

Fall 2014, MWF 12:00-12:50p, at TM 102

Instructor: Dr. Chien-Ting Lin

E-mail: chl156@ucsd.edu

Office Hours: MW 11:00a-12:00p (at Peet's Coffee on campus), and by appointment

Asian/American Cultural Politics: U.S. Cold War Imperialism, Knowledge and History

Course Description and Goals

This course looks at the intersection of Asian/American politics and the U.S. Cold War history by examining the transnational Cold War historical and cultural formations of Asian/American racial politics across class, gender, and sexuality in transpacific Asian America. By situating the Asian/American politics within the U.S. Cold War, we will consider how the process of U.S. empire building anticipated racialization and gendering both inside the U.S. and beyond over Asia, creating transpacific migrations and cultural transference. To address the questions of Asian/American cultural politics organized around race, gender, and sexuality in a global context, we will look at specific historical events, literary and cultural productions, and academic institutionalization of Asian-American studies in the U.S. and Asia to demonstrate the global imaginaries of "Americanity," and its interpellation and interpretations of Asian and Asian-American Subjects. While considering politics of knowledge as a locus of power contestation, we will explore how alternative forms of cultural productions, literary and memory narratives, and socio-cultural practices are rendered possible to disrupt the dominant narratives of U.S. history and politics. This class could be considered as one of the core curriculum to familiarize students with theoretical frameworks by cultivating their own critical perspectives to pursue the research topics of their own interests on modern social thoughts through transnational approaches to historical and cultural analysis of U.S. imperialism, knowledge politics and power.

Course requirements

Attendance and Participation	20 %
Group Presentation	20 %
Take-home Midterm	30 %
Final Paper	30 %

**You must complete all assignments to pass the course.*

Attendance and Participation

You are expected to attend all class sessions. More than three absences during the quarter may adversely affect your grade. If you must miss a session, you are responsible for the material covered during that session. Come to class prepared to engage with the ideas, concepts, and theories from the texts and from lecture.

E-mail

You may reach me during office hours, by appointment, and/or through e-mail. I answer e-mails Monday through Friday between 9-5p. Allow 48 hours for a response. Check your e-mail daily for any announcements. You will be required to use your school e-mail address for correspondence.

Required Texts

Most of the texts will be available in PDF on Ted; some will be available online via E-library at UCSD. You are required to read all texts before the day that they are assigned.

Required films will be available for online streaming under the UCSD Geisel Library course reserves: (with PW: CL28, not case sensitive)

History and Memory (dir. Rea Tajiri)

Formosa Betrayed (dir. Adam Kane)

Project Descriptions

Group Presentation: In groups, you will be responsible for facilitating one 25-minute class discussion based on the readings for that class session. Not only will you discuss the text with your group and with the class, but you will also pose questions to the class that relate the text to the other texts and the bigger themes of the course.

Midterm Exam: In a three to four-page take-home midterm, you will be asked to incorporate the ideas, concepts, and theories from the texts and lectures to answer a prompt. (***due by week 5**)

Final Paper: The final paper of the course will require you to use one or two specific texts that we read for the class to write a five to seven-page critical analysis of a topic of your choice that is related to the issues presented and discussed in this course.

* Formatting: All writing assignments must be typed, double-spaced, and in MLA format. 1" margins all-around, 12-point Times New Roman font, and stapled. Put your name, PID# and page number.

Late Policy

For midterm, and final paper, I will deduct 1/3 of a grade for each day that the assignment is late.

Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES)

Students with disabilities are encouraged to talk with me to make accommodations for the quarter.

Academic Integrity

All students are required to adhere to UCSD's policies of Academic Integrity.

Schedule (Subject to change)

I. Situating Global Asian/American Politics: the Cold War, Knowledge Production, and "Area Studies"

Oct. 3 Introduction

Week 1: Introduction: Contesting with (U.S.) Empire's "Areas" of "Studies"

Oct. 6: "Boundary Displacement: The State, the Foundation, and International and Area Studies during and after the Cold War" from *Parallax Visions: American East-East Asian Relations* (Bruce Cummings) (pdf)

Oct. 8: "The International within National: American Studies and Asian American Critique" from *Cultural Critique* No. 40, *The Futures of American Studies* (Lisa Lowe) (pdf)

Oct. 10: "Areas of Concern: Area Studies and the New American Studies" from *The Cultural Politics of New American Studies* (John Carlos Rowe) (pdf)

Week 2: Cold War Historical and Cultural Formations of Asia/American Politics

Oct. 13: "Pacific America" from *Asian/American: Historical Crossings of a Racial Frontier* (David Palumbo-Liu) (pdf)

Oct. 15: "The Cold War Chinese Immigration Crisis and the Confession Case" from *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America* (Mae M. Ngai) (pdf)

Oct. 17: "Introduction" from *Cold War Orientalism: Asia in the Middlebrow Imagination, 1945-1961* (Christina Klein) (pdf); Group Presentation #1

II. Cold War Politics of History and Memory in Transpacific Asian America

Week 3: War Narratives, National History, and the Unsettling Memories

Oct. 20: "Introduction" from *Perilous Memories: The Asia Pacific War(s)* (T. Fujitani et al.) (pdf); *History and Memory* (Film)

Oct. 22: "Traveling Memories, Contagious Justice: Americanization of Japanese War Crimes at the End of the Post-Cold War" from *Journal of Asian American Studies* 6, no.1 (Lisa Yoneyama) (pdf)

Oct. 24: "Thirty Years AfterWARD: The Endings That Are Not Over" from *Amerasia Journal* 31:2 (Yên Lê Espiritu) (pdf) (*Guest Lecture: Davorn Sisavath)

III. Cold War Conditions of Asian/America's Racial Politics Across Gender, Class, and Sexuality

Week 4: Transnational Asian America's Race, Gender, and Sexuality

Oct. 27: "The Forgotten War: Korean America's Conditions of Possibility" from *Ends of Empire* (Jodi Kim) (pdf)

Oct. 29: "Perversity, Contamination and the Dangers of Queer Domesticity" from *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco's China Town* (Nayan Shah) (pdf)

Oct. 31: "The Cold War Origins of the Model Minority Myth" from *Orientalisms: Asian American in Popular Culture* (Robert Lee) (pdf); Group Presentation #2

Week 5: Transnational Asian America's Race, Gender, and Sexuality

Nov. 3: "'A Mutual Brokenness': The Hiroshima Maidens Project, Japanese Americans, and American Motherhood" from *An Absent Presence: Japanese Americans in Postwar American Culture, 1945-1960* (Caroline Chung Simpson) (pdf)

Nov. 5: "Local Sites/Global Contexts: the Transnational Trajectories of *Fire* and 'The Quilt'" from *Impossible Desires: Queer Diaspora and South Asian Public Cultures* (Gayatri Gopinath) (pdf)

Nov. 7: “In the Shadows of Stonewall: Examining Gay Transnational Politics and the Diasporic Dilemma” from *The Politics of Culture in the Shadow of Capital* (Martin Manalansan) (Available in Library E-Version) ***Mid-term Exam Paper Due**

Week 6: Racialized Cold War: Militarism, Labor Migration, Sex Work

Nov. 10: “Surrogate Military, Subempire, and Masculinity: South Korea in the Vietnam War” from *Service Economies: Militarism, Sex Work, and Migrant Labor in South Korea* (Jin-kyung Lee) (pdf)

Nov. 12: “Partners in Prostitution” from *Sex Among Allies: Military Prostitution in U.S.-Korea Relations* (Katharine H. S. Moon) (Available in Library E-version)

Nov. 14: “Nationalism, Feminism, and Militarism after the Cold War” from *The Morning After: Sexual Politics at the End of Cold War* (Cynthia Enloe) (Available in Library E-version); Group Presentation #3

Week 7: Racialized Cold War: Militarism, Labor Migration, Sex Work II

Nov. 17: “Rising Up from a Sea of Discontent: The 1970 Koza Uprising in U.S.-Occupied Okinawa” from *Militarized Currents: Toward A Decolonized Future in Asia and the Pacific* (Wesley Iwao Ueunten) (pdf)

Nov. 19: “Genealogies of Unbelonging: Amerasians and Transnational Adoptees as Legacies of U.S. Militarism in South Korea” from *Militarized Currents: Toward A Decolonized Future in Asia and the Pacific* (Patti Duncan) (pdf)

Nov. 21: “Prostituted Filipinas and the Crisis of Philippine Culture” from *Things Fall Away* (Neferti X. M. Tadiar) (Available in Library E-Version); Group Presentation #3

III. Decolonizing the Cold War Conditions of Knowledge and Practices: Asian/American Politics, and (Post) Cold War Knowledge Production

Week 8: Asian/American Cultural Critique, Social Practices and Political Movements

Nov. 24: “Zoot Style and Body Politics” from *The Power of the Zoot: Youth Culture and Resistance During World War II* (Luis Alvarez) (pdf)

Nov. 27: “‘Are We Not Also Asians?’ Building Solidarity Through Opposition to the Viet Nam War” from *Chains of Babylon: the Rise of Asian America* (Daryl J. Maeda) (pdf) (*Guest Lecture: Kyung Hee Ha)

Nov. 28: “America’s First Multiethnic ‘Riots’” from *The State of Asian America: Activism and Resistance in the 1990s* (Edward T. Chang) (pdf); Group Presentation #4

Week 9: Asian/American Cultural Critique, Social Practices and Political Movements

Dec. 1: “Immigration, Citizenship, Racialization: Asian American Critique” from *Immigrant Acts: On Asian American Cultural Politics* (Lisa Lowe) (pdf)

Dec. 3: “Homeland Insecurities: Racial Violence the Day After September 11” *Social Text* 20, no. 3 (Muneer Ahmad) (pdf)

Dec. 5: “So Our History Doesn’t Become Your Future: The Local and Global Politics of Coalition Building Post September 11th” *Journal of Asian American Studies* 5, no. 3 (Nadine C. Naber) (pdf)

Week 10: Transnational Asian/American Studies

Dec. 8: “Asian American Studies in Travel” (Lisa Yoneyama) (pdf)

Dec. 10: “Formosa Betrayed” (Film); “Formosa Betrayed: Transnational Politics and Taiwanese American Identity” from *Transpacific Articulations: Student Migration and the Remaking of Asian America* (Chih-Ming Wang) (pdf)

Dec. 12: “Asia as Method: Overcoming the Present Conditions of Knowledge Production” from *Asia as Method* (Kuan-Hsing Chen) (Available in Library E-version)

Final Papers Due Friday, December 15 by 12:00pm Literature Office

If you wish to pick up your paper at the Lit Office, write “Privacy Waiver” and signature.

If you wish it returned to you by mail, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.