

ETHN 129x USP 135:
Asian and Latina Immigrant Workers in the Global Economy
TTh 11:00AM - 12:20PM, SEQUO 147
Winter 2012

Instructor: Grace Kim
Office: SSB 249
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-2PM
Phone: 312 730 0732 (please call or text MW 1-5PM and TTh 12:30-2PM ONLY)
E-mail: kimumi@yahoo.com

Overview:

In *Ghostly Matters*, Avery Gordon writes: "... even those who live in the most dire circumstances possess a complex and oftentimes contradictory humanity and subjectivity that is never adequately glimpsed by viewing them as victims or, on the other hand, as superhuman agents. It has always baffled me why those most interested in understanding and changing the barbaric domination that characterizes our modernity often – not always – withhold from the very people they are most concerned with the right to complex personhood."

In a move to "complexify" the lives of Asian and Latina immigrant women, this course locates racialized gendered labor formations betwixt and between global economic processes, local and national politics, and individual histories. We will explore the ways in which larger structural processes have differentially shaped the meanings of work, family, and motherhood across national, racial and class lines, as well as how Asian and Latina immigrant women redefine those social fields and make them meaningful for themselves and their communities. Paying particular attention to personal stories (captured in ethnographic studies and feature films), the primary goal of this course is to understand individual lives not as mere "reflections" of larger structural transformations and cultural conflicts, but as co-constitutive of those very struggles and shifts that make up globalization. To that end, we will examine the lives of domestic and sex workers, manicurists and transnational surrogate mothers, among others, and the ways in which Asian and Latina immigrant workers resist and challenge labor exploitation, militarization and neoliberalism. Our secondary goal is to consider how our analyses of Asian and Latina immigrant workers challenge liberal feminist perspectives.

Required Texts:

- 1) Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette. *Doméstica: Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence* (Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 2001).
- 2) Pellow, David Naguib and Lisa Sun-Hee Park. *The Silicon Valley of Dreams: Immigrant Workers, Environmental Injustice, and the High-Tech Global Economy* (New York: NYU Press, 2002).

** Required texts are available for purchase at the UCSD bookstore.

** All other readings will be made available on the course website as pdf files.

Grading and Course Requirements:

Attendance and active class participation	20%
Essay #1 (4-6 pages), due week 4	25%
In-class Midterm Exam, week 7	25%
Essay #2 (8-10 pages), due week 10	30%

Scale: A	93-100 points	C	73-75
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	86-89	D+	66-69
B	83-85	D	63-65
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	76-79	F	below 60

*Attendance and participation constitute a significant portion of your grade. Arrive to each class session on time and stay for its duration. Tardiness and absences will result in the lowering of your grade.

*Active participation means thoughtful engagement with the readings/lectures, meaningful contributions to class discussions, and respectful collegiality toward your classmates and instructor. Visits to my office hours will also count toward class participation.

*As this is a fairly writing-intensive class, I strongly suggest that you see me during my office hours to discuss your drafts and/or visit the Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services (OASIS) for writing support. You can drop by OASIS on the 3rd floor of Center Hall, M-F 8am-4:30pm, or contact them at 858 534-3760 or oasis@ucsd.edu.

*All written work must be typed in 12 pt Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. For proper essay format and citation guidelines, please refer to the MLA stylebook. Proofread, spell-check, paginate and staple all work before handing in.

*The midterm exam will consist of both identifications and a long essay. It will focus primarily on the readings and lectures covered between weeks 4 and 7, but will ask students to integrate concepts and perspectives covered between weeks 1 and 4.

Policies:

*All course requirements must be completed by the specified due date and time in order to pass the course and receive a grade. Any one missing assignment will result in a course failure. If you are taking the course P/NP, you must complete all assignments and receive at least a 70% on each.

*Ten points will be deducted from your papers for every 24 hours they are late. In order to receive an extension, you must contact me no later than 24 hours **PRIOR** to the due date and time. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** In the case of a medical/personal emergency, you must produce a doctor's note or other documentation in order for an exception to be made.

*Please complete readings by the date they are assigned, and bring the text(s) with which we are currently covering to class.

*Turn off phones and refrain from text messaging during class. While the use of laptops is allowed, do not browse the internet or check Facebook and the like. Updating your status and 'liking' your friends' links can wait until after class, right?

Schedule (subject to change):

Week One: Rethinking Women's Work and Feminist Solidarities

Tues 1/10 Course Introduction – No Readings

Thurs 1/12 Ehrenreich, Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild. "Introduction." In *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the Global Economy* (New York, NY: Metropolitan Books, 2002), pp. 1-13.

Lowe, Lisa. "Work, Immigration, Gender: Asian 'American' Women." From *Immigrant Acts: On Asian American Cultural Politics* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1996), pp. 154-173.

Week Two: Globalization, Immigration, and the Racialization of Paid Domestic Work (Part 1)

Tues 1/17 Ehrenreich, Barbara. "Maid to Order: The Politics of Other Women's Work." In *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the Global Economy* (New York, NY: Metropolitan Books, 2002), pp. 85-103.

Lorde, Audre. "The Uses of Anger: Women Responding to Racism." In *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches by Audre Lorde* (Berkeley, CA: Crossing Press, 1984), pp. 124-133.

Sassen, Saskia. "Global Cities and Survival Circuits." In *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy* (New York, NY: Metropolitan Books, 2002), pp. 254-274.

Thurs 1/19 Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica*, Preface and Chapters 1-2.

Parrenas, Rhacel Salazar. "The International Division of Reproductive Labor." From *Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration, and Domestic Work* (Stanford, CA: Stanford U Press, 2001), pp. 61-79.

Week Three: Globalization, Immigration, and the Racialization of Paid Domestic Work (Part 2)

Tues 1/24 Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica*, Chapters 3-5.

Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette and Ernestine Avila. "I'm Here, but I'm There": The Meanings of Latina Transnational Motherhood." In *Gender and US Immigration: Contemporary Trends*, ed. Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 2003), pp. 317-340.

Thurs 1/26 Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica*, Chapters 6-8.

Film: *Maid in America*
Screening and Discussion

Week Four: Immigration/Welfare Policy and Transnational Motherhood

Tues 1/31 Chang, Grace. "Undocumented Latinas: The New Employable Mother." From *Disposable Domestics: Immigrant Women Workers in the Global Economy* (Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2000), pp. 55-84.

Park, Lisa Sun-Hee. "Perpetuation of Poverty Through 'Public Charge'." 78 *Denv. U.L. Rev.* 1161 (2001)

**** ESSAY #1 DUE IN CLASS ****

Thurs 2/2 Parrenas, Rhacel Salazar. "Gendered Care Expectations: Children in Mother-Away Transnational Families." From *Children of Global Migration: Transnational Families and Gendered Woes* (Stanford, CA: Stanford U Press, 2005), pp. 120-140.

Espiritu, Yen Le. "We Don't Sleep Around Like White Girls Do: Family Culture, and Gender in Filipina American Lives." In *Gender and US Immigration: Contemporary Trends*, ed. Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 2003), pp. 263-284.

Week Five: Global Migrations and Commodifications of Affective Labor

Tues 2/7 Film: *Mammoth*
Screening and Discussion

Thurs 2/9 Kang, Miliann. "The Managed Hand: The Commercialization of Bodies and Emotions in Korean Immigrant-Owned Nail Salons." *Gender & Society*, vol. 17 no. 6 (2003), pp. 820-839.

Vora, Kalindi. "Indian Transnational Surrogacy and the Commodification of Vital Energy." *Subjectivity*, vol. 28 (2009), pp. 266-278.

Vora, Kalindi. "The Transmission of Care: Affective Economies and Indian Call Centers." In *Intimate Labors: Cultures, Technologies, and the Politics of Care* (Stanford, CA: Stanford U Press, 2010), pp. 33-48.

Week Six: Militarization and Sex Work

Tues 2/14 Enloe, Cynthia. "The Prostitute, the Colonel, and the Nationalist." From *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives* (Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 2000), pp. 49-107.

Moon, Katherine H.S. "Partners in Prostitution." From *Sex Among Allies: Military Prostitution in US-Korea Relations* (New York, NY: Columbia U Press, 1997), pp. 17-47.

Thurs 2/16 Hua, Julietta. "Seeing Race and Sexuality: Origin Stories and Public Images of Trafficking." From *Trafficking Women's Human Rights* (Minneapolis, MN: U Minnesota Press, 2010), pp. 71-94.

Nguyen-vo, Thu-hoang. "Who You Truly Are: Coercion, Culture, and the Global Imaginary in the Governmental Rehabilitation of Sex Workers." From *The Ironies of Freedom: Sex, Culture, and Neoliberal Governance in Vietnam* (Seattle, WA: U Washington Press, 2008).

Week Seven: Genders in Production – On the Shop Floor

Tues 2/21 Salzinger, Leslie. "Producing Women: Femininity on the Line." From *Genders in Production: Making Workers in Mexico's Global Factories* (Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 2003), pp. 9-34.

Munoz, Carolina Bank "The Tortilla Behemoth; Sexualized Despotism and Women's Resistance in a Transnational Tortilla Factory." In *The Wages of Empire: Neoliberal Politics, Repression, and Women's Poverty*, eds. Amalia Cabezas, Ellen Reese, Marguerite Waller (Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers, 2007), pp. 127-138.

Thurs 2/23 ** IN-CLASS MIDTERM EXAM **

Week Eight: Sexual Violence and the US-Mexico Border

Tues 2/8 Staudt, Kathleen. "Violence at the US-Mexico Border: Framing Perspectives." From *Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez* (Austin, TX: UT Press, 2008), pp. 1-27.

Film: *Senorita Extraviada*
Screening and Discussion

Thurs 3/1 Falcon, Sylvanna. "'National Security' and the Violation of Women: Militarized Border Rape and the US-Mexico Border." In *The Color of Violence: The Incite! Anthology*, ed. *Incite! Women of Color Against Violence* (Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2006), pp. 119-129.

Luibheid. Eithne, "Rape, Asylum, and the US Border Patrol." From *Entry Denied: Controlling Sexuality at the Border* (Minneapolis, MN: U Minnesota Press, 2002), pp. 103-136.

Week Nine: The Cold War and High-Tech Global Economy

Tues 3/6 Pellow and Park, *Silicon Valley of Dreams*, Chapters 1-5.

Thurs 3/8 Pellow and Park, *Silicon Valley of Dreams*, Chapters 6-10.

Week Ten: Course Wrap Up

Tues 3/13 Ahmed, Sara. "Feminist Killjoys." From *The Promise of Happiness* (Durham, NC: Duke U Press, 2010), pp. 50-87.

Thurs 3/15 Wrap Up

**** ESSAY #2 DUE IN CLASS ****

Majoring or Minor in Ethnic Studies at UCSD

Many students take an ethnic studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a 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, a 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, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor, at 858-534-3277 or yescamilla@ucsd.edu.