Course Description
This course comparatively examines Filipino and Vietnamese American identities and communities as they have been structured by US empire and wars in Southeast Asia at different historical moments. Drawing from scholarly research, literature, and visual media, we will examine the convergences of identity and community formations among Filipino and Vietnamese Americans by focusing on the transnational dimensions of their lives. Foregrounding war and imperialism as primary catalysts for their migration to the US, we will explore how they have been made subject to US racial formation before and after their arrival in the US. Most importantly, we seek to understand how they craft their own lives through their memories of the homeland as well as their struggles to belong in America.

Required Texts

5) Ethnic Studies 126 Reader on E-Reserve

• All books are available at Groundwork Book Store (452-9625)

Course Requirements & Grading

1) Active Participation/Learning: This course will be structured on a lecture-discussion model. The success of the course depends on your active engagement. (1-page self-evaluation due with Final Exam) 15%
2) Weekly 1-2 pp. Reading Response Papers (Due Thursdays) 20%
3) Community Event Analysis & Presentation. (Due Weeks 6-9) 20%
5) Take-Home Final Exam. (Due March 17, 2009) 25%
Schedule

Week 1 (Jan. 6 & 8) Remembering and Forgetting in History


Week 2 (Jan. 13 & 15) The Presence of US Empire in Southeast Asia


Screening: *Memories of a Forgotten War*

Week 3 (Jan. 20 & 22) Perspectives on US Wars in Southeast Asia

*Home Bound.* Ch. 1


**Week 4 (Jan. 27 & 29) In the Wake of the Wars**

*Home Bound.* Ch. 2-3


**Week 5 (Feb. 3 & 5) Midterm**

Screening: *Journey from the Fall*

**Week 6 (Feb. 10 & 12) Born of War and Empire**

*We Should Never Meet* (all)


**Week 7 (17 & 19) Circuits of Migration**

*Home Bound.* Ch. 4-5

*For Better or for Worse* (all)

**Week 8 (24 & 26) Marriage and Changing Family Dynamics**

*Home Bound.* Ch. 6-7


Screening: *The Debut*

**Week 9 (March 3 & 5): Embodying Transnational Identities**

*American Son* (all)


**Week 10 (March 10 & 12): Conclusion: Re-Inventions**

*Home Bound*, Ch. 8-9.


**TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE MARCH 17, 2009**

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<th>Majoring or Minoring in Ethnic Studies at UCSD</th>
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<td>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 <a href="mailto:yescamilla@ucsd.edu">yescamilla@ucsd.edu</a>.</td>
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