Instructor: Thuy Vo Dang, Ph.D.
Office: Social Sciences Building 249
Email: t5vo@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Tues. 12:30-1:30pm
Thurs. 11:30am-1:30pm

Course Description
This course will critically examine Asian Americans through U.S.-national and transnational frameworks. We will explore a range of scholarly, literary, and visual texts in order to understand how the interdisciplinary field of Asian American Studies has shifted from an investment in domestic social justice concerns to consider how war, colonialism, and global capitalism have shaped Asian American lives historically and in the contemporary moment. This course pays particular attention to the ways in which Asian Americans negotiate these structural forces in their everyday lives. We will also consider queerness, silence, and expressive cultural forms in order to explore questions of agency and identity.

Section Information*

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<td>WLH 2208</td>
<td>Eugene Gambol</td>
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*You must attend the section you are enrolled in. You WILL NOT receive credit for attending a section you are not enrolled in.

Required Texts
2. Ethnic Studies Reader Available on E-Reserve
   * The textbook is available for purchase at Groundworks Bookstore (855) 452-9625. The book is also on reserve at the Social Science and Humanities Library.

Requirements
1) **Attendance**: It is required that you attend all lectures and discussion sections. Pop quizzes may be given occasionally during either lecture or section. Films and other media shown during lectures will not be made available on reserve.
2) **Readings**: You should complete weekly readings **before** Tuesday lectures. This will help you get the most out of lectures and be prepared to participate in discussion.
3) **Assignments**:
   a. Assignment # 1 will be due in lecture Oct. 14
   b. Assignment # 2 will be due in lecture Nov. 13
   Assignment Prompts will be handed out in Lecture a week before the due date.
4) **Exams**
   b. Final (take-home): Due on Thurs., Dec. 11

**Grading**
Section Attendance, Participation, and Quizzes**..........................15%
Assignment #1..............................................................................15%
Assignment #2..............................................................................15%
Midterm.........................................................................................25%
Final..............................................................................................30%

*You must complete all course requirements in order to pass the course.
** You must receive a passing grade in section to pass the course. Section grades are assigned by your teaching assistant and will be based on your attendance and active participation in classroom discussion.

**Reading & Lecture Schedule**
*This schedule is subject to change
** The readings from E-Reserves are designated (ER) and those from the Textbook are designated (TB)

**Sept. 25: Introduction**

**Week 1 (Sept. 30 & Oct. 2): Roots of Asian American Studies**

Legal Chronology of Asian American History (TB)

Okihiro, Gary. “When and Where I Enter” (TB)

Munson, C.B. “Japanese on the West Coast” (TB)


**Week 2 (Oct. 7 & 9): Asian American Racial Formation**

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. “On the Theoretical Status of the Concept of Race” (TB)


**Week 3 (Oct. 14 & 16): Asian Americans through a Critical Transnational Perspective**
*Assignment #1 due in Lecture Oct. 14*
Miyoshi, Masao. “A Borderless World?: From Colonialism to Transnationalism and the Decline of the Nation-State” (TB)


**Week 4 (Oct. 21 & 23): Midterm**

Film screening in lecture on Oct. 21

MIDTERM: Thursday, OCT. 23

**Week 5 (Oct. 28 & 30): Post-1965 Communities**

Kibria, Nazli. “Not Asian, Black, or White?: Reflections on South Asian American Racial Identity” (TB)

Kim, Elaine H. “Home is Where the Han Is: A Korean-American Perspective on the Los Angeles Upheavals” (TB)

Vo, Linda. “The Vietnamese American Experience: From Dispersion to the Development of Post-Refugee Communities” (TB)


**Week 6 (Nov. 4 & 6): Cultural Representations**

Lowe, Lisa. “Heterogeneity, Hybridity, Multiplicity: Marking Asian American Difference” (TB)

Yamamoto, Hisaye. “The Legend of Miss Sasagawa” (TB)

Entire “REPRESENTATIONS AND IDENTITIES” Section in (TB)


**Week 7 (Veterans Day & Nov. 13)**

No Class on Nov. 11

*Assignment #2 due in Lecture Nov. 13

**Week 8 (Nov. 18 & 20): Queering Asian America**
Fung, Richard. “Looking for my Penis: The Eroticized Asian in Gay Video Porn” (TB)

Takagi, Dana Y. “Maiden Voyage: Excursion into Sexuality and Identity Politics in Asian America (TB)


**Week 9 (Nov. 25 & Thanksgiving)**

Film screening in lecture Nov. 25
No class on Nov. 27

**Week 10 (Dec. 2 & 4): New Directions/Different Strategies**

Koshy, Susan. “The Fiction of Asian American Literature” (TB)


**FINAL EXAM (take-home)**
Due Dec. 11, 2008

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**Majoring or Minoring 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.