Instructor: Yến Lê Espiritu
Office: Social Science Building 228
E-mail: yespiritu@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Weds. 10-12 via zoom https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94873262697 and by appointments.

Course description
This class examines how racism and colonialism are integral to the functioning of contemporary US militarism. We will examine how contemporary forms of US militarism are informed by past and ongoing effects of colonial and racial subordination, and how demilitarization efforts constitute a crucial part of larger decolonization movements. Since gender and racial ideologies are an integral component of war and militarism, we will pay particular attention to the critiques of and alternatives to militarized worlds waged by Indigenous, people of color, and feminist coalitions.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change; the syllabus of record is kept updated and posted on the course website on Canvas.

Academic Honesty
All work submitted in this course must be your own and original. Each student is expected to be familiar with and abide by UCSD’s policy on Integrity of Scholarship.

Discussion Ethics
This class is intended for students interested in challenging commonly held understandings of race, gender, sexuality, nation, and class. Please engage one another in discussion with respect, generosity, and consideration. Abusive and harsh language, intimidation and personal attacks will not be tolerated. These norms are reflected in the UCSD Principles of Community.

Accommodations/Accessibility
I am committed to creating a course that is inclusive in its instruction and design. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or to accurate assessment of your achievement, please notify me immediately. You may also seek assistance or information from the Office for Students with Disabilities.

If you prefer to be called by a different name or referred to as a different gender than the one under which you are officially enrolled, please inform me, so that we can adjust accordingly.
Electronic Devices
All phones must be turned off or set to vibrate/silent in the classroom. You may use your laptops (or tablets) to take notes, and to access the internet during class sessions for only instructor-authorized, class-related purposes. Let’s respect the classroom as a place of learning and exchanging of ideas.

Course Assignments & Expectations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Exams</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Militarization of Everyday Life – 15%</td>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>Midterm – 25 %</td>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>Infographic – 15%</td>
<td>86-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>Final Project – 25%</td>
<td>83-85</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom Engagement – 15%</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offsite Engagement – 5%</td>
<td>76-79</td>
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1) “The Militarization of Everyday Life” Assignment -- Due Date: April 14
The purpose of this assignment is for you to be attentive to how many aspects of ordinary life are militarized. Select an ordinary object, place, aspect of everyday life, concept, song, video, etc. and analyze how it is militarized. Further instructions will be posted on Canvas.
Length: 500-550 words.

2) Midterm – Hybrid format – Date: May 5
The midterm exam will consist of three parts:
• Part I – 1 Short Answer (100-150 words)
• Part II – 1 Short Essay (200-250 words)
• Part III – 1 Essay (500-550 words)

3) Infographic Assignment – Due Date: May 23
Infographics are visual representations of information. They can include numbers, text, images, or any combination of the three. For this infographic assignment, please explain how US militarism in the post-Cold War era has impacted migration and/or (re)produced racial, sexual, gender, class, and inequalities/hierarchies in the US and/or globally. More information will be posted on Canvas.

3) Final Exam – Art Project & Virtual Art Gallery – Date: June 7, 8-11 a.m. (scheduled exam date & time)
Create an art piece that captures militarism and/or anti-militarism as a lived experience. Participate in a virtual gallery and engage each other’s artwork via Media Gallery on Canvas during the scheduled exam period. More information will be posted on Canvas.

4) Classroom Engagement
Class participation and attendance.

5) Offsite Engagement -
Attend one virtual talk, community event, or engage a website. More information will be posted on Canvas.

Please note: In order to receive a passing grade in the class, students must complete all course assignments.
Readings and Lectures Schedule

* As each week’s readings cohere as a unit, please try to complete all readings by the beginning of each week.

** Week 1 - March 29 & 31 - Settler Colonialism and U.S. Militarized Empire **

[http://academic.evergreen.edu/g/grossmaz/interventions.html#anchor1469361](http://academic.evergreen.edu/g/grossmaz/interventions.html#anchor1469361)


** Week 2 – April 5 & 7 - Manifest Destiny: The Asia Pacific **

[http://www.historyisaweapon.org/defcon1/franciscofirstvietnam.html](http://www.historyisaweapon.org/defcon1/franciscofirstvietnam.html)

Paul Kramer. “Race Making and Colonial Violence in the U.S. Empire: The Philippine-American War as Race War.”
[http://japanfocus.org/-paul_a_kramer/1745](http://japanfocus.org/-paul_a_kramer/1745)

“Letter from General Bell to Apolinario Mabini”

Apolinario Mabini, “In Response to General Bell.”


** Week 3 – April 12 & 14 - Empire of Bases: About Islands – Part 1 **


[https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0094582X05283520](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0094582X05283520)

[https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctt7rw1w.10](https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctt7rw1w.10)

**Week 4 – April 19 & 21 - Empire of Bases: About Islands – Part 2**


**Week 5 – April 26 & 28 -The Cold/Hot War: Southeast Asia – Part 1**

** April 26: No in-person class. Watch Insular Empire: America in the Mariana Islands; and discuss on Canvas (more information will be posted on Canvas)**


**MILITARIZATION OF EVERYDAY LIFE** ASSIGNMENT DUE APRIL 14
Martin Luther King Jr. “Beyond Vietnam—A Time to Break Silence” * (Note: you may read and/or listen to the speech).

**Week 6 – May 3 & 5 – The Cold/Hot War: Southeast Asian – Part 2**

**Week 7 – May 10 & 12 – Militarization of the US–Mexico Border**

**Week 8 – May 17 & 19 – War on Terror – Part 1**

**Week 9 – May 24 & 26 - War on Terror – Part 2**

**Week 10 – May 31 & June 2 - Militarism and Migration/Refugee “Crisis”**

**Final – Virtual Art Gallery:** Tuesday June 7, 8 - 11a.m
Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a college general education requirement. Often students have taken many ETHN courses out of interest, yet do not realize how close they are to a major, a minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, education, medicine, public health, social work, counseling, public policy, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor, please contact: Monica Rodriguez, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor 858-534-3277 or d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu or visit www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu