
ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY: SETTLEMENT AND NATIONAL BELONGING

Asian American Studies/History 161

Humanities 3650
Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:45 am

Spring Semester 2017

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

History/Asian American Studies 161 employs a specific framework to guide our examination of Asian Americans and U.S. national belonging. Instead of presenting case studies to exemplify the marginalization of Asian Americans within mainstream society, this course examines how Asian Americans have struggled to find a sense of belonging in the U.S.

The struggle to belong has not been an easy one. This is because Asian Americans are among the nation's nonwhite groups and have been typecasted as its "perpetual foreigners." This dual categorization propels us to consider not only how Asian Americans have unsettled the way race regulates access to society's resources; it also pushes us to examine how they have challenged the way xenophobia or the fear of the foreign worked to dictate the rights and treatment of immigrants.

We begin this course by addressing a pressing matter: how did Asian American Studies find its way into the curriculum of U.S. higher education? What is the history behind this inclusion? As this course seeks to answer these questions, it highlights how "belonging" for Asian Americans goes beyond the fight for civil rights and entailed a contest over how they are represented within U.S. national culture. We will thus examine how Asian Americans challenged the color line as they sought to obtain the legal right to naturalized citizenship. We will also look to popular culture to show how Asian Americans unsettled the white norm and created a more flexible vision of who counts as an American.

ETHNIC STUDIES REQUIREMENT

History/Asian American Studies 161 is proud to be a part of the University's vibrant course array that fulfills the Ethnic Studies Requirement. By illuminating the circumstances, conditions, and experiences of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States, this "e" designated course advances three key goals of the University:

- 1) Better prepare students for life and careers in an increasingly multicultural U.S. environment
- 2) Add breadth and depth to the University curriculum
- 3) Improve the campus climate

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

History/Asian American Studies 161 fulfills the core requirements of the Asian American Studies Certificate Program. The Asian American Studies Certificate Program provides students with an opportunity to develop a sustained intellectual focus on Asian American racial formation, history, literature, and culture. Interdisciplinary in nature, the certificate can be obtained by completing 15 credits of coursework. The certificate program is open to any undergraduate student who has an interest in Asian American Studies. Please contact Director Timothy Yu (tpyu@wisc.edu) if you are interested.

More info at: <http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/aasp/course/certificate.htm>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Discussion Attendance and Participation	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 1	15%	150 points
Exam 1	20%	200 points
Critical Analysis Paper 2	20%	200 points
Final Exam	25%	250 points
Extra Credit: 5 Pop Quizzes (5 points each)		25 points
TOTAL:	100%	1000 points

COURSE POINT BREAKDOWN

Letter Grade	Point Range	Percentage Range
A	925 to 1000	92.5% and higher
AB	875 to 924	87.5% to 92.4%
B	825 to 874	82.5% to 87.4%
BC	775 to 824	77.5% to 82.4%
C	695 to 774	69.5% to 77.4%
D	595 to 694	59.5% to 69.4%
F	594 and below	59.4% and below

*We will provide point breakdowns for each course assignment and exam.

COURSE POLICIES

Technology-Free Learning Environment: To foster a learning environment with limited distractions, History/Asian American Studies 161 has opted to be a technology-free class. Students are not allowed to use their laptops in class, both lecture and sections. Phones must be on silent mode and stowed away from plain sight. Please take notes using a pencil or pen and a notebook.

Attendance: Regular and prompt attendance, active participation, and mature attentiveness during lecture and section meetings are mandatory. The professor and graduate instructors will **not** distribute lecture notes via e-mail to students who miss lecture. Lecture notes will not be posted on the course webpage.

Readings: Students are expected to complete required readings before Tuesday's lecture of each week. Please bring your books, readers, and lecture notes to each discussion section.

Discussion Sections: You will fail the course even if you do all the written work but **do not** attend weekly discussion sections. Your graduate instructor has full authority to assign homework, administer quizzes, and require drafts of papers. They will provide additional guidelines for discussion sections.

Writing Assignments: Assignments are always due during the first ten minutes of lecture. Any assignment received after the first ten minutes of lecture on the due date is considered late and **will not** be evaluated or credited. No late work will be accepted, without exception. E-mailed submissions of papers are not permitted and will not be credited or graded, without exception.

Examinations: Exam 1 and the Final Exam will be administered on the date indicated on the course syllabus, **without exception**. No incompletes will be granted for the course except in cases of personal emergencies, subject to prompt notification of the professor, valid documentation of the particular emergency, and the discretion of the professor. Students are responsible for retaining a copy of all exams and assignments.

Honesty: Please read the university policy on academic integrity (<https://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/>). All information borrowed from print sources or the web must be clearly identified and properly credited. Any instance of plagiarism or cheating on exams, quizzes, and written assignments will result in an "F" grade for the assignment and the course.

Abilities: Any student who feels that they may need special accommodation due to a disability should contact me privately. Please also contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center (<http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/>) at 608-263-2741 (phone); 263-6393 (TTY); 263-2998 (FAX); FrontDesk@mcb.wisc.edu to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

The History Lab: The History Lab is a resource center for undergraduate students studying, researching, and writing about the past. Through individual and group tutoring, the Lab focuses on honing students' abilities to form suitable topics, conduct research, develop arguments and thesis statements, cite evidence properly, and write using an effective process. The Lab is equipped also to support challenges faced by English-language learners. For more information and appointment, please visit: <https://history.wisc.edu/thehistorylab.htm>

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. COURSE READER ®
 - The Course Reader is available for purchase at the **University Bookstore** via Bob's Copy Shop.

2. *M. Butterfly* by David Henry Hwang.
 - *M. Butterfly* is available for purchase at **A Room's of One's Own** bookstore located at 315 W. Gorham St. Please visit their website (<http://www.roomofonesown.com/>) for hours and contact information.

Required texts are also available on reserve at the College Library

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 Introduction

T 1.17

Th 1.19

WEEK 2 Ethnic Studies in Higher Education

T 1.24

Th 1.26

Readings:

- Mike Murase, "Ethnic Studies and Higher Education for Asian Americans" in *Counterpoint*, 205-223. ®
- Karen Umemoto, "'On Strike!'" in *Contemporary Asian America*, 49-79. ®

WEEK 3 Racial Qualification for Citizenship

T 1.31

Th 2.2

Reading:

- James Kettner, "Birthright Citizenship and the Status of Indians, Slaves, and Free Negroes" in *The Development of American Citizenship, 1608-1870* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1978), 287-333. ®

WEEK 4 Defining Whiteness

T 2.7

Th 2.9

Reading:

- Ian Haney Lopez, "The Prerequisite Cases" and "Ozawa and Thind" in *White by Law* (New York: New York University Press, 1996), 49-109. ®

WEEK 5 Race, Gender, and Derivative Citizenship

T 2.14
Th 2.16

Readings:

- Martha Mabie Gardner, "When Americans are not Citizens" and "When Citizens are not White" in *The Qualities of a Citizen* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), 121-156. ®
- Devon W. Carbado, "Racial Naturalization" *American Quarterly* 57:3 (2005): 633-658. ®

WEEK 6 Testing the Limits of Legal Citizenship: Japanese American Internment

T 2.21 Critical Analysis Paper 1 DUE
Th 2.23

Reading:

- Mae Ngai, "The WWII Internment of Japanese Americans and the Citizenship Renunciation Cases" in *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004), 175-201. ®

WEEK 7 Race and Space

T 2.28
Th 3.2 Exam 1 Review Session

Reading:

- Douglas S. Massey, "Origins of Economic Disparities" in *Segregation*, eds. James Carr and et al. (New York: Routledge Press, 2008), 39-77. ®

WEEK 8 Crossing the Colorline

T 3.7 Exam 1
Th 3.9

Reading:

- Cindy I-Fen Cheng, "Living in the Suburbs, Becoming Americans" in *Citizens of Asian America* (New York: New York University Press, 2013), 57-84. ®

WEEK 9 Urban Uprisings and the case of Los Angeles

T 3.14
Th 3.16

Readings:

- Melvin L. Oliver, James Johnson, and Walter Farrell, "Anatomy of a Rebellion" in *Reading Rodney King*, 117-141. ®
- Sumi Cho, "Korean Americans vs. African Americans" in *Reading Rodney King*, 196-211. ®

WEEK 10 Spring Break ☺

T 3.21 no class meeting
Th 3.23 no class meeting

WEEK 11 Race and Popular Culture

T 3.28
Th 3.30

Readings:

- Stuart Hall, "The Whites of Their Eyes" in *Gender, Race, and Class in Media*, ed. Gail Hines and Jean M. Humez (Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1995), 18-22. ®
- Sut Jhally, "Image Based Culture: Advertising and Popular Culture" from *The World and I* <<http://www.worldandilibrary.com>> article 17591 (July 1990): 1-10. ®

WEEK 12 Unsettling the Fantasy

T 4.4 Critical Analysis Paper 2 DUE

Th 4.6

Reading:

- David Henry Hwang, *M. Butterfly*, from **Beginning of Book to the end of Act One**.

WEEK 13 Unsettling the Fantasy

T 4.11

Th 4.13

Readings:

- David Henry Hwang, *M. Butterfly*, from **Act Two to end of play, including Author's Afterword**.
- David Henry Hwang and John Louis DiGaetani, "'M. Butterfly': An Interview with David Henry Hwang," *TDR* 33:3 (Autumn, 1989): 141-153. ®

WEEK 14 Asian Americans and Popular Culture

T 4.18

Th 4.20

Readings:

- Christine Bacareza Balance, "How It Feels to be Viral Me" *Women's Studies Quarterly* 10:1-2 (2012): 138-152. ®
- Lisa Nakamura, "'Alllookslike'?" in *East Main Street*, eds. Shilpa Dave, et al. (New York: New York University Press, 2005), 262-270. ®

WEEK 15 Asian Americans and Popular Culture

T 4.25

Th 4.27

Reading:

- Timothy Yu, "Jeremy Lin, Global Asian American," in *The Routledge Handbook of Asian American Studies*, ed. Cindy I-Fen Cheng (London: Routledge Press, 2016), 211-220. ®

WEEK 16

T 5.2

Th 5.4 Final Review Session

Final Examination Monday, May 8, 2017
12:25 – 2:25pm