
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROCESSES OF MOVEMENT AND DISLOCATION

History/Asian American Studies 160

Spring Semester 2018

Lecture Time: Tuesday/Thursday 8:00am – 9:15am
Location: Humanities 3650

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

Asian immigration to the U.S. crucially shaped the social, political, cultural, and economic fabric of the nation. Over the course of the 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.

Additionally, we will explore how Asian immigration to the U.S. molded what it means to be an American and expanded the depth and complexity of American democracy. In our study together, we will unpack how notions of nationality, race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and religion informed the multiple and contradictory meanings of American. We will also examine how Asian immigrants challenged the limits of American democracy.

Lastly, this course explores 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 this unevenness and how it gave rise to transnational articulations of social and political belongings for Asians 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	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 1	15%	150 points
Exam 1	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 2	20%	200 points
Final Exam	25%	250 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 paper 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 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.

Attendance: Regular and prompt attendance, active participation, and mature attentiveness during lecture and section meetings 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

T 1.23

Th 1.25

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 1.30

Th 2.1

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 2.6

Th 2.8

Readings:

- Ronald Takaki, "Raising Cane: The World of Plantation Hawai'i" from *Strangers From a Different Shore* (New York: Penguin Books, 1990). ®
- Dean Itsuji Saranillio, "Why Asian Settler Colonialism Matters: A Thought Piece on Critiques, Debates, and Indigenous Difference" from *Settler Colonial Studies* 3, no. 3-4 (2013). ®

WEEK 4: Defining America through the Chinese Exclusion Movement

T 2.13 Film: *Picture Bride*

Th 2.15

Reading:

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

WEEK 5: Implications of Chinese Exclusion

T 2.20
Th 2.22

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 2.27 **Critical Analysis Paper #1 DUE**
Th 3.1

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 3.6 Film: *Dollar A Day, Ten Cents A Dance*
Th 3.8 Exam 1 Review Session

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "We Have Heard Much of America: Filipinos in the U.S. Empire" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®
- 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 3.13 **EXAM 1**
Th 3.15

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 3.20
Th 3.22

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: Spring Break ☺

T 3.27
Th 3.29

WEEK 11: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 4.3 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part I DUE**
Th 4.5

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). ®
- Erika Lee, "Making a New Home: Hmong Refugees and Hmong Americans" from *The Making of Asian America: A History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015). ®

WEEK 12: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 4.10 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 – Part II DUE**; Film: aka Don Bonus
Th 4.12

Reading:

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

WEEK 13: The Southeast Asian War and Refugee Displacement

T 4.17

Th 4.19

Reading:

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

WEEK 14: The Latehomecomer

T 4.24

R 4.26

Reading:

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

WEEK 15: The War on Terror

T 5.1

R 5.3 Final Review Session

Reading:

- Luis A. Romero and Amina Zarrugh, "Islamophobia and the Making of Latinos/as into Terrorist Threats," from *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 2017. ®

Final Examination * Tuesday, May 8, 2018 * 10:05am – 12:05pm