

**ETHN 20: Introduction to Asian American Studies**  
***Fall 2018***

Thursdays, 5pm-7:50pm  
Peterson Hall 102

Instructor: Cathleen Kozen

Office: Social Science Building 252

Email: ckozen@ucsd.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays, 1:30-3:30pm, SSB 252

Wednesdays, 11am-12pm, Skype, by appointment

\*Other office hours available by appointment

**Course Overview:**

This course offers an introduction to “Asian American Studies” as an interdisciplinary academic field and dynamic site of knowledge production. We begin with some key texts that will assist us in sketching a genealogy of Asian American studies as it emerged in relation to the student movements of the late-1960s and radical critiques of existing university curricula. We then turn to certain foundational works in the field that offer critical frameworks for conceptualizing “Asian” racialization within the context of settler colonialism and global capitalist expansion in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. These works will serve as a contextual and theoretical framework for the rest of the course, in which we will focus on new scholarly directions of the last two decades that explore the global historical connections between processes of: labor, wars, migration, rights, and belonging; (il)legality, rightlessness, detention, deportation and the national security state; globalized militarization and resistance; and historical knowledge, memory and power.

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

**Section Information:**

Teaching Assistant: Ly Nguyen

Email: t0nguyen@ucsd.edu

Section	Day	Time	Room
1	Tuesday	4-4:50pm	Center 205
2	Tuesday	5-5:50pm	Center 217

**Course Requirements:**

- 1) **Readings:** You should complete readings for the week BEFORE section on Tuesdays. Your preparation will help you to get the most out of lectures and section discussions. Unless otherwise noted, all readings are located on E-Reserves: <http://libraries.ucsd.edu/resources/course-reserves/>. You are strongly encouraged to print out **all** of the available articles and book chapters at the beginning of the quarter to avoid any problems with downloading and printing.

- 2) **Attendance:** Attend both lecture and section
- 3) **Written Assignments:**
  - a. Autobiography Assignment #1—Due Date: October 18<sup>th</sup> (Week 3)
  - b. Autobiography Assignment #2—Due Date: November 20<sup>th</sup> (Week 8)
- 4) **Written Exams:**
  - a. Midterm: November 1
  - b. Final: December 12

**Grading\*:**

Section**	20%
Autobiography Assignment #1	10%
Midterm	25%
Autobiography Assignment #2	15%
Final Exam	30%

\* You must complete all course requirements to pass the course.

\*\*You must receive a passing grade in section to pass the course. Section grades are based on attendance, participation and other assignments. Grades will be assigned by the teaching assistant.

**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>.

**Accommodations:**

I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Please feel free to speak with me individually so that we can make necessary adjustments. You may also seek assistance or information from the UCSD Office for Students with Disabilities (858-534-4382). If you prefer to be called by a name or referred to as a gender other than the one(s) under which you are officially enrolled, please do let me know so that we may adjust accordingly.

**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://www.vcb.ucsd.edu/principles.htm>.

**Electronic Devices:**

All phones must be turned off or set to vibrate/silent in the classroom and put away (out of sight). You may use your laptops (or tablets) to take notes only. Please respect the classroom as a place of learning and exchanging of ideas. Please also note that any audio or visual recordings of lecture or discussion are prohibited.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### September 27 — Course Introduction

Film: *A Song for Ourselves* (Tadashi Nakamura)

### Week 1: October 4 — Emergence of “Asian American Studies”

Espiritu, Yen Le. 1992. “Coming Together: The Asian American Movement.” In *Asian American Panethnicity: Bridging Institutions and Identities*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Omatsu, Glenn. 2003. “The ‘Four Prisons’ and the Movements of Liberation: Asian American Activism from the 1960s to the 1990s.” In *Asian American Politics: Law, Participation, and Policy*, edited by D. T. Nakanishi and J. S. Lai. Lanham.

Okihiro, Gary Y. 2016. “Subjects.” In *Third World Studies: Theorizing Liberation*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.

Film: *On Strike* (Casey Peek)

### Week 2: October 11 — Excavation: Colonialism, Capitalism and Europe’s Others

Okihiro, Gary Y. 1994. “When and Where I Enter.” In *Margins and Mainstreams: Asians in American History and Culture*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Lowe, Lisa. 1996. “Immigration, Citizenship, Racialization: Asian American Critique.” In *Immigrant Acts: On Asian American Cultural Politics*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.

Day, Iyko. 2016 “The New Jews: Setter Colonialism and the Personification of Capitalism.” In *Alien Capital: Asian Racialization and the Logic of Settler Colonial Capitalism*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.

Film: *The Delano Manongs: Forgotten Heroes of the United Farm Workers Movement* (Marissa Aroy)

### Week 3: October 18 — Empire: Migration, Rights and Belonging--Part I

Ngai, Mae. 2004. “Introduction: Illegal Aliens: A Problem of Law and History” and “The Johnson-Reed Act of 1924 and the Reconstruction of Race in Immigration Law.” In *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2014. “Militarized Refuge(es).” *Body Counts: The Vietnam War and Militarized Refuge(es)*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Film: *A Village Called Versailles* (S. Leo Chiang)

**Note: Autobiography Assignment #1 due October 18<sup>th</sup> in lecture.**

### Week 4: October 25 — Empire: Migration, Rights and Belonging--Part II

Das Gupta, Monisha. 2006. “Introduction: Encounters” and “‘Know Your Place in History’: Labor Organizations.” In *Unruly Immigrants: Rights, Activism, and Transnational South Asian Politics in the United States*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Maira, Sunaina. 2016. “More Delicate than a Flower, yet Harder than a Rock: Human Rights and Humanitarianism in Af-Pak.” In *The 9/11 Generation: Youth, Rights, and Solidarity in the War on Terror*. New York: New York University Press.

Film: *Caught in Between: What to Call Home In Times of War* (Lisa Hoshino)

## **Week 5: November 1**

### **Midterm**

Film: *New Muslim Cool* (Jennifer Maytorena Taylor)

## **Week 6: November 8 — Empire: (Il)legality, Rightlessness and the National Security State**

Cacho, Lisa Marie. 2012. "Grafting Terror onto Illegality." In *Social Death: Racialized Rightlessness and the Criminalization of the Unprotected*. New York: New York University Press.

Paik, A. Naomi. 2016. "Creating the Enemy Combatant: Performance of Justice and Realities of Rightlessness." In *Rightlessness: Testimony and Redress in U.S. Prison Camps Since World War II*, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press.

Kozen, Cathleen. 2016. "Traces of the Transpacific U.S. Empire: A Japanese Latin American Critique." *Amerasia Journal* 42 (3): 109-128.

Films: *Enemy Alien* (Konrad Aderer), *Hidden Internment: The Art Shibayama Story* (Casey Peek)

## **Week 7: November 15 — Tracing the "Model Minority Myth"**

Lye, Colleen. 2005. "Introduction: The Minority Which Is Not One" and "A Genealogy of 'Yellow Peril.'" In *America's Asia: Racial Form and American Literature, 1893-1945*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Palumbo-Liu, David. 2001. "Modelling the Nation: The Asian/American Split." In *Orientations: Mapping Studies in the Asian Diaspora*, Kandice Chuh and Karen Shimakawa, eds. Durham N.C.: Duke University Press.

Chuh, Kandice. 2018. "Asians Are the New...What?" In *Flashpoints for Asian American Studies*, edited by Cathy J. Schlund-Vials and Viet Thanh Nguyen. New York: Fordham University Press.

Film: *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* (Renee Tajima-Pena, Christine Choy)

### Recommended Reading:

Iijima, Chris K. 1998. "Reparations and the 'Model Minority' Ideology of Acquiescence: The Necessity to Refuse the Return to Original Humiliation." *Boston College Law Review* 40:385.

## **Week 8: Catch Up and Review**

**Note: There is no lecture this week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday but section discussions will still be held. Autobiography Assignment #2 due November 20 in section. Emailed papers will NOT be accepted.**

## **Week 9: November 29 — Globalized Militarization and Resistance**

Shigematsu, Setsu, and Keith L. Camacho. 2010. "Introduction: Militarized Currents, Decolonizing Futures." In *Militarized Currents: Toward a Decolonizing Future in Asia and the Pacific*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Ueunten, Wesley Iwao. 2010. "Rising Up from a Sea of Discontent: The 1970 Koza Uprising in U.S.-Occupied Okinawa." In *Militarized Currents: Toward a Decolonizing Future in Asia and the Pacific*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Wang, Chih-Ming. 2013. "Tracking Baodiao: Diaspora, Sovereignty, and Cold War Imperialism." In *Transpacific Articulations*. Honolulu, Hawai'i: University of Hawai'i Press.

### Recommended Reading:

Man, Simeon. 2018. "Securing Asia for Asians: Making the U.S. Transnational Security State" and "A World Becoming: The GI Movement and the Decolonizing Pacific." In *Soldiering Through Empire: Race and the Making of the Decolonizing Pacific*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press.

**Week 10: December 6 — The Politics of Re-Membering: Asian/American Critique**

Kozen, Cathleen K. 2012. "Redress as American-Style Justice: Congressional Narratives of

Japanese American Redress at the End of the Cold War." *Time & Society* 21(1):104-120.

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2014. "The 'Good Warriors' and the 'Good Refugee'" and "Refugee Remembering—  
and Remembrance." In *Body Counts: The Vietnam War and Militarized Refuge(es)*. Berkeley:  
University of California Press.

Film: *History and Memory* (Rea Tajiri) (to be shown Week 9)

Recommended Reading:

Schlund-Vials, Cathy. 2012. "Lost Chapters and Invisible Wars: Hip-Hop and Cambodian American  
Critique" and "Epilogue: Remembering the Forgetting." In *War, Genocide, and Justice:  
Cambodian American Memory Work*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

**\*Take-Home Final DUE WEDNESDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Majoring or Minor in Ethnic Studies

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a college general education requirement. Often students have taken many ETHN courses out of interest, yet do not 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, 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: Monica Rodríguez, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor at 858-534-3277 or [nmrodriguez@ucsd.edu](mailto:nmrodriguez@ucsd.edu) or visit [www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu](http://www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu).