

Ethnic Studies 20: Introduction to Asian American Studies Fall 2006

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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 2:30 -4 pm

Lecture: Tues/Thurs 12:30 – 1:50 pm
CENTR 115

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the study of Asian Americans in a comparative American and global context. As required by the interdisciplinary nature of the field of Asian American Studies, this course will rely on a range of historical, literary, visual texts and media. We will examine the racial formation of Asian America in concert with and in contrast to other racialized communities in the United States, as well as its relationship to global developments like colonialism, war, and capitalist expansion. The course is especially concerned with thinking through historical formations with contemporary developments, such as racial incarceration during World War II and post-9/11 profiling.

Section Information*

Section Day/Time	Room	Instructor	E-mail	Office
A01 W 9:00a	HSS 2150	Angela Kong	ankong@ucsd.edu	SSB 245
A02 W 12:00p	CENTR 217A	Angela Kong	ankong@ucsd.edu	SSB 245
A03 Th 10:00a	HSS 2154	Madelsar Ngiraingas	mngirain@ucsd.edu	SSB 241
A04 Th 3:00p	HSS 2154	Madelsar Ngiraingas	mngirain@ucsd.edu	SSB 241
A05 M 2:00p	HSS 1315	Madelsar Ngiraingas	mngirain@ucsd.edu	SSB 241

**You must attend the section that you are enrolled in. You will not receive credit for attending a section that you are not enrolled in. .*

Required Texts: 1) Ngai, Mae M. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003. ISBN: 0691124299 Available at Groundworks Bookstore, 858.452.9625.

2) ES 20 Course Reader sold by University Readers. Course readers can be ordered online at <http://www.universityreaders.com/students>. You may also call 800.200.3908 or 858.552.1120 for help with ordering. The book and reader are on reserve at the Social Sciences and Humanities Library.

Requirements 1) Reading: You should complete the readings for the week by the beginning of Tuesday's lecture, except if you are in the Monday Section A05, in which case you should finish the readings by Monday. Doing the readings will help you to get the most out of lectures and section discussions. Please bring assigned readings to lecture and section as we may refer to them. 2) Attendance and Participation: Attendance at lecture and discussion section is mandatory. Quizzes may be given occasionally during either lecture or discussion. Film and media shown in class will not be

available for re-screening. 3) Writing Assignments: Assignment #1: Due at lecture October 12
Assignment #2: Due at lecture November 16 4)

Exams:

Midterm: Tues, October 24

Final: Wed, December 6, 11:30-2:30 PM

Grading*

Section Attendance, Participation, and Quizzes: 15%

(Section grades are assigned by teaching assistants and based on attendance and active participation. Merely showing up for section does not mean one automatically receives a passing grade. Moreover, we will reward thoughtful and quality participation, not volume.)

Assignment #1: 15% Assignment

#2: 15% Midterm Exam: 25%

Final Exam: 30%

Course Policies

Classroom conduct: Please be respectful to other students, the professor, and teaching assistants. Phones, Blackberries, and pagers must be turned off in the classroom. Please do not arrive late or leave early from lecture or discussion sections, read unrelated material while in class, or converse about unrelated topics.

No early or make-up quizzes and examinations will be scheduled, and no incompletes will be given in this course. All assignments must be submitted to receive a final grade.

Writing assignments are due at the beginning of lecture and must be submitted as hard copies only; no e-mail attachments accepted. Late papers will receive one-half letter grade deduction for each day they are submitted past the due date, and no papers will be accepted more than one week after the due date. Professor reserves the right to make copies of student papers and assignments.

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please bring a notification letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities outlining your approved accommodations.

Students are responsible for following all oral and written directions for assignments. Please keep in mind that your grade may be adversely affected for disregarding guidelines. Ask questions if you require clarification.

Your grade is not an entitlement; it must be earned. Furthermore effort alone will not guarantee a high grade. If you submit careless and mediocre work, you will receive a grade that correlates with your submission. However, continual excellent work will be rewarded.

Academic Honesty Policy

Plagiarism is a serious violation, whether intentional or inadvertent. Easily recognized, plagiarism is insulting to those who take the time to read your work but an embarrassment to you most of all. All work submitted in this course must be your own and original. You may not copy sentences or paragraphs from books, web pages, or any other source. The use of sources such as ideas, quotations, paraphrases, or anything written by someone else must be properly acknowledged and cited. If you have questions about when and how to use citations, please refer to this guide: Charles Lipson, *Doing Honest Work in College: How to Prepare Citations, Avoid Plagiarism, and Achieve Real Academic*

Success (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004). (On reserve at SSH library).

Each student is expected to be familiar with UCSD's Policy on Integrity of Scholarship, available at <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm#AP14>. Here are some important excerpts of the UCSD Integrity Policy:

No student shall engage in any activity that involves attempting to receive a grade by means other than honest effort; for example:

No student shall knowingly procure, provide, or accept any unauthorized material that contains questions or answers to any examination or assignment to be given at a subsequent time.

No student shall complete, in part or in total, any examination or assignment for another person.

No student shall knowingly allow any examination or assignment to be completed, in part or in total, for himself or herself by another person.

No student shall plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as his or her own work.

No student shall employ aids excluded by the instructor in undertaking course work or in completing any exam or assignment.

No student shall alter graded class assignments or examinations and then resubmit them for regrading.

No student shall submit substantially the same material in more than one course without prior authorization.

Course Schedule

Week 1. September 21, 2006 – Introduction

Week 2: September 26 & 28 – Asian American Studies: What, How, and Why

Karen Umemoto, "'On Strike!': San Francisco State College Strike, 1968-69:

The Role of Asian American Students." *Amerasia* 15.1 (1989). Espiritu, Yen Le. "Coming Together: The Asian American Movement." in *Asian American Panethnicity: Building Institutions and Identities*. Okihiro, Gary. "When and Where I Enter," in *Margins and Mainstreams: Asians in American History and Culture*.

Week 3. October 3 & 5 – Asian American Racial Formation: From Immigrant to Citizen?

Park, Edward and John Park. "Governing Admissions to the United States: Basic themes." in *Probationary Americans: Contemporary Immigration Policies and the Shaping of Asian American Communities*.

Ngai, Mae. "Introduction: Illegal Aliens: A Problem of Law and History," and "The Johnson-Reed Act and the Reconstruction of Race in Immigration Law." in *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. 1-55.

Lowe, Lisa. "Immigration, Citizenship, Racialization: Asian American Critique." in *Immigrant Acts: On Asian American Cultural Politics*.

Week 4. October 10 & 12 -- Global Capitalist Expansion

Bonacich, Edna. "United States Capitalist Development: A Background to Asian Immigration." in

Labor Immigration Under Capitalism: Asian Workers in the United States Before World War II. Ed. L. Cheng and E. Bonacich.

Jung, Moon-Ho. *Coolies and Cane: Race, Labor and Sugar in the Age of Emancipation.*

Okiihiro, Gary. "Perils of Mind and Body." in *Margins and Mainstreams: Asians in American History and Culture.*

**Assignment #1 due October 12

Week 5. October 17 & 19 – Empire and Wars

Ngai, Mae. "From Colonial Subject to Undesirable Alien: Filipino Migration in the Invisible Empire." in *Impossible Subjects*, 96-126.

Espiritu, Yen Le. *Homebound: Filipino Lives Across Cultures, Communities, and Countries.* Chs. 2, 5

Mazumdar, Sucheta. "Colonial Impact and Punjabi Emigration to the United States." in *Labor Immigration Under Capitalism: Asian Workers in the United States Before World War II.* Ed. L. Cheng and E. Bonacich.

Fernandez, Doreen G "Food and War." in *Vestiges of War: The Philippine-American War and the Aftermath of an Imperial Dream, 1899-1999.* Ed. Angel Velasco Shaw and Luis H. Francia.

Rumbaut, Ruben. "Vietnamese, Laotian, and Cambodian Americans." in *Asian Americans: Contemporary Trends and Issues.*

*October 19 – Guest Speaker, Yen Le Espiritu, Professor, UCSD Ethnic Studies

Week 6. October 24 and 26 October 24 – Midterm Examination October 26. Film: *Refugee.* Dir. Spencer Nakasako (2002)

Week 7. October 31 & November 2 – Post-1965 Immigration

Waldinger, Roger and Jennifer Lee, "New Immigrants in Urban America." in *Strangers at the Gates: New Immigrants in Urban America.* Ed. Roger Waldinger.

Lahiri, Jhumpa. "The Third and Final Continent." in *Interpreter of Maladies.*

Prashad, Vijay. "On the Origin of Desis and Other Principles of State Selection." in *The Karma of Brown Folk.*

Chakravartty, Paula. "The Emigration of Highly-Skilled Indian Workers to the United States: Flexible Citizenship and India's Information Economy." in *The International Migration of the Highly Skilled: Demand, Supply, and Development Consequences in Sending and Receiving Countries.*

Week 8. November 7 & 9 –World War II Internment and 9-11

Ngai, Mae. "The World War II Internment of Japanese Americans and the Citizenship Renunciation Cases." in *Impossible Subjects*, 175-201.

Saito, Natsu. "The Costs of Homeland Security." *Radical History Review.* 93.3 (2005)

Ali, Anar. "The Person Behind the Muslim." *New York Times* 10 June 10, 2006, online ed.

Yamamoto, Hisaye. "The Legend of Miss Sasagawara" and "Wilshire Bus" in *Seventeen Syllables and Other Stories.*

Shane, Scott. "Terror and Presidential Power: Bush Takes a Step Back," *New York Times* 12 July 2006, online ed.

Week 9. November 14 & 16. Gender, Race, and Labor

Louie, Miriam Ching Yoon. *Sweatshop Warriors: Immigrant Women Workers Take on the Global Factory*.

Liebhold, Peter and Harry R. Rubenstein. "The El Monte Sweatshop," in *Between a Rock and A Hard Place: A History of American Sweatshops, 1820-Present*.

"Interviews with Two Thai Workers." in *Between a Rock and A Hard Place: A History of American Sweatshops, 1820-present*.

Park, Lisa Sun-Hee. "Searching for a 'Normal' Family," and "The Business in Children's Lives." in *Consuming Citizenship: Children of Asian Immigrant Entrepreneurs*.

**Assignment #2 due November 16

Week 10. November 21 & 23.

November 21. Film. *The Grace Lee Project*. Dir. Grace Lee (2005)

November 23. Thanksgiving

Week 11. November 28 & 30 - Deportation and Conclusion

Sontag, Deborah. "In a Homeland Far From Home." *New York Times Magazine* 30 November 2003.

"Resisting Homeland Security: Organizing Against Unjust Removals of U.S. Filipinos: A Report of the Critical Filipina and Filipino Studies Collective." www.sjsu.edu/depts/sociology/living/ResistHomeSec-web.pdf. Critical Filipina and Filipino Studies Collective.

Hing, Bill Ong. "Deporting Cambodian Refugees: Justice Denied?"

http://www.api-center.org/information_sharing.html

Fujiwara, Lynn H. "The Impact of Welfare Reform on Asian Immigrant Communities." *Social Justice* 25.1 (1998).

Final Exam: December 6, 11:30-2:30 PM

Ethnic Studies Major or Minor at UCSD

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because they're interested in the topic or simply need to fulfill a social science, non-contiguous, or other college requirement. Often students have taken three or four classes out of interest yet have no information about the major or minor and don't realize how close they are to a major, minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, public policy, government and politics, journalism, education, public health, social work, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor at UCSD, please contact Yolanda Escamilla, Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Ethnic Studies at 858-534-3277 or yescamilla@ucsd.edu.