

## **Asian American History** HIUS 124/ ETHN 125

Summer II 2006  
MW, 2:00- 4:50 p.m.  
dkhor@ucsd.edu

Professor Denise Khor  
Office Hrs: MW, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

This course explores the history of Asian America from the mid 1800s to the first half of the twentieth century. It focuses on the racial formation of Asian Americans through the historical processes of labor, immigration, colonialism, exclusion, nationalism, and modernity. Through the use of both secondary and primary sources, students will be expected to critically engage not only the major concepts and themes in the histories of Asian America but also the strategies utilized in the production of historical knowledge.

**Class requirements:** assigned readings, film screenings, active class participation, mid-term exam, and final essay exam.

### **Required course materials:**

Books available at Groundwork Books: [www.groundwork.ucsd.edu](http://www.groundwork.ucsd.edu), # (858) 452-9625

Lee, Erika. *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943* (Chapel Hill: Univ of North Carolina Press, 2003)

Liu, Mary. *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery: Murder, Miscegenation, and Other Dangerous Encounters in Turn-of-the-Century New York City* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2005)

Bulosan, Carlos. *America is in the Heart* (Seattle: Univ of Washington Press, 1946)

Course Reader from University Readers: [www.universityreaders.com](http://www.universityreaders.com), # (858) 552-1120

### **Grading:**

To **MINIMALLY** pass the course and receive a grade, you must have handed in all completed work by the specified due date and time. *I will not accept any late work.* As there are very few assignments, any one missing assignment will result in a course failure. *You must turn in all assignments to pass the course.* If you are taking the course P/NP, you must turn in all assignments and receive at least 70% on each.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Participation/Attendance	15%
Mid-term exam	35%
Final exam	50%

### **Policies**

\*Always bring text(s) with which we are currently working.

\*Assigned readings are to be completed *before* class. Please come prepared and ready to discuss the assigned materials.

\*All written work must be typed in 12pt., Times New Roman font with regular (1-inch) margins. For proper paper format and citation guidelines, please refer to an MLA stylebook. Paginate all work and *staple all work in the upper left-hand corner*.

\*All written work you turn in should be grammar and spell checked as well as proofread before I see it.

\*Turn off all phones and beepers during class.

\*Please take advantage of my office hours! Also, I check my email at least once a day (usually at night) so please don't hesitate to email me.

## **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE** (subject to change)

### **Week One: Pacific Crossings**

#### **Mon, Aug. 7: Introduction**

#### **Wed, Aug 9**

Jacobsen, Matthew Frye. "Export Markets: The World's Peoples as Consumers" from *Barbarian Virtues: the United States Encounters Foreign Peoples at Home and Abroad, 1876-1917* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2000)

Tchen, John Kuo Wei. *New York Before Chinatown: Orientalism and the Shaping of American Culture, 1776-1882* (Baltimore: John Hopkins UP, 1999)

Select excerpts from *Kipling's America: Travel Letters, 1889-1895* Ed. D.H. Stewart (Greensboro: ELT Press, 2003)

### **Week Two: Labor Migration and the Exclusion Era**

#### **Mon, Aug. 14:**

Lee, Erika. *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943* (Chapel Hill: Univ of North Carolina Press, 2003)

Ngai, Mai. "From Colonial Subject to Invisible Alien: Filipino Migration in the Invisible Empire" from *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2004)

#### **Wed, Aug 16**

Lee, Erika. *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943* (Chapel Hill: Univ of North Carolina Press, 2003)

### **Week Three: Regulating Bodies, Regulating Spaces**

**Mon, Aug 21**

Liu, Mary. *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery: Murder, Miscegenation, and Other Dangerous Encounters in Turn-of-the-Century New York City* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2005)

Volpp, Leti. "American Mestizo: Filipinos and Anti-Miscegenation Laws in California" *UC Davis Law Review* (2000)

**Wed, Aug 23**

Film screening: *Old San Francisco* (Dir: Alan Crosland, 1927)

Shah, Nayan. "Perversity, Contamination, and the Dangers of Queer Domesticity" and "White Women, Hygiene, and the Struggles for Respectable Domesticity" from *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco's Chinatown* (Berkeley: UC Press, 2001)

White, Frank Marshall. "The Last Days of Chinatown" *Harpers Weekly* (Aug 17, 1907)

### **Week Four: Public Worlds, Private Lives**

**Mon, Aug 28**

Film screening: *Dollar a Day, Ten Cents a Dance* (Dir: George Ew, 1990)

Carlos Bulosan's *America is in the Heart* (Seattle: Univ of Washington Press, 1946)

Maram, Linda E. "'Brown Hordes' in McIntosh Suits: Filipinos, Taxi Dance Halls, and Performing the Immigrant Body in Los Angeles, 1930s-1940s" *Generations of Youth: Youth Cultures and History in Twentieth Century America* Ed. Joe Austin and Michael Nevin Willard (New York: New York UP, 1998)

**Wed, 30**

Film screening: *Forbidden City* (Dir: Arthur Dong, 1989)

Matsumoto, Valerie. "Japanese American Women and the Creation of Urban Nisei Culture in the 1930s" *Over the Edge: Remapping the American West* Ed. Valerie Matsumoto and Blake Allmendinger (Berkeley: UC Press, 1999)

**Week Five**

**Mon, Sept 4: No Class**

**Wed, Sept 6: FINAL EXAM DUE**