

ETHN 87—Asian Americans and the Model Minority

Professor Yen Le Espiritu

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:30-12:30; Thursdays 12:30-2:30

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Please note that we will meet on the following dates: 1/17; 1/24; 1/31; 2/7; 2/14; and 2/21

All readings are on e-reserve, except for 2/14

1/17: Introduction: From Yellow Peril to Model Minority

1/24: The Construction of the Model Minority: “Success Story: Japanese American Style”
Robert Lee, “The Cold War Origins of the Model Minority Myth.”
Pp. 145-179 in *Orientalism: Asian Americans in Popular Culture*.

1/31: Consequences: “Good but Not Exceptional Students”
Dana Takagi, “Diversity, Merit, and the Model Minority: Good but Not Exceptional Students.” Ch. 3 in *The Retreat from Race: Asian-American Admissions and Racial Politics*.

2/7: Consequences: Effects on Second-Generation Asian Americans
Nazli Kibria, “The Model Minority At Work,” ch. 5 in *Becoming Asian American: Second-Generation Chinese and Korean American Identities*.

2/14: Asian American Critique, Part I
Malcolm Yeung, *A student's perspective: Objectification of Asian-Americans: A Historical Consistency.*
<http://www.modelminority.com/article72.html>

2/21: Asian American Critique, Part II: “We Will Not Be Used!”
Claire Kim, “Playing the Racial Trump Card: Asian Americans in Contemporary U.S. Politics.” *Amerasia Journal* Vol 26, No. 3, 2000/2001: 35-65.