
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROCESSES OF MOVEMENT AND DISLOCATION

History 160/Asian American Studies 160

Fall Semester 2015

Hum 3650; Tu/Th 9:30-10:45am

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines how the immigration of Asians to the U.S. during the mid-nineteenth and twentieth century shaped the economic, political, social, and cultural development of the nation. We will explore how the movement and dislocation of various Asian groups is related to the rise of industrialization in the U.S. along with the nation's imperialistic and expansionist endeavors.

We will further consider how Asian immigration to the U.S. molded our notions of what it means to be an American. Specifically, we will explore how categories such as nationality, race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality worked to define the multiple and often contradictory meanings of who gets to be recognized as a "real" American.

Lastly, Asian immigration to the U.S. exposes the uneven flow of people, capital, goods, ideas, and services between the U.S. and other countries. It sheds light on the ways in which the U.S. is connected to the larger world order. We will explore how Asian immigration to the U.S. generated *transnational* articulations of social and political belongings.

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

The Asian American Studies Certificate Program provides students with an opportunity to develop a sustained intellectual focus on Asian American racial formation, history, literature, and culture. Interdisciplinary in nature, the certificate can be obtained by completing 15 credits of coursework. The certificate program is open to any undergraduate student who has an interest in Asian American Studies. Please contact Director Timothy Yu (tpyu@wisc.edu) if you are interested.

More info at: <http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/aasp/course/certificate.htm>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Discussion Attendance and Participation	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 1 (5-7 pages)	15%	150 points
Exam 1	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 2 (7 pages)	20%	200 points
Final Exam	25%	250 points
*Extra Credit: 4 Pop Quizzes (5 points each)		20 points
TOTAL:	100%	1000 points

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: Regular and prompt attendance, active participation, and mature attentiveness during lecture meetings are mandatory. The professor and TAs will **not** distribute lecture notes via e-mail to students who miss lecture. Lecture notes will not be posted on the course webpage.

Readings: Students are expected to complete required readings before Tuesday's lecture of each week. Please 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 TA has full authority to assign homework, administer quizzes, and require drafts of papers and will provide additional guidelines for discussion sections.

Writing Assignments: 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.

Examinations: Exam 1 and the Final Exam will be administered on the date indicated on the course syllabus, **without exception**. No incompletes will be granted for the course except in cases of personal emergencies, subject to 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 and assignments.

Honesty: Please read the university policy on plagiarism. All information borrowed from print sources or the web 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. Students are encouraged to share their questions and ideas in lecture and in discussion sections. Since there will be differences and disagreements, students are expected to show respect to the comments and positions of fellow students, the TAs, and the professor.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. COURSE READER ® is available at **Bob's Copy Shop** located at **616 University Avenue**: <http://www.bobscopyshop1.com/>
2. Carlos Bulosan, *America is in the Heart* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1973). You can purchase a copy of this book at **Rainbow Bookstore** located at **426 W. Gilman Street**: www.rainbowbookstore.org
3. Kao Kalia Yang, *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir* (Minneapolis: Coffee House Press, 2008). You can purchase a copy of this book at **Rainbow Bookstore** located at **426 W. Gilman Street**: www.rainbowbookstore.org

Required texts are available on reserve at the College Library.

FILMS

- *Picture Bride*
- *Dollar a Day, Ten Cents a Dance*
- *Women Outside*
- *aka Don Bonus*

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: Introduction

R 9.3

Reading:

- Ronald Takaki, "From a Different Shore: Their History Bursts With Telling" from *Strangers From a Different Shore* (New York: Penguin Books, 1990). ®
- Bill Ong Hing, "The Western European New World and the New Americans" from *Defining American Through Immigration Policy* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2004). ®

WEEK 2: Development of U. S. Industries and Markets: Mining and Railroads

T 9.8

R 9.10

Readings:

- Jack Chen, "The Manifest Destiny of Gold" and "Linking a Continent and a Nation" from *The Chinese of America* (San Francisco: Harper and Row Publishers, 1980). ®
- Judy Chu, "Bound Feet: Chinese Women in 19th Century " from *Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco* (Berkeley: UC Press, 1995). ®

WEEK 3: Development of U. S. Industries and Markets: Plantation Economy in HI

T 9.15

R 9.17

Readings:

- Ronald Takaki, "Raising Cane: The World of Plantation Hawai'i" from *Strangers From a Different Shore* (New York: Penguin Books, 1990). ®
- Haunani-Kay Trask, "Settlers of Color and 'Immigrant' Hegemony" from *Asian Settler Colonialism*, eds. Candace Fujikane and Jonathan Y. Okamura (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2008). ®

WEEK 4: Defining America through the Chinese Exclusion Movement

T 9.22 Film: *Picture Bride*

R 9.24

Reading:

- Jack Chen, "Exclusion" from *The Chinese of America* (San Francisco: Harper and Row Publishers, 1980). ®

WEEK 5: Implications of Exclusion

T 9.29
R 10.1

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "Chinese Exclusion and the Origins of American Gatekeeping" and "Race, Class, Gender, and Citizenship in the Enforcement of the Exclusion Laws" from *At America's Gates* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2003). ®
- Eithne Luibheid, "A Blueprint for Exclusion" from *Entry Denied* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002). ®

WEEK 6: Making Asians into Undesirable Aliens

T 10.6 **Critical Analysis Paper #1 DUE**
R 10.8

Readings:

- Bill Ong Hing, "The Undesirable Asian" from *Defining American Through Immigration Policy* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2004). ®
- Yuji Ichioka, "Struggle Against Exclusion" from *The Issei* (New York: Free Press, 1990). ®

WEEK 7: Manifest Destiny and the Expansion of the U.S. to the Pacific

T 10.13
R 10.15 Exam 1 Review Session

Readings:

- Mae Ngai, "From Colonial Subject to Undesirable Alien" from *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004). ®
- Carlos Bulosan, *America is in the Heart*, Chapters 1-18 or I-XVIII.

WEEK 8: Legacies of War and Colonization

T 10.20 **EXAM 1**
R 10.22

Reading:

- Carlos Bulosan, *America is in the Heart*, Chapters 19-49 or XIX-XLIX.

WEEK 9: Legacies of War and Colonization

T 10.27 Film: *Dollar A Day, Ten Cents A Dance*
R 10.29

Readings:

- Sucheta Mazumdar, "Colonial Impact and Punjabi Emigration to the United States" from *Labor Immigration Under Capitalism*, eds. Lucie Cheng and Edna Bonacich (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1984). ®
- Karen Isaksen Leonard, "California and the Punjab" and "Marriages and Children" from *Making Ethnic Choices* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1992). ®
- Vivek Bald, "Selling the East in the American South: Bengali Muslim Peddlers in New Orleans and Beyond" from *Asian Americans in Dixie*, eds. Khyati Y. Joshi and Jigna Desai (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2013). ®

WEEK 10: Legacies of War and Colonization

T 11.3
R 11.5 Film: *Women on the Outside*

Readings:

- Richard S. Kim, "Becoming Diasporic" and "'In Due Course'" from *The Quest for Statehood* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011). ®
- Lili M. Kim, "Redefining the Boundaries of Traditional Gender Roles" from *Asian/Pacific Islander American Women*, eds. Shirley Hune and Gail Nomura (New York: New York University Press, 2003). ®

WEEK 11: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.10
R 11.12

Readings:

- Sucheng Chan, ed., "The Fall of Saigon and Its Aftermath," "The Plight of Ethnic Chinese in Vietnam," "An International Refugee Crisis," and "Ending the Indochinese Refugee Exodus" from *The Vietnamese American 1.5 Generation* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2006). ®
- Yen Le Espiritu, "The 'We-Win-Even-When-We-Lose' Syndrome" from *AQ 58: 2* (2006). ®

WEEK 12: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.17
R 11.19

Reading:

- Kao Kalia Yang, *The Latehomecomer*, 1-128.

WEEK 13: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.24 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part I DUE**; Film: aka Don Bonus
R 11.26 Happy Thanksgiving ☺

Reading:

- Kao Kalia Yang, *The Latehomecomer*, 129-274.

WEEK 14: Arab Americans and The War on Terror

T 12.1 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part II DUE**
R 12.3

Readings:

- Sarah M.A. Gualtieri, "From Internal to International Migration" from *Between Arab and White* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009). ®
- Nabeel Abraham, "Anti-Arab Racism and Violence in the US" from *The Development of Arab-American Identity*, ed. Ernest McCarus (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1994). ®

WEEK 15: Rise of the Global Political Economy; Transnationality

T 12.8
R 12.10 Final Review Session

Reading:

- Rhacel Salazar Parrenas, "Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers and then International Division of Labor" from *Gender and Society* 14:4 (2000). ®

WEEK 16:

T 12.15 **Final Examination**