

## ETHN 20: INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

University of California, San Diego • Winter 2011 • Tuesday & Thursday 2:00-3:20 • Center 109

### INSTRUCTOR:

JASON MAGABO PEREZ

E-mail: [jasonmagaboperez@sandiego.edu](mailto:jasonmagaboperez@sandiego.edu)

Office Hours: **T** 10:00-11:30 (SSB 245)

**TH** 10:00-11:30 (CCC)

### TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

ANGELA KONG

E-mail: [ankong@ucsd.edu](mailto:ankong@ucsd.edu)

Sections: A01 **W** 5:00-5:50 (Sequoia 148)

A02 **W** 6:00-6:50 (Sequoia 148)

Office Hours: **T** 12:00-1:30 (SSB 241)

**TH** 3:45-5:15 (CCC)

THEA QUIRAY TAGLE

E-mail: [ttagle@ucsd.edu](mailto:ttagle@ucsd.edu)

Sections: A03 **F** 11:00-11:50 (Sequoia 147)

A04 **F** 12:00-12:50 (Sequoia 147)

Office Hours: **T** 3:30-5:00 (Women's Ctr.)

**TH** 3:30-5:00 (SSB 241)

*These are the times to grow our souls. Each of us is called upon to embrace the conviction that despite the powers and principalities bent on commodifying all our human relationships, we have the power within us to create the world anew.*

- Grace Lee Boggs, Lifelong Community Activist & Author

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will be a critical study of Asian American experience. We will read scholarly, literary, and visual texts in order to understand how the interdisciplinary field of Asian American Studies confronts issues of Asian American immigration, racialization, exclusion, social and political activism, assimilation, community-building, and transnationalism. Because the very designation "Asian American" can often be misleading, inclusive, exclusive, or overwhelmingly broad, we will pay particular attention to the personal narrative and incorporate various ways of knowing in order to ground our inquiry to the intimate concerns of the present. As we explore questions of gender and sexuality, race and class, war and imperialism, and culture and memory, we will not only focus on the structural forces that have shaped and continue to reshape Asian American lives but also on how Asian Americans negotiate and often resist such forces through political and creative means of expression.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

*available at UCSD Bookstore*

Zhou, Min and J.V. Gatewood, eds. ***Contemporary Asian America: A Multidisciplinary Reader***. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

New York: NYU Press, 2007. Print.

Fujino, Diane C. ***Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama***. Minneapolis:

University of Minnesota Press, 2005. Print.

Additional Electronic Readings available via WEBCT

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION.** You are expected not only to attend all lectures and sections but also to participate actively. Note: Films and other media covered during lecture might not be available on reserve.

**READING ASSIGNMENTS.** In order for you to make the best use of your time, you should complete all readings prior to attending lecture. This way you will be able to participate in the vital conversations that are backbone of this course.

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS.** You will be required to write **one critical essay (5-7 pages)** that addresses the themes of this course. Details for this assignment will be provided well before its due date. In addition, you will be required to write **2 brief reflection papers (1-1.5 pages)** for your section.

**CREATIVE PROJECT.** You are required to develop a creative work by the end of the quarter. This assignment can take on any shape/medium/artistic discipline. The universal requirement is that you will write a critical reflection on the project. Details for this assignment will be discussed during lecture.

**EXAMINATION.** You will be taking an **in-class Midterm Examination during Week 4** and you will take an **in-class Final** at the end of the quarter. Format: short answer and essay.

**GRADE BREAKDOWN**

It is strongly suggested that the student keep track of her/his own progress by recording assignment scores below once the assignment has been graded and returned.

Assignment	Points Available	Student Score
Midterm Examination	20	
Critical Essay	20	
Creative Project	15	
Final Examination	25	
Section/Participation	20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

Grades for the course will be calculated as follows:

A+	100.1+
A	93.1-100
A-	90 – 93
B+	87 – 89.9
B	83.1 – 86.9
B-	80 – 83
C+	77 – 79.9
C	73.1 – 76.9
C-	70 – 73
D	60 – 69.9
F	0 – 59.9

*FORMATTING: All assignments must be typed, double-spaced, and in MLA Format: 1" margins all-around, 12-point Times New Roman font, proper paginations, proper heading, and stapled. Papers that do not follow this format will not be accepted.*

**HELLA STRICT E-MAIL POLICY**

All e-mail correspondence with the instructor and teaching assistants must be properly formatted with a greeting and salutation and must be grammatically correct; otherwise, the instructor or teaching assistants will delete your e-mail message and will choose not to respond.

**LATE WORK POLICY**

Late work will NOT be accepted. LATE work will not be ACCEPTED. LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

**NOTE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Please familiarize yourself with the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity:

<http://www.senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm>

Copying even small portions of essays from the internet or not properly citing your sources falls under the definition of plagiarism. If you have questions, please make an appointment to meet with the instructor or teaching assistants.

**DISABILITY RESOURCES STATEMENT**

Students requesting accommodations and services due to a disability for this course need to provide a current *Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter* issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), prior to eligibility for requests. Receipt of AFAs in advance is necessary for appropriate planning for the provision of reasonable accommodations. OSD Academic Liaisons also need to receive current AFA letters.

For additional information, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities:

858.534.4382 (V)

858.534.9709 (TTY) - Reserved for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

[osd@ucsd.edu](mailto:osd@ucsd.edu)

<http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

This is an ambitious interdisciplinary introductory course. Guest lectures and other supplemental readings and activities are not listed in the following schedule. You will be given ample time to complete all coursework. Prepare for critical discussion by completing the reading and writing assignments prior to each lecture and section. We will try our best to adhere to the schedule below. Be flexible. Breathe. Yes.

### **WEEK 1 (JAN 4,6): ROOTS OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

Course Introduction: Syllabus Overview

*On Strike! Ethnic Studies, 1969-1999* (Film, 36 min.)

Umemoto, K. "On Strike!": San Francisco State College Strike, 1968-1969: The Role of Asian American Students"

Legal Chronology of Asian American History [electronic]

### **WEEK 2 (JAN 11,13): RACE AND IMMIGRATION**

*Who Killed Vincent Chin?* (Film, 83 min.)

Okihiro, G. "When and Where I Enter" [electronic]

Chan, S. "Hostility and Conflict" [electronic]

Park, L. "A Letter to My Sister"

### **WEEK 3 (JAN 18,20): THE MODEL MINORITY MYTH**

*History and Memory* (Film, 32 min.)

Zhou, M. "Are Asian Americans Becoming White?"

Lee, R. "The Cold War Construction of the Model Minority Myth"

### **WEEK 4 (JAN 25,27): THE PRODUCTION OF CULTURE**

*A Song for Ourselves* (Film, 34 min.)

Lowe, L. "Heterogeneity, Hybridity, Multiplicity: Marking Asian American Differences"

★ JAN 27: IN-CLASS MIDTERM EXAMINATION

### **WEEK 5 (FEB 1,3): THE PRODUCTION OF CULTURE (CONTINUED)**

*The Year of the Dragon* by Frank Chin (Play/Film)

Mura, D. "A Shift in Power, A Sea Change in the Arts: Asian American Constructions" [electronic]

Lee, J. "Acts of Exclusion: Asian American History Plays" [electronic]

### **WEEK 6 (FEB 8,10): QUEERING OF**

Takagi, D. "Maiden Voyage: Excursion into Sexuality and Identity Politics in Asian America" [electronic]

Manalansan, M. "Searching for Community: Filipino Gay Men in New York City"

**WEEK 7 (FEB 15,17): ASIAN AMERICAN RADICALISM**

*Fall of the I-Hotel* (Film, 58 min.)

Omatsu, G. "The Four Prisons and the Movements of Liberation: Asian American Activism from the 1960s to the 1990s"

Fu, M. "On Contradiction: Theory and Transformation in Detroit's Asian Political Alliance" [electronic]

**WEEK 8 (FEB 22,24): HEARTBEAT OF STRUGGLE**

Fujino, D. *Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama* Ch. 1-4

★ FEB 17: CREATIVE PROJECT

**WEEK 9 (MAR 1,3): HEARTBEAT OF STRUGGLE (CONTINUED)**

*Mountains that Take Wing: Angela Davis & Yuri Kochiyama – A Conversation on Life, Struggles, and Liberation* (Film, 98 min.)

Fujino, D. *Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama* Ch. 5-7

**WEEK 10 (MAR 8,10): ON POSSIBILITY**

Fujino, D. *Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama* Ch. 8-9

Miyoshi, M. "A Borderless World? From Colonialism to Transnationalism and the Decline of the Nation-State" [electronic]

★ MAR 10: CRITICAL ESSAY

★ FINAL EXAMINATION: THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011 – 3:00-6:00

### **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](mailto:yescamilla@ucsd.edu) or [www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu](http://www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu)