
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: SETTLEMENT AND NATIONAL BELONGING

Asian American Studies/History 161

Van Vleck B102
MW 2:30pm - 3:45pm

Spring Semester 2016

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores how the racial formation of Asian Americans as racial minorities and as “perpetual foreigners” makes them a fascinating subject of study to understand better the terms governing U.S. national belonging. This examination allows us to consider not only how race regulates access to society’s resources; it also reveals how the fear of the foreign work together with assimilationist beliefs to dictate the rights and treatment of immigrants.

We begin by analyzing citizenship laws and how race determined who could become naturalized citizens. In addition to exploring the legal definition of citizenship, we will examine the terms of cultural citizenship where one’s conformity to Anglo American culture mediated a sense of belonging in U.S. society. We will look at residential patterns, the curriculum of higher education, and popular culture to explore the construction of a white norm along with activities that sought to challenge this norm in hopes of creating a more flexible vision of who and what counts as American.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Discussion Attendance and Participation	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 1 (5 pages)	15%	150 points
Exam 1	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 2 (7 pages)	20%	200 points
Final Examination	25%	250 points
(Extra Credit		20 points)
TOTAL	100%	1000 points

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 INFORMATION

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 discussion sections. Since there will be different viewpoints, please respect the comments and positions of your fellow students, graduate instructors, and professor. We need to work together to create a safe environment that fosters critical thinking and respect for different ways of thinking.

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 and lecture notes will not be posted on the course webpage.

Readings: Students are expected to complete assigned readings before Monday's lecture of each week. Please remember to bring your notes and assigned readings to each discussion section.

Discussion Sections: You will NOT pass this course even if you do all the written work and exams 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 you with additional guidelines for discussion section.

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 will not be accepted or credited. E-mailed submissions of papers are not permitted and will not be graded. Exam 1 and the Final Exam will be given in accordance with course and university schedule. 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 and/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, she, or they may need special accommodations due to a disability should contact the professor. 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.

The History Lab: The History Lab is a resource center for undergraduate students studying, researching, and writing about the past. Through individual and group tutoring, the Lab focuses on honing students' abilities to form suitable topics, conduct research, develop arguments and thesis statements, cite evidence properly, and write using an effective process. The Lab is equipped also to support challenges faced by English-language learners. For more information and appointment, please visit: <https://history.wisc.edu/thehistorylab.htm>

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. COURSE READER ®
 - The Course Reader is available for purchase at **Bob's Copy Shop** located at **616 University Avenue**.
2. John Okada, *No No Boy* (Seattle, University of Washington Press).
 - *No No Boy* is available for purchase at **Rainbow Bookstore** located at **426 W. Gilman Street**.

Required texts are also available on reserve at the College Library

FILMS

- Sa-I-Gu
- On Strike! (at San Francisco State)
- Slaying the Dragon
- Grace Lee Project

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 **Introduction**

W 1.20

WEEK 2 Race and National Belonging

M 1.25

W 1.27

Readings:

- Devon W. Carbado, "Racial Naturalization" *American Quarterly* 57:3 (2005): 633-658. ® (Also available on course webpage at Learn@UW).

WEEK 3 Setting the Terms of Legal Citizenship

M 2.1

W 2.3

Readings:

- James Kettner, "Birthright Citizenship and the Status of Indians, Slaves, and Free Negroes" in *The Development of American Citizenship, 1608-1870* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1978), 287-333. ®
- Kunal M. Parker, "The Rise of the Federal Immigration Order" in *Making Foreigners* (Cambridge: University of Cambridge Press, 2015), 116-147. ®

WEEK 4 Racial Qualification for Citizenship

M 2.8

W 2.10

Readings:

- Charles J. McClain, "Tortuous Path, Elusive Goal" *Asian Law Journal* 2:33 (1995): 33-60. ®
- Ian Haney Lopez, "The Prerequisite Cases" in *White by Law* (New York: New York University Press, 1996), 49-77. ®

WEEK 5 Defining Whiteness

M 2.15

W 2.17

Readings:

- Ian Haney Lopez, "Ozawa and *Thind*" and "The Legal Construction of Race" in *White by Law* (New York: New York University Press, 1996), 79-153. ®

WEEK 6 Race, Gender, and Derivative Citizenship

M 2.22 Critical Analysis Paper #1 DUE
W 2.24

Readings:

- Candice Lewis Bredbenner, "Conscripted Allegiance" in *A Nationality of Her Own* (Berkeley: UC Press, 1998), 15-44. ®
- Martha Mabie Gardner, "When Americans are not Citizens" and "When Citizens are not White" in *The Qualities of a Citizen* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), 121-156. ®

WEEK 7 Japanese Internment: The Politics of Legal and Cultural Belonging

M 2.29
W 3.2

Readings:

- Erika Lee, "'Military Necessity'" and "'Grave Injustices'" in *The Making of Asian America* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015), 211-251. ®
- Mae Ngai, "The WWII Internment of Japanese Americans and the Citizenship Renunciation Cases" in *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004), 175-201. ®

WEEK 8 Quest for Belonging

M 3.7 Exam 1
W 3.9

Readings:

- John Okada, *No No Boy*, Chapters 1-5.

WEEK 9 Quest for Belonging

M 3.14

W 3.16

Readings:

- John Okada, *No No Boy*, Chapters 6-11.

WEEK 10 Spring Break ☺

WEEK 11 Residential Segregation and Ethnic Enclaves

M 3.28

W 3.30

Readings:

- Douglas S. Massey, "Origins of Economic Disparities" in *Segregation*, eds. James Carr and et al. (New York: Routledge Press, 2008), 39-77. ®
- Camille Zubrinsky Charles, "Can We Live Together?" in *Residential Apartheid*, eds. Robert Bullard (Los Angeles: CAAS Publications, 1994), 45-76. ®

WEEK 12 Los Angeles Chinatown

M 4.4

W 4.6

Readings:

- Jan Lin, "Removal and Renewal of Los Angeles Chinatown" in *The Power of Urban Ethnic Places* (New York: Routledge Press, 2010), 165-204. ®
- Cindy I-Fen Cheng, "Living in the Suburbs, Becoming Americans (book proof version)" in *Citizens of Asian America* (New York: New York University Press, 2013), 57-84. ®

WEEK 13 Los Angeles Uprising

M 4.11 Critical Analysis Paper 2 – PART 1 DUE
Film: Sa-I-Gu

W 4.13

Readings:

- Melvin L. Oliver, James Johnson, and Walter Farrell, "Anatomy of a Rebellion" in *Reading Rodney King*, 117-141. ®
- Sumi Cho, "Korean Americans vs. African Americans" in *Reading Rodney King*, 196-211. ®

WEEK 14 Race and Education

- M 4.18 Critical Analysis Paper 2 – PART 2 DUE
 Film: San Francisco State On Strike
- W 4.20

Readings:

- Mike Murase, "Ethnic Studies and Higher Education for Asian Americans" in *Counterpoint*, 205-223. ®
- Karen Umemoto, "'On Strike!'" in *Contemporary Asian America*, 49-79. ®

WEEK 15 Asian American Popular Culture

- M 4.25 Film: Slaying the Dragon
- W 4.27

Readings:

- Christine Bacareza Balance, "How It Feels to be Viral Me" *Women's Studies Quarterly* 10:1-2 (2012): 138-152. ®
- Lisa Nakamura, "'Alllooksme'?" in *East Main Street*, eds. Shilpa Dave, et al. (New York: New York University Press, 2005), 262-270. ®
- Leilana Nishime, "Guilty Pleasures" in *East Main Street*, eds. Shilpa Dave, et al. (New York: New York University Press, 2005), 272-288. ®

WEEK 16 Asian American Popular Culture

- M 5.2 Film: Grace Lee Project
- W 5.4 Final Review Session

****Final Examination Sunday, May 8, 2016; 5:05 – 7:05pm****