CIRCULATIONS OF DIFFERENCE
Introduction to Ethnic Studies

Prof. Yến Lê Espiritu
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Teaching Assistants and Discussion Sections
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Cynthia Vazquez         Wed 10a, CENTR 217A; Wed 12p, MANDE B-152  cvazque@ucsd.edu
Mellisa Linton-Villafranco Wed 11a, MCGIL 2315; Wed 2p, HSS 2152  mlinton@ucsd.edu
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Aundrey Jones           Fri 2p and 3p, HSS 2305B  amj005@ucsd.edu  Leon Lee
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Course Description
Part of a year-long introduction to the Ethnic Studies major, this course examines how racial formation in
the US has been shaped by inter-regional and transnational migration and the circulation of commodities,
knowledge, bodies, and culture. Course readings and class discussions will foreground an analysis of how
the social construction of racial, gender, and sexual difference has both shaped and been shaped by
historical and contemporary processes of movement, displacement, and containment.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change; the syllabus of record is kept updated and posted on the course
website on TritonEd

Required Texts
All course readings can be viewed and downloaded via the TritonEd course website. Other relevant
course materials will also be posted there throughout the quarter.

Course requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion section participation – 20%</td>
<td>94-100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Immigration Law” Assignment – 10%</td>
<td>90-93 A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam – 20%</td>
<td>86-89 B+</td>
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“Story Maps” Assignment – 20%
Final Exam – 30%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>83-85</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>63-65</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>76-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0-60</td>
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**Grading policy.** You must complete all assignments and receive a passing grade in your discussion section in order to receive a passing grade in the class. For the P/NP option, a “Pass” requires the equivalent letter grade of C or above.

**Discussion section participation.** Sections are mandatory. Each TA will have their unique way of evaluating section participation.

**“Immigration Law” Assignment** – Due date: Jan. 26. Instructions will be posted on TritonEd

**“Story Maps” Assignment** – Due date: March 2. Instructions will be posted on TritonEd

**Midterm Exam** – In-class exam, Feb. 9

**Final Exam** – In-class exam, Friday March 23, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Academic Honesty

All work submitted in this course must be your own and original. Each student is expected to be familiar with and abide by UCSD’s policy on Integrity of Scholarship, available at http://www.senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm#AP14

Discussion Ethics

This class is intended for students interested in challenging commonly held understandings of race, gender, sexuality, nation, and class. Please engage one another in discussion with respect, generosity, and consideration. Abusive and harsh language, intimidation and personal attacks will not be tolerated. These norms are reflected in the UCSD Principles of Community that we are all expected to follow. For more information about the UCSD Principles of Community, visit (http://wwwvcb.ucsd.edu/principles.htm).

Accommodations

If you have a medical condition or different physical or learning needs for which you may need accommodation in order to participate fully and successfully, please feel free to speak with me individually so that we can make necessary adjustments. You may also seek assistance or information from the Office for Students with Disabilities. If you prefer to be called by a different name or referred to as a different gender than the one under which you are officially enrolled, please inform me, so that we can adjust accordingly.

Classroom Technology Policy

“A growing body of evidence shows that over all, college students learn less when they use computers or tablets during lectures. They also tend to earn worse grades. The research is unequivocal: Laptops distract from learning, both for users and for those around them.”

Source: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/22/business/laptops-not-during-lecture-or-meeting.html?_r=1

“...research suggests that even when laptops are used solely to take notes, they may still be impairing learning because their use results in shallower processing.”

Source: http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0956797614524585

My goal is to create and maintain an environment in which all students have the maximum potential to focus on learning. Therefore, I request that all electronic devices, including laptops, be put away at all
times. If you need special accommodations, please email me in the first two weeks of class. Let’s respect the classroom as a place of learning and exchanging of ideas.

**Attendance**
I firmly believe that students learn the course material much better when they regularly attend class. Therefore, I will take attendance periodically via short in-class written exercises. Students who register 80 percent attendance via these exercises will earn 2 extra credit points; those who register 90 percent attendance will earn 3 extra credit points.

**Discussion Sections**
Discussion sections are a crucial part of this course and attendance is mandatory. Please attend the section in which you are registered now and throughout the duration of the course. It is the collective responsibility of all those present in section to create a collegial environment conducive to respectful exchange and intellectual growth. Please treat others’ ideas, perspectives, and work with respect. Do consult your section syllabus for additional information regarding weekly assignments.

**Unit 1 – Ethnic Studies: “Wake Work”**

**Week 1 – Jan 8, 10 & 12 | Setting the Terms**

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/557744ffe4b013bae3b7af63/t/557f2fe2e4b043c28125cc27/1434398690240/Tuck_Suspending+Damage_HER.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/557744ffe4b013bae3b7af63/t/557f2fe2e4b043c28125cc27/1434398690240/Tuck_Suspending+Damage_HER.pdf)


**Unit 2 – Immigration, Race, and Nation**

**Week 2 – Jan 17 & 19 | “Operation Gatekeeping”: The Production of Illegality**

January 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.


[http://www.law.gonzaga.edu/law-review/files/2013/06/Article7-Bushell.pdf](http://www.law.gonzaga.edu/law-review/files/2013/06/Article7-Bushell.pdf)


**Unit 3 – Border Crossers: Empire, Colonialism, and Militarism**

**Week 4 – Jan 29, 31 & Feb 2 | US Colonialism and “Return” Migration**

Video: “Dollar a Day, Ten Cents a Dance.”


**Week 5 – Feb. 5, 7 & 9 | Globalization and Imperialism**


**In-Class Midterm – Feb. 9**

**Week 6 – Feb 12, 14 & 16 – U.S. Militarism**

Week 7 – Feb 21 & 23 | Militarism and Migration

February 19 – Presidents’ Day Holiday


February 23 – Guest speaker: Professor Mohamed Abumaye, Assistant Professor of Sociology, CSU, San Marcos.

Unit 4 – Boundaries Crossers: Solidarities and Possibilities

Week 8 – Feb. 26, 28 & March 2 | The Culture of Liberation


Week 9 – March 5, 7 & 9 | Youth Movements


Week 10 – March 12, 14 & 16 | Feminist Refugee Epistemology


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<tr>
<th>Majoring or Minoring in Ethnic Studies</th>
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<tr>
<td>An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, education, medicine, public health, social work, counseling, public policy, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor, please contact:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monica Rodriguez, Ethnic Studies Undergraduate Program Advisor</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ethnicstudies@ucsd.edu">ethnicstudies@ucsd.edu</a> or visit <a href="http://www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu">www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu</a></td>
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