
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROCESSES OF MOVEMENT AND DISLOCATION

History 160/Asian American Studies 160

Humanities 2650
Tues/Thurs 9:30 - 10:45am

Fall Semester 2012

Professor: **Cindy I-Fen Cheng**
Office: 5106 Humanities
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00am - 1pm and by appointment
E-mail: CICHENG@wisc.edu

TA: **Dennis Choi**
Office: 4271 Humanities
Office Hours: M 1-2pm; W 2:30-3:30pm; and
 by appointment
E-mail: dhchoi@wisc.edu

TA: **Matthew Reiter**
Office: 4271 Humanities
Office Hours: TBA
E-mail: mreiter2@wisc.edu

TA: **Meggan Woodbury Bilotte**
Office: 4271 Humanities
Office Hours: Wed 12:20 - 2:20pm
E-mail: bilotte@wisc.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

“Asian American History: Processes of Movement and Dislocation” examines how the immigration of Asians to the U.S. during the mid-nineteenth and twentieth century was formative to the development of United States. This course studies the movement and dislocation of Asians in order to better understand and trace the rise of industrialization in the U.S. and of the global political economy. The study of Asian immigration to the U.S. also seeks to explicate the nation’s imperialistic and expansionist endeavors.

The focus on the immigration of Asians to the U.S. further details the economic, political, and legislative processes that shaped what it meant to be an American. Specifically, these processes unpack how categories such as nationality, race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality worked to define the multiple and often contradictory meanings of the American.

Lastly, the examination of Asian immigration to the U.S. exposes the uneven flow of people, capital, goods, ideas, services, labor, technologies, etc. between the U.S. and other countries. The study of Asian immigration to the U.S. thus sheds light on the ways in which the U.S. is connected to the larger world order. We will explore how this increased frequency of movement of Asian immigrants between the U.S. and other countries has importantly generated *transnational* articulations of social and political belonging.

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

The UW-Madison 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 regardless of major or college who has an interest in Asian American Studies. Interested students should contact the Asian American Studies Program (303 Ingraham Hall) and meet with the Director (Lynet Uttal at Luttal@wisc.edu) to discuss their study plans and to file a Certificate Declaration form.

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		30 points
1. Three Unannounced quizzes (5 points each for a total of 15 points)		
2. Two-page write-up (15 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 weekly-required readings before Tuesday's lecture of each week. 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 TA has full authority to assign homework, administer quizzes, and require drafts of papers. She/He will provide you with additional guidelines for discussion sections.

Writing Assignments, and Examinations: 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 the Final Exam will be administered on the date indicated in the course syllabus and in accordance with 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, to the valid documentation of the particular emergency, and to 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, as well as the professor.

Each student is warmly encouraged to meet with the professor and her/his respective teaching assistant during office hours and by appointment.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. **COURSE READER** ® is available at **Bob’s Copy Shop** located at **616 University Avenue**: <http://www.bobscopyshop1.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 **Rainbow Bookstore** located at **426 W. Gilman Street**: www.rainbowbookstore.org

The 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

T 9.4
R 9.6

Readings:

- Bill Ong Hing, “The Western European New World and the New Americans” in *Defining American Through Immigration Policy* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2004), 1-27. ®

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

T 9.11
R 9.13

Readings:

- Jack Chen, *The Chinese of America* (San Francisco: Harper and Row Publishers, 1980), 3-77. ®

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

T 9.18
R 9.20

Readings:

- Ronald Takaki, "Raising Cane: The World of Plantation Hawaii" in *Strangers From a Different Shore* (New York: Penguin Books, 1990), 132-176. ®

WEEK 4: Development of U. S. Industries and Markets: Domestic Service

T 9.25
R 9.27 Film: *Picture Bride*

Readings:

- Evelyn Nakano Glenn, "Careers in Domestic Service" in *Issei, Nisei, War Bride* (Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 1986), 99-140. ®

WEEK 5: Defining America through the Chinese Exclusion Movement

T 10.2
R 10.4

Readings:

- Sucheng Chan, "The Exclusion of Chinese Women" in *Entry Denied*, edited by Sucheng Chan (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1991), 94-146. ®
- Jack Chen, *The Chinese of America* (San Francisco: Harper and Row Publishers, 1980), 127-162. ®

WEEK 6: Implications of Exclusion

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

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "Chinese Exclusion and the Origins of American Gatekeeping" and "Race, Class, Gender, and Citizenship in the Enforcement of the Exclusion Laws" in *At America's Gates* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 19-46; 75-109. ®
- Eithne Luibheid, "A Blueprint for Exclusion" in *Entry Denied* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002), 31-54. ®

WEEK 7: Making Asians into Undesirable Aliens

T 10.16
R 10.18 Exam 1 Review Session

Readings:

- Nayan Shah, "Policing Strangers and Borderlands" in *Stranger Intimacy* (Berkeley: UC Press, 2011), 53-89. ®
- Bill Ong Hing, "The Undesirable Asian" in *Defining American Through Immigration Policy* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2004), 28-50. ®
- Yuji Ichioka, "Struggle Against Exclusion," in *The Issei* (New York: Free Press, 1990), 176-243. ®

WEEK 8: Manifest Destiny and the Expansion of the U.S. to the Pacific

T 10.23 EXAM 1
R 10.25

Readings:

- H. Brett Melendy, "Filipinos in the United States" in *Counterpoint* edited by Emma Gee (Los Angeles: UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 1976), 423-435. ®
- Mae Ngai, "From Colonial Subject to Undesirable Alien" in *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004), 96-126. ®

WEEK 9: Legacies of War and Colonization

T 10.30 Film: *Dollar A Day, Ten Cents A Dance*
R 11.1

Readings:

- Kingsley K. Lyu, "Korean Nationalist Activities in Hawaii and America 1901-1945" in *Counterpoint* edited by Emma Gee (Los Angeles: UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 1976), 106-133. ®
- Lili M. Kim, "Redefining the Boundaries of Traditional Gender Roles" in *Asian/Pacific Islander American Women*, eds. Shirley Hune and Gail Nomura (New York: New York University Press, 2003), 106-119. ®

WEEK 10: Legacies of War and Colonization

T 11.6
R 11.8 Film: *Women on the Outside*

Readings:

- William Liu, *Transition to Nowhere* (Nashville: Charter House, 1979), 11-91. ®

WEEK 11: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.13
R 11.15

Readings:

- Dennis Gallagher, "United States and the Indochinese Refugees" in *Indochinese Refugees* (Bangkok: Institute of Asian Studies, 1988), 230-248. ®
- Jeremy Hein, "American Communist Containment in Southeast Asia" in *From Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia* (New York: Twayne Publishers, 1994), 11-25. ®

- Sucheng Chan, "Scarred, Yet Undefeated" in *Asian/Pacific Islander American Women*, eds. Shirley Hune and Gail Nomura (New York: New York University Press, 2003) 253-267. ®
- Yen Le Espiritu, "The "We-Win-Even-When-We-Lose" Syndrome" in *American Quarterly* (Jun 2006; 58: 2; Research Library Core), 329-352. ®

WEEK 12: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.20
 R 11.22 **Happy Thanksgiving ☺**

Readings:

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

WEEK 13: The Southeast Asian War and Refugees

T 11.27 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 - Part I DUE**
 Film: aka Don Bonus
 R 11.29

Readings:

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

WEEK 14: Rise of the Global Political Economy; Transnationality

T 12.4 **Critical Analysis Paper #2 - Part II DUE**
 R 12.6

Readings:

- Catherine Ceniza Choy, *Empire of Care* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003), 61-118. ®
- Rhacel Salazar Parrenas, "Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers and then International Division of Labor" *Gender and Society* 14:4 (August 2000): 560-580. ®

WEEK 15:

T 12.11
 R 12.13 Final Review Session

Final Examination: Tuesday, December 18, 2012
12:25 - 2:25 pm