Pinayism: Discovering and Reclaiming the F/Pilipina Voice

Mission Statement/Purpose:
Seeking to provide an education which escapes the “banking” of knowledge, an educational practice which “treats” students as objects of assistance, this class will place emphasis on a “problem posing” education as well as “praxis.” “Problem posing” which is centered around dialogue and “bases its self on creativity and stimulates true reflections and action upon reality” (Paulo Fiere - Pedagogy of the Oppressed) will aid students in answering the questions: What does it means to be Pinay today? How does being Pinay shape individual and collective experiences with Pinoys as well as other women, people of color, and dominant society?

Within Pinayism: Discovering and Reclaiming the F/Pilipina Voice, students will analyze, reflect, and dialogue about texts, poetry, films, guest lectures, and personal and group experiences to come to a better understanding of individual and collective Pinay experiences and their relativity to the other experiences of various communities. Students will then use this knowledge to put practice into action -praxis- by organizing various Pinay gatherings/celebration days during the quarter.

Goals:

• To participate in an education rooted in praxis through the participation in various Pinay gatherings/celebration days organized by the class
• Encourage solidarity through planning/attending Pinay gatherings throughout the quarter
• Explore the concept of Pinayism, defined by Allyson Titangco-Cubales as “the complexity of the intersections where race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, spirituality/religion, educational status, age, and place of birth” and its relation to our individual and collective lived experiences
• Compare and contrast the experiences of Pinays to other women of color
• Connect to Pinays on a local/global level
• Give hope to make change
• Provide a safe space for honest dialogue and personal/group growth

Required Reading: Pinay Power (an anthology edited by Melinda De Jesus, Routledge Press, 2005) and various articles
**Week 1: Power, Privilege & Voice**  
Topics: Constructing our Framework: Imperialisms, Feminisms, Intersectionality

Monday: Introduction, Syllabus  
- “Why are people taking this course?”  
- Pinay Speaks & importance of classes like these  
- Ground Rules  
- Go through syllabus  
- Sign-ups for group presentations  
- “Cycle of Socialization”  
- Watch Pinayism video made 2 years ago

Wednesday: Dr. Patricia Heras “Silent Sacrifices” film  
- Guest Speaker: Antoinette Nagai @ 4:00  
- Discussions on readings & video  
- Discuss possible class project

Readings due: Wednesday 1/10  
- *Pinay Power* Ch. 8: Allyson Goce Tintiango-Cubales. “Pinayism”  
- *Pinay Power* Ch. 3: Melinda L. de Jesus. “Fictions of Assimilation: Nancy Drew, Cultural Imperialism and the Filipina/American Experience”

**Week 2: Family and Notions of Home**

Monday: No School. MLK Holiday.

Wednesday: Discussion/Presentation  
- Brief presentation (20 minutes max)  
- Discussion on readings & presentation  
- Collect last week’s journal entry  
- Listen to “Mother” by Two Tongues  
- Listen to “Family” by re:verse

Readings due: Wednesday 1/17  
- *Pinay Power* Ch. 2: Linda M. Pierce. “Not Just My Closet: Exposing Familial, Cultural, and Imperial Skeletons”  
- *Homebound* Ch. 8: Yen Le Espiritu. “What of the Children?”  

**Week 3: Arts & Activism**  
Topics: Women creating art, Building community through art
Monday: Guest Speaker - Loralei Bingamon, former student organizer of ETHN 198: Pinayism

Wednesday: (tentative) Guest Speaker: Eugene Gambol, Ethnic Studies Graduate Student
(tentative) Guest Speaker: Bing Aradanas, Ethnic Studies Graduate Student
• Group presentation

Readings:
• *Pinay Power* Ch. 18: Victoria Alba. “Sino Ka? Ano Ka?: Contemporary Art by Eight Filipina Artists”
• *Pinay Power* Ch. 22: Marie-Therese C. Sulit. “Through Our Pinay Writings: Narrating Trauma, Embodying Recovery”
• Additional readings TBD

**Week 4: Faith, Spirituality & Religion**
Topics: Resurgence of indigenous spirituality, colonialism & effects on religion

Monday: Guest Speaker – Joseph Allen R. Ramirez
• Dance workshop

Wednesday: tentative Guest Speaker: Therese Cenidoza Suarez
• Group presentation on weekly readings
• Discussion
• Check up on journals

Readings due: Wednesday 1/31
• *Pinay Power* Ch. 4: Rachel A. Bundang. “‘This Is Not Your Mother’s Catholic Church:’ When Filipino Catholic Spirituality Meets American Culture”
• *Filipino Americans: Transformation and Identity*: Maria P.P. Root. Selected chapters
• “Babaylan Rising.” Aimee Suzara
• Additional readings TBD

**Week 5: Building Allies**

Monday: Guest Speaker – Prof. Frank Samson (tentative)
• Guest Speaker: (Pinayism Advisor) Prof. Yen Espiritu
• Discussion
• Q & A session about his essay

Wednesday: Guests – Students from Pinayism class offered 2 years ago
• Group presentation
• Discussion around readings and building alliances
• Collect journal entries
Week 6: Sexuality & Gender Identity

Monday: Guest Speaker – Nancy Magpusao
- Workshop & Discussion

Wednesday:
- Group presentation
- Discussion about readings & workshop

Readings due: Monday 2/12
- *Pinay Power* Ch. 11: Various Authors. “Tomboy, Dyke, Lezzi, and Bi: Filipina Lesbian and Bisexual Women Speak Out”
- *Homebound* Ch. 7: Yen Le Espiritu. “We Don’t Sleep Around Like White Girls Do”
- *Readings for Diversity & Social Justice.* Masculinity as Homophobia: Fear, Shame and Silence in the Construction of Gender Identity. 213-219

Week 7: Globalism, Invisibility and Visibility of Pinays
Topics: Pilipin@ Current events, U.S.-Philippine relations


Wednesday: Guest Speaker – Thea Q. Tagle, Ethnic Studies Graduate Student
- About her involvement with GABRIELA Network
- Discussion on current events
- Presentation on “Justice for Nicole”
- Listen to “Give Our Sistahs a Raise” by Yellow Rage

Readings due 2/21:
- Various newspaper articles about “Justice for Nicole”
  - Explore U.S. & Philippines perspectives
- *From the Other Side of the Sea:* Maria P.P. Root. 239-241
- *Fantasy- Production: Sexual Economies and Other Philippine Consequences for the New World Order:* Neferti Tadiar. Selected chapters

Week 8: Decolonization and Identity

Monday: Guest Speaker - TBD
• Group discussion on readings and recap previous week
• Check on journal entries
• Discussion on final creative projects

Wednesday:
• Group presentation
• Discussion on Cycle of Socialization & Cycle of Liberation
• Go over “Cycle of Liberation” chart

Readings due: Monday 2/26
• *Filipino-Americans*: Maria P.P. Root. Selected chapters
• *Coming Full Circle: The Process of Decolonization Among Post-1965 Filipino Americans*: Leny Mendoza Strobel. Selected chapters

**Week 9: Self-Love and Wellness**

Monday: Guest Speaker: Representative from UCSD Psych & Counseling Services

• Discuss significance of this week’s topics
• Compose list of songs of healing and empowerment/other activities

Wednesday:
• Group presentation
• Discuss readings
• Post secret assignment
• Collect journal entry

Readings due: Monday 3/05
• Selections from *Growing Up Filipino*
• Selections from *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul on Tough Stuff*
• Selection from Bell Hooks’ *All About Love*

**Week 10: Conclusion**
Topics: Sisterhood, Re/writing

Monday: Guest speaker- Bien-Elize Roque, Ethnic Studies graduate

Wednesday: Class project (possibly similar to *Silent Sacrifices*)

**Final Individual Presentations during Finals Week**

Wednesday, March 21, 3 – 6 p.m. @ Cross-Cultural Center