

ETHN 98/198: Pinayism

Discovering and Reclaiming the F/Pilipina Voice

Winter 2007

Directed Group Study

M/W 3-4:20 @ Cross-Cultural Center

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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 Titiangco-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 Tintiangco-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?”
- *Her Wild American Self*. Evelina M Galang. “Lectures on How You Never Lived Back Home”
- *Babaylan: An Anthology of Filipina and Filipina American Writers*: Erna Hernandez. “Tsismis”

Week 3: Arts & Activism

Topics: Women creating art, Building community through art

Monday: Guest Speaker - Lorelei 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

Reading due: Monday 2/05

- *Pinay Power* Ch. 9: Frank L. Samson. “Filipino American Males: Comrades in the Filipina/o American Feminist Movement”
- Additional readings TBD

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, Lezzie, 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*. “Night to His Day:” The Social Construction of Gender. 203-213
- *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

Monday: No School. Holiday.

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
- *Women, Power and Kinship Politics: Female Power in Post-War Philippines*: Mina Roces. Ch. 5: “Beauty Queen, Moral Guardian, *Inang Bayan*, and Militant Nun: Images of Female Power.” 161-187
- *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