
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROCESSES OF MOVEMENT AND DISLOCATION

History/Asian American Studies 160

Fall Semester 2018

Lecture Time: Tuesday/Thursday 8:00am – 9:15am
Location: Humanities 2650

Professor: **Cindy I-Fen Cheng**
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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

Asian immigration to the U.S. has greatly shaped the social, political, cultural, and economic fabric of the nation. Over the course of this semester, we will examine how the rise of industrialization together with the nation's imperialistic and expansionist endeavors spurred on the movement and dislocation of Asians to the U.S. from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.

We will also explore how Asian immigrants contributed to defining what it means to be an American. As non-white, non-European immigrants in the U.S., the lived experiences of Asian Americans revealed how ideas about nationality, race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and religion informed the multiple and contradictory meanings of the American. These experiences showcased how Asian Americans grappled with the limits of American democracy while working to expand its depth and complexity.

Lastly, we will examine how Asian immigration shed light on the ways in which the U.S. is connected to the larger world order, exposing the uneven flow of people, capital, goods, ideas, and services between the U.S. and other countries. We will look at the unevenness of this flow and how it gave rise to transnational articulations of social and political belongings for Asian Americans in the U.S.

ETHNIC STUDIES REQUIREMENT

History/Asian American Studies 160 is proud to be a part of the University's vibrant course array that fulfills the Ethnic Studies Requirement. By illuminating the circumstances, conditions, and experiences of racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S., this "e" designated course advances three goals of the University:

- 1) Better prepare students for life and careers in an increasingly multicultural U.S. environment
- 2) Add breadth and depth to the University curriculum
- 3) Improve the campus climate

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

History/Asian American Studies 160 fulfills the Asian American Studies Certificate Program requirements. 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 me (CICHENG@wisc.edu) if you are interested.

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

This 4-credit course meets as a group, lecture and discussion section, for a total of 4 hours per week. In addition to class time, students are expected to spend an average of 2 hours for every 1 hour of class time or 8 hours a week on completing the assigned readings, preparing for discussion sections, writing papers, and/or studying for exams.

Discussion Attendance and Participation	25%	250 points
Assignment 1: "Reading Against the Grain"	15%	150 points
Exam 1	20%	200 points
Assignment 2: Critical Analysis Paper	20%	200 points
Final Exam	20%	200 points
Extra Credit: 5 Pop Quizzes (5 points each)		25 points
TOTAL:	100%	1000 points

COURSE POINT BREAKDOWN

Letter Grade	Point Range	Percentage Range
A	925 to 1000	92.5% and higher
AB	875 to 924	87.5% to 92.4%
B	825 to 874	82.5% to 87.4%
BC	775 to 824	77.5% to 82.4%
C	695 to 774	69.5% to 77.4%
D	595 to 694	59.5% to 69.4%
F	594 and below	59.4% and below

*We will provide point breakdowns for each assignment and exam.

COURSE POLICIES

Technology-Free Learning Environment: In order to foster a learning environment free of distractions, History/Asian American Studies 160 is a technology-free class. Students are not allowed to use their laptops in class, both lecture and discussion sections. Phones must be on silent mode and stowed away from plain sight. Please take notes the "old-school way," using a pencil or pen and a notebook. Taking photos of lecture slides are strictly prohibited.

Attendance: Regular and prompt attendance, active participation, and mature attentiveness during lecture and discussion sections are mandatory. The professor and graduate instructors will **not** provide lecture notes 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 graduate instructor has full authority to assign homework, administer quizzes, and require drafts of papers. They 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. 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, valid documentation of emergency, and the discretion of the professor. Students are responsible for retaining a copy of all exams and assignments.

Honesty: <https://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/> Please read the university policy on academic integrity. 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 they may need special accommodation due to a disability should 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.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. **COURSE READER®** is available for purchase at the University Book Store located at 711 State Street: <http://www.uwbookstore.com/>
2. **Kao Kalia Yang, *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir*** (Minneapolis: Coffee House Press, 2008). You can purchase a copy of this book at A Room of One's Own bookstore located at 315 W. Gorham Street: <http://www.roomofonesown.com/>

** Required texts are available on reserve at the College Library.

FILMS

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: Introduction

Th 9.6

Reading:

- Bill Ong Hing, "The Western European New World and the New Americans" from *Defining America Through Immigration Policy* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2004). ®

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

T 9.11

Th 9.13

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "Chinese Immigrants in Search of Gold Mountain" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®
- Judy Yung, "Bound Feet: Chinese Women in the Nineteenth 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 Hawaii

T 9.18

Th 9.20

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: From Local Governance to the Habits of Everyday Life in Hawaii*, eds. Jonathan Okamura and Candace Fujikane (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2008). ®

WEEK 4: Defining America through the Chinese Exclusion Movement

T 9.25 Film: *Picture Bride*

Th 9.27

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "'The Chinese Must Go!': The Ant-Chinese Movement" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®
- Mrs. S. L. Baldwin, "Excerpts" from *Must the Chinese Go?: An Examination of the Chinese Question* (Washington D.C.: Westphalia Press, 2015). ®

WEEK 5: Implications of Chinese Exclusion

T 10.2
Th 10.4

Readings:

- Eithne Luibheid, "A Blueprint for Exclusion" from *Entry Denied* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002). ®
- 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). ®

WEEK 6: Making Asians into Undesirable Aliens

T 10.9 **Critical Analysis Paper #1 DUE**
Th 10.11

Readings:

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

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

T 10.16 Film: *Dollar A Day, Ten Cents A Dance*
Th 10.18 Exam 1 Review Session

Readings:

- Dawn Bohulano Mabalon, "Toiling in the 'Valley of Opportunity'" from *Little Manila Is In The Heart: The Making of the Filipina/o American Community in Stockton, California* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2013). ®
- Mae Ngai, "From Colonial Subject to Undesirable Alien" from *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004). ®

WEEK 8: Legacies of War and Colonization: South Asian Immigration

T 10.23 EXAM 1
Th 10.25

Reading:

- Erika Lee, "South Asian Immigrants and the 'Hindu Invasion'" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®

WEEK 9: Korean Independence Movement and the Shift Towards Cold War Liberalism

T 10.30
Th 11.1

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "'We Must Struggle in Exile': Korean Immigrants" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®
- Susie Woo, "Imagining Kin: Cold War Sentimentalism and the Korean Children's Choir" from *American Quarterly* 67, no 1 (2015). ®

WEEK 10: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 11.6
Th 11.8

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "In Search of Refuge: Southeast Asians in the United States" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®
- Chia Youyee Vang, "Rethinking Hmong Women's Wartime Sacrifices" from *Claiming Place: On the Agency of Hmong Women*, eds. Chia Youyee Vang, Faith Nibbs, and Ma Vang (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2016). ®

WEEK 11: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 11.13 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part I DUE**
Th 11.15

Reading:

- Yen Le Espiritu, "The 'We-Win-Even-When-We-Lose' Syndrome" from *American Quarterly* 58, no 2 (2006). ®

WEEK 12: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 11.20 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part II DUE**; Film: aka Don Bonus
Th 11.22 Happy Thanksgiving!!

Reading:

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

WEEK 13: The Latehomecomer

T 11.27
Th 11.29

Reading:

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

WEEK 14: The War on Terror

T 12.4
R 12.6 Final Exam Review Session

Readings:

- Khaled A. Beydoun, "War on Terror, War on Muslims" from *American Islamophobia: Understanding the Roots and Rise of Fear* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2018). ®
- Sirine Shebaya, "Current Developments in Immigration Law: The Permanent Muslim Ban" from *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal* 32 (2018). ®

WEEK 15: Final Exam

T 12.11 **FINAL EXAM**