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. Grounding contemporary labor migrations from Latin America and Asia in the history of colonialism and US imperialism, 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 personal narratives and social movements of nurses, maquiladora, domestic and sex workers, among others, and the ways in which they resist and challenge labor exploitation, imperialism, militarization and neoliberalism. Our secondary goal is to consider how our analysis of Asian and Latina immigrant workers challenges liberal feminist perspectives.

Required Texts:

** All texts on reserve at Geisel Library or available for purchase at the UCSD bookstore.
** With the exception of the Ehrenreich article for Week One (available online), all other readings will be made available on WebCT as pdf files.
Grading and Course Requirements:

Attendance and active class participation 20%
Essay #1 (3-5 pages), due week 5 20%
Essay #2 (5-7 pages), due week 9 30%
In-class Final Examination 30%

Scale:  
A  93-100 points  
A-  90-92 
B+  86-89  
B  83-85 
B-  80-82 
C+  76-79  
C  73-75 
C-  70-72 
D+  66-69  
D  63-65 
D-  60-62  
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 final exam will consist of both short and long essays. It will focus primarily on the 2nd half of class, but will ask students to integrate concepts and perspectives covered in the 1st half.

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 at least 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.
Schedule (subject to change):

**Week Zero:**  Course Introduction  
**Thurs 9/23**  No readings

**Week One:**  Rethinking Women's Work and Feminist Solidarities  

**Week Two:**  Colonialism and Racialized Gendered Labor Migrations  
**Thurs 10/7**  Film: *La operación*  
Screening and Discussion

**Week Three:**  Globalization, Immigration, and the Racialization of Paid Domestic Work  
**Tues 10/12**  Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica*, Preface and Chapters 1-2.  
**Thurs 10/14**  Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica*, Chapters 3-5.
**Week Four: Immigration/Welfare Policy and Racialized Motherhood**

**Tues 10/19**  

Film: *Maid in America*  
Screening and Discussion

**Thurs 10/21**  


**Week Five: At Home: Transnational Motherhood and Affective Labor**

**Tues 10/26**  
**Essay #1 Due In-Class**

**Thurs 10/28**  


**Week Six: Mobilizing and Militarizing Women’s Lives and Labor**

**Tues 11/2**  


**Thurs 11/4**  

Luibheid, Eithne. TBA
**Week Seven: Genders in Production – On the Shop Floor**

**Tues 11/9**  


**Thurs 11/11**  
Veteran’s Day Holiday  
No Class

**Week Eight: Feminicide, Border Violence, and the Global Economy**

**Tues 11/16**  

Film: *Senorita Extraviada*  
Screening and Discussion

**Thurs 11/18**  


**Week Nine: Feminized Immigrant Labor, Cold War Politics, and the High-Tech Economy**

**Tues 11/23**  
**Essay #2 Due In-Class**

**Thurs 11/25**  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
No Class

**Week Ten: Femininity(ies) and Feminism(s)**

**Tues 11/30**  


**Thurs 12/2**  
Final Exam Review and Wrap-Up
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.