibility must now be divided. He has also suggested that since the regulations of the government lack, therefore a new deal be brought forward in order to curb climate change. The article is relevant to the growth of the suburbs part of the course which suggests that climate change will continue to linger in the development of the world. John Kasich has also argued about the new trends in the development of climate change. He argues that since climate change remains the worst threat to the earth, therefore new methodologies should be adopted to curb this threat(“Kasich”). The author has also talked about the worst aspects of climate in relation to that of the existing agreements on climate change. Considering the narrow scopes of the existing agreements, he has proposed the new green deal.

# News Report 7

***Vocabulary Terms***

**Words Definition**

Blood Pressure Rate of the heartbeat

Drug recall drug reminiscence

Cancer-causing impurities Impurities which causes cancer

Front line patients Patients who need critical attention

Chemical labs Labs for drug testing

Enormous challenges Massive challenges

Consumers Users

Pharmaceutical companies Companies which manufacture medicines

Unchecked Plants Unregularized plants

Global Industry International industry

***Analysis***

This article suggests that the health condition in India is at the worst time it was ever before. Since there exist wide income inequalities among the citizens of India, therefore, the chemical companies who manufacture drugs take advantage of this. Since the drug prices are regularized by the Indian authorities, and they are therefore be kept lowered. In curtailing with this the drug manufacturers have started using the chemicals which are reported to cause cancer. In such a condition, cancer patients in India are expected to increase. The article suggests that since the most commonly used medicines are that of the blood pressures and are related to other heart diseases. Therefore, the pharmaceutical companies take advantage of this and manufacture medicines of low quality(“Blood Pressure Drug Recall”). The report also suggests that since the patients in India face many inequalities in their incomes, therefore, they have no other options rather than just taking the medicine. The federal investigation agency of India which is responsible for regularizing the medicine has suggested that some foreign hands are also involved in the manufacturing of the substandard medicines. The medical experts related to the Pharmaceutical manufacturing opines that since Indian companies have a mega manufacturing base and they have links with some foreign companies, therefore, it is cumbersome to trace the guilty ones out. The article concludes by mentioning that heart diseases and blood pressure medicine must be regularized just for the reason of their mega use.

# USSO Think Piece 2

A lot of critical work has been carried out on the American way of life, especially in the nineteenth and eighteenth century amid mass industrialization, market revolution and urbanization. The application of shrewdness to monetary and social issues transformed the American way of life. The possibility that the new society is the reasonable result of the activity of human instinct under lucid conditions, is rehashed in various structures. It implies that individuals are fundamentally great and liberal. On the off chance that objectivity is utilized to make a general public that mirrors that integrity and liberality. Some of the critics propounded that morality is a fundamental issue that lingers on. Rapid industrialization rendered *laissez-faire* policy coupled with self-reliance and individualism. Liberal critics enunciated the expectations and reservations of the individuals who felt isolated or outcasted, the individuals who were considered inept to participate in the 'American Promise' of a superior future, the individuals who were deprived of rights, and opportunities amid such urbanization and market evolution. The proliferation of monopoles was on the rise when the 19th century was approaching the dusk. Some critics exposed a glitch in *a laissez-faire* economy*.*

Various critics supplemented the concerned draft contingent upon their very own repugnance and fears. In the mid-nineteenth century, with Enlightenment hope fermented by long stretches of war and upheaval, commentators were wary of America's innocent confidence that it had the course of the politics. It, not only changed the course of politics but the lifestyle of the Americans. Later in the century, Heroes of social equity expected to wage war against the Yankee industrialism and the mass urbanizations. The American way of life amid industrialization and market evolution on the basis of *laissez-faire* estranged the Idealists: the aversions for calamity, the well-made affection with realism, the compensation from antiquity, and the desired rootlessness, personified in the fragile edifice of American communities.

# Works Cited:

“Blood Pressure Drug Recall: FDA Investigates Foreign Plants That Made Drugs with Cancer-Causing Impurities.” *USA TODAY*, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2019/01/14/fda-zhejiang-huahai-hetero-labs-blood-pressure-drug-recall-cancer/2547858002/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

“Brazil Will Reinstate a Mining Ban in Parts of the Amazon.” *Fortune*, http://fortune.com/2017/09/25/brazil-amazon-mining-ban/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

“Commentary: Top China Diplomat: Why the U.S. Shouldn’t Sit Out the Belt and Road Initiative.” *Fortune*, http://fortune.com/2019/04/23/us-china-belt-and-road-initiative/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

“Delta to Resume Flights to India with Service between New York JFK and Mumbai.” *USA TODAY*, https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/flights/2019/05/01/delta-india-flights-new-service-between-new-york-jfk-airport-mumbai/3638125002/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

Durgnat, Raymond. “Genre: Populism and Social Realism.” *Film Comment*, vol. 11, no. 4, 1975, p. 20.

“GOP Senators Back Trump in China Trade War, Saying the Pain Will Be Worth It If It Yields a Deal.” *USA TODAY*, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/05/14/china-trade-gop-senators-back-donald-trump-tariffs-despite-pain/3665904002/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

“Kasich: Forget the Green New Deal. We Need Climate Solutions from Free-Market Moderates.” *USA TODAY*, https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/03/11/green-new-deal-climate-change-free-market-solutions-john-kasich-column/3122692002/. Accessed 15 May 2019.

Müller, Jan-Werner. “Parsing Populism: Who Is and Who Is Not a Populist These Days?” *Juncture*, vol. 22, no. 2, 2015, pp. 80–89.

Safran, Stephen P. “Disability Portrayal in Film: Reflecting the Past, Directing the Future.” *Exceptional Children*, vol. 64, no. 2, 1998, pp. 227–238.

“What to Know About China’s Controversial Belt and Road Initiative That’s Targeting Europe.” *Fortune*, http://fortune.com/2019/03/14/what-is-china-belt-and-road-europe/. Accessed 15 May 2019.