ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROCESSES OF MOVEMENT AND DISLOCATION
History 221/Asian American Studies 240

Fall Semester 2006
1651 Humanities; MWF 1:20-2:10 pm

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Office Hours: Wed 11am - 1 pm
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines how the immigration of people designated as “Asians” to the U.S. during the mid-nineteenth and twentieth century was formative to the development of the U.S. Not only does the survey of the movement and dislocation of these people trace the rise of industrialization in the U.S. and the participation of the U.S. in the global political economy, but it also sheds light on the nation’s imperialistic and expansionist endeavors.

The focus on the immigration of “Asians” to the U.S. unfolds how these economic, political, and legislative processes shaped the making of the U.S. national identity or what it means to be an “American.” Specifically, these processes unpack how categories such as nationality, race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality worked together to define the multiple and often contradictory meanings of the “American.” The study of “Asian” immigration to the U.S. thus elucidates how U.S. society was differentially structured and organized during the mid-nineteenth and twentieth century.

Beyond the confines of the U.S. nation-state, the inquiry into “Asian” immigration to the U.S. exposes the linkages between the U.S. and other nations. These linkages reveal the often uneven flow of people, capital, goods, ideas, services, labor, technologies, etc. between the U.S. and other nations. Thus, in addition to exposing the how U.S. society is structured, “Asian” immigration to the U.S. sheds light on the place of the U.S. in the larger world order. It offers a critical assessment on whether “globalization” is indeed leading to a more equitable world order or an increased social unevenness among nation-states. These linkages, moreover, alter the meaning of the “American.” As we will explore this semester, the increased frequency of movement among Asian immigrants between the U.S. and other countries has challenged and transformed the national identity of the American into a transnational articulation of belonging.

This course consists of unannounced quizzes, two examinations, two critical analysis papers, and lecture and discussion attendance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unannounced Quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis Paper 1 (5-7 pages)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis Paper 2 (7 pages)</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam 2 (Comprehensive)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
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COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance: Regular and prompt attendance, active participation, and mature attentiveness during lecture meetings are mandatory. The professor will not distribute lecture notes via e-mail for students who miss lecture nor will lecture notes be posted on the course webpage. There are no excused absences for lecture.

Readings: Students are expected to complete each week’s required readings before that Tuesday’s lecture. You need to bring your books, readers, and lecture notes to each discussion section.

Discussion Sections: You will fail the course even if you do all the written work but do not attend weekly discussion sections. Your discussion leader has full authority to assign homework, administer quizzes, and require drafts of papers. She will provide you with additional guidelines and policies for the discussion section.

Quizzes, Writing Assignments, and Examinations: There will be unannounced quizzes on course materials in lecture. Quizzes will always be administered during the first ten to fifteen minutes of class. There will be no make-up quizzes given, without exception. Assignments are always due during the first ten minutes of lecture. Any assignment received after the first ten minutes of lecture on the due date is considered late and will not be evaluated or credited. No late work will be accepted, without exception. E-mailed submissions of papers are not permitted and will not be credited or graded, without exception. Exam 1 and Final Exam 2 will be given according to the schedule indicated in the course syllabus and according to university schedule, without exception. No incompletes will be granted for the course except in cases of personal emergencies, subject to the prompt notification of the professor, valid documentation of the particular emergency, and the discretion of the professor. Students are responsible for retaining a copy of all exams, quizzes, and assignments.

Honesty: Please read the university policy on plagiarism. All information borrowed from print sources or the internet must be clearly identified and properly credited. Any instance of plagiarism or cheating on exams, quizzes, and written assignments will result in an “F” grade for the assignment and the course.

Abilities: Any student who feels that he or she may need special accommodation due to a disability should contact me privately. Please also contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center (http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/) at 608-263-2741 (phone); 263-6393 (TTY); 263-2998 (FAX); FrontDesk@mcb.wisc.edu to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Ground Rules: This course is open to a variety of ways of interpreting history and culture and students are encouraged to share their questions and ideas in lecture and discussion sections. Since there will be differences and disagreements, students are expected to show respect to the comments and positions of fellow students, the graduate instructor, as well as the professor.

Each student is warmly encouraged to meet with the professor and the graduate instructor during office hours and by appointment.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- COURSE READER ® is available at the Humanities Copy Center located at 1650 Humanities; Hours: 7:45 - 11:45am, 12:30 - 4:10pm; Phone: 263-3718 or 263-1803

A copy of the COURSE READER is available on reserve at the College Library.

FILMS:

- A Dollar A Day and Ten Cents a Dance
- The Chinatown Files
- Dirty Laundry
- Bontoc Eulogy
- Women Outside
- Global Cities
COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1:  Introduction – Unpacking Key Concepts and Terms

M  9.4  Labor Day
W  9.6
F  9.8

Readings:

WEEK 2:  The Spectacle of the Orient in U.S. Cultural Imagination

M  9.11
W  9.13
F  9.15

Readings:

WEEK 3:  Growth of U. S. Industries and Markets: Mining, Railroads, and Prostitution

M  9.18
W  9.20
F  9.22

Readings:

WEEK 4:  Plantation Economy in Hawaii

M  9.25
W  9.27
F  9.29  Film: *A Dollar A Day and Ten Cents a Dance*

Readings:
WEEK 5: Anti-Asian Sentiments and the Exclusion Movement

M 10.2
W 10.4
F 10.6

Readings:

WEEK 6: Immigration Legislations and U.S. National Policies

M 10.9 CRITICAL ANALYSIS PAPER #1 DUE; Film: The Chinatown Files
W 10.11
F 10.13

Readings:

WEEK 7: Sojourners, Prostitutes, and Bachelor Societies

M 10.16
W 10.18 Film: Dirty Laundry
F 10.20

Readings:
- Sucheng Chan, “European and Asian Immigration into the United States in Comparative Perspective, 1820s to 1920s” 37-67.

WEEK 8: Illicit Migrations

M 10.23 EXAM I
W 10.25
F 10.27

Readings:
### WEEK 9: Legacies of War and Colonization

**M 10.30** Film: *Bontoc Eulogy*

**W 11.1**

**F 11.3**

**Readings:**

### WEEK 10: Legacies of War and Colonization

**M 11.6**

**W 11.8**

**F 11.10** Film: *Women Outside*

**Readings:**

### WEEK 11: Legacies of War and Colonization

**M 11.13**

**W 11.15**

**F 11.17**

**Readings:**

### WEEK 12: Legacies of War and Colonization

**M 11.20**

**W 11.22** Thanksgiving Holiday – No Lecture

**F 11.24** Thanksgiving Holiday – No Lecture

**Readings:**
WEEK 13: Global Political Economy

CRITICAL ANALYSIS PAPER #2 – PART I – DUE

Readings:

WEEK 14: Global Political Economy

CRITICAL ANALYSIS PAPER #2 – PART II – DUE

Readings:

WEEK 15: Diaspora and Transnationality

Readings:

Final Examination: Thursday, December 21, 2006