

ETHN 121: Contemporary Asian-American History: Conflict, War and Social Movements

Professor: Dr. Linh Nguyen

Email: ltn024@ucsd.edu

HSS 2150 MWF 11:00AM-11:50AM

Office Hours: Sign up on <https://linhnguyen.youcanbook.me> for a specific time from 12:30-1:30 Monday and Wednesday. Walk-ins Friday from 12:30-1:30. Location: Cross Cultural Center Tranquility Room. No OH on days the course does not meet, unless by appt.

Course Description:

The course will study changes in Asian American communities as a result of renewed immigration since 1965; the influx of refugees from Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Lao, the economic impact of contemporary social movements on Asian-Americans' current economic, social, and political status. This course will include a community engagement project with Alliance San Diego to discuss the ways that API immigrants have been underserved as an undocumented population. The guiding questions for this course are: How has "Asian America[n]" as an identity and field of academic study emerged in response to specific conditions of empire, race and capital? How have social movements over the past 60 years shaped Asian Americans as a racial demographic? Who counts as Asian in America? The focus of this class will be the ways in which immigration policies have shaped immigration experiences of post-1965 Asian immigrants /refugees and the ways they have responded to these factors.

Expectations and Learning Outcomes:

In this course students will develop oral and written communication in critical analysis and research. As such, student presentations in class and written assignments are designed to achieve the following learning goals:

- Enable students to identify, analyze, and critique social, political, and economic hierarchies grounded in race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, and nationality.
- Encourage students to interrogate the historical roots of simplified explanations, stereotypes and naturalizations of socially created differences.
- Promote students' ability to analyze power dynamics from the micro-level to the macro-level.
- Develop strong written and oral communication skills and their capacities to undertake innovative research and knowledge production.
- Teach students to collaborate across differences.
- Conduct research via interview, participant observation and archival methods.

Policies:

ADA / OSD: Students requiring assistance are encouraged to seek support through the Office of Students with Disabilities. Please also let me know if you have accessibility needs.

Academic Integrity. <http://senate.ucsd.edu/Operating-Procedures/Senate-Manual/Appendices/2>

In line with UCSD's Principles of Community (<https://ucsd.edu/about/principles.html>), the classroom is a space of respect, cooperation and learning.

This is an upper division course, so there is a reasonable expectation that you will be conversant in major theories of ethnic studies including intersectionality and racial

formation. As such, we will not do an extensive overview of basic terms. It is your responsibility to seek support with these and other material with which you are unfamiliar.

Email policy: I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours, during the work week.

Attendance and Participation: 20% More than two absences from class (which constitutes 10% of our meetings) will be penalized. 1/2 a letter grade will be deducted from your final grade for every day you miss exceeding the allowed absences. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to keep up with the notes, films and assignment submission schedule (it is advised that you work with peers).

Assignments:

Bi-Weekly Reflection Questions: 15% (5 total) 12pt font, 1" margins

All students will turn in a reflection assignment week TWO. Subsequently, students with last names **A-Le**, will turn in reflections on **weeks 4,6,8,10** **Liu-W** will turn in reflections on **weeks 3,5,7,9**.

- **The assignment must include a paragraph summary of ONE of the readings assigned that week. Then you must come up with 3-5 reading-based discussion questions. See TritonEd for sample assignment.**
- Please submit in **Word or pdf format, only** on TED by Wednesday at 10 am.

Reflection questions should be a concise summary of the films and readings' main arguments, **AND NOT** a presentation of your opinions of the texts. Successful assignments will be a thoughtful synthesis (through discussion questions) of the week's readings, where the writer attempts to make overarching connections across readings. Successful reflections will relate the readings and materials for the week to larger themes.

This course will include a community engagement project. You may be required to complete off-campus activities.

Detailed handouts and rubrics will be distributed for each of the following assignments:

1. Interview Questions: 10%
2. Participant Observation Write Up 1: 15%

Events schedule: <http://readynowsandiego.org/immigrationevents/>

3. Research Write Up 2: 15%

Final Exam: 25%

- Students will conduct a research project over the course of the quarter. This will culminate in an 8-10 page paper on an approved topic of the student's choice.

Due on 3.20.17 on TED.

Extra Credit:

1.25.17; 1130-1pm Trinh Mai Artist Presentation CCC Comunidad Room

2.9.17; TBA Katharya Um Presentation CCC Comunidad Room

Other opportunities may be announced as they become available.

Readings:

Will be posted on TritonEd. **Readings and assignments are subject to change, with advance notice.**

Films are available to stream on the library e-reserves site.

Week 1: Theoretical and Historical Overview

MON - 01.09	Course Introduction, Expectations and Syllabus Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From <i>Keywords for Asian American Studies</i> • Huey Chong, Sylvia Shin, "Orientalism" • Lee, Shelley Sang-Hee, "Immigration" • Jung, Moon-Ho, "Empire"
WED - 01.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chan, Sucheng. "The changing contours of Asian-American Historiography." <i>Rethinking History</i>, 11:1, (2007) 125-147
FRI - 01.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee, Erika. Orientalisms in the Americas: A Hemispheric Approach to Asian American History." <i>Journal of Asian American Studies</i>, Volume 8, Number 3, October 2005, pp. 235-256.

Week 2: Setting the Field

MON - 01.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class: MLK Jr. Day Observed • Maeda, Daryl, Ch 1: "Before Asian America" <i>Chains of Babylon</i>. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009. 19-39.
WED - 01.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maeda, Daryl Ch 2: "'Down with Hayakawa': Assimilation vs. Third World Solidarity at San Francisco State College" <i>Chains of Babylon</i>. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009. 40-72.
FRI - 01.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chuh, Kandice. <i>Imagine Otherwise</i>. Selections. Chuh, Kandice. <i>Imagine Otherwise</i>. Selections.

Participant Observation Event: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 5PM CCC Comunidad Room Immigration Presentation: Know Your Rights and Other Forms of Immigration Relief

Unit 1: Movement

Week 3: Asian America as a movement

MON - 01.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aoki, Andrew and Don Nakanishi. 2001. "Asian Pacific Americans and the New Minority Politics ." <i>PS: Political Science and Politics</i> 605-610
WED - 01.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall, Lisa Kahaleole. "Which of These Things Is Not Like the Other: Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders Are Not Asian Americans, and All Pacific Islanders Are Not Hawaiian" <i>American Quarterly</i>, Volume 67, Number 3, September 2015, 727-747
FRI - 01.27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advani, "Against the Tide: Reflections on Organizing ..." pp. 215-222 <i>Making more waves : new writing by Asian American women</i> • Iiyama and Tsuchitani, "Speaking Out: Memories of a Nisei Activist" <i>Making more waves : new writing by Asian American women</i> (1997)

Unit 2: Complicating Asian American Identity / History
Week 4: Gender and Sexuality

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| MON - 01.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO CLASS OR OFFICE HOURS- HOURS ALLOTTED FOR PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES |
| WED - 02.01 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO CLASS OR OFFICE HOURS- HOURS ALLOTTED FOR PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES • Madea, Daryl Ch 3: "Three Black Panthers, Red Guards, and Chinamen: Constructing Asian American Identity through Performing Blackness." <i>Chains of Babylon</i>. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009. 73-96. |
| FRI - 02.03 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeeyun Lee: Toward a Queer Korean American Diasporic History from <i>Queer and Asian</i> • Hom, Alice Y. "Stories from the Home Front: Perspectives of Asian American Parents with Lesbian Daughters and Gay Sons" Q &A |

Week 5: Family: Generations and intergenerational relations

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| MON - 02.06 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Presentation with Ethnic Studies Librarian Alanna Aiko Moore - Meet at Library Classroom |
| WED - 02.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyke, Karen. 2000. "The Normal American Family as an Interpretive Structure of Family Life among Grown Children of Korean and Vietnamese Immigrants. <i>Journal of Marriage and the Family</i> 62 (1): 240-455 • Kibria, Nazli. 2000. "Race, Ethnic Options, and Ethnic Binds: Identity Negotiations of Second-Generation." <i>Sociological Perspectives</i> 43 (1): 77-95 |
| FRI - 02.09 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyen, Linh. "Writing Family, Writing Trauma" (2016) • Turn in Research Assignment 1 |

WEEK 6: Other Frames

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| MON - 02.13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man, Simeon. "Aloha, Vietnam: Race and Empire in Hawai'i's Vietnam War" <i>American Quarterly</i> Vol 67: 4. December 2015, 1085-1108. |
| WED - 02.15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habal, Estella. San Francisco's International Hotel: Mobilizing the Filipino American Community and the Anti-Eviction Movement. Selection |
| FRI - 02.17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fujita-Rony, Dorothy. "Water and Land: Asian Americans and the U.S. West." <i>Pacific Historical Review</i> Vol. 76, No. 4 (November 2007): pp. 563-574. |

Unit 4: History and Memory
WEEK 7:

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| MON - 02.20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class: Presidents' Day Observed. • Watch: <i>Sentenced Home</i> (2007) |
| WED - 02.22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eric Tang. <i>Unsettled: Cambodian Refugees in the New York City Hyperghetto</i>. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2015. Selections. |
| FRI - 02.24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yen Le Espiritu. "The Endings that are Not Over." <i>Body Counts: The Vietnam War and Militarized Refugees</i> Berkeley: University of California Press, 2014. |

WEEK 8: Cont.

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| MON - 02.27 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch: S-21 Dir. Rithy Panh (2003) |
| WED - 03.01 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yang, Kou. "The Hmong in America: Twenty-Five Years after the U.S. Secret War in Laos." <i>Journal of Asian American Studies</i>, Volume 4, Number 2, June 2001, pp. 165-174. • Listen to: https://www.wbez.org/shows/the-world/how-a-hmong-song-tradition-is-kept-alive-in-the-american-midwest/1630d06b-f390-420c-93c9-874dfb9eef91 |
| FRI - 03.03 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected Poems by Ocean Vuong • Turn in Research Assignment 2 |

WEEK 9: Deportation and the Undocumented

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| MON - 03.06 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch: <i>Documented</i> (2014) dir. Jose Antonio Rivas and Ann Lupo |
| WED - 03.08 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing Refugees - US Deportation Policy and the Cambodian American Community (Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, 2010) • SEARAC: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Behind Bars: Exposing the School to Prison to Deportation Pipeline (Policy Report, 2015) |
| FRI - 03.10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://hyphenmagazine.com/magazine/issue-25-generation-spring-2012/dreams-deferred • https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2013/05/28/64474/why-immigration-is-an-asian-american-issue/ |

WEEK 10: Precarious Lives

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| MON - 03.13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Reason to Hope than Fear: Undocumented Koreans in America |
| WED - 03.15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdulhadi, Rabab. "Where Is Home? Fragmented Lives, Borders Crossings, and the Politics of Exile" <i>Arab and Arab American Feminisms: Gender, Violence and Belonging</i>. Syracuse University Press. (2011) 315-328. |

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| MON - 03.13 | • More Reason to Hope than Fear: Undocumented Koreans in America |
| FRI - 03.17 | • Naber, Nadine. "Decolonizing Culture: Beyond Orientalist and Anti-Orientalist Feminisms" <i>Arab and Arab American Feminisms: Gender, Violence and Belonging</i> . Syracuse University Press. (2011) 78-90 |

Final Exam: 03/20/2017 M 11:30a-2:29p

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: Daisy Rodríguez, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor ethnicstudies@ucsd.edu or visit www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu