

University of Connecticut, Fall 2015
AASI3578/HIST3530 Asian American Experience Since-1850
Class Times: T/TH 11-12:15
Instructor: Dr. Jason Oliver Chang
Office: Wood Hall 331
Office Hours: by appointment only

Course Description

This course introduces students to Asian American history through a history of transnational migrations, social movements, and political economic change in the U.S. Student will learn fundamental historical narratives of Asian Americans in U.S. history, covering the experiences of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, South Asian, Filipino, and Southeast Asian immigrants as well as those of other Pacific Islanders. The majority of the course will be devoted to the diverse histories of migration, integration, and struggle within Asian American communities from the 19th century to the present. This course pays particular attention to the transformational moment of WWII through the history of Asian American lives and the shifting meaning of race. Through these histories students will recover the history of Asian Americans and their relation to other racial and ethnic groups. We will also learn about the culture and politics of the late 20th century through discussions on the “model minority” stereotype, Asian refugees, Asian Americans in popular culture, and contemporary social movements. In these stories students will find that Asian American history is not merely a narrative of immigrants establishing a home and building community; they also recount the lives of people displaced through war, the expansion of the U.S. imperial state, oppressed by racism, and used as a political and economic wedge against other non-whites. The goal of the course is to use historical inquiry about Asian Americans to develop an awareness of the evolving conditions of racism and the role of racialized Asian-ness in U.S. culture.

Class Policies

Class Conduct: Respectful behavior is expected from everyone in the classroom. This includes raising your hand and waiting when you want to speak, turning *off* cell phones and other electronic devices and showing up to class on time. Texting in class and surfing the web is not allowed.

Email: All electronic communications for the course will take place through HuskyCT.

Participation / Attendance: Daily attendance will be taken. Attendance is mandatory and is included in your participation grade; if you are absent, you cannot participate. Medical and Athletic absences will be excused with the appropriate paperwork from the health services or coach. Outside of these exceptions, I do not accept late assignments or missed exams. In order to participate in class you must come to class prepared, having completed the assigned readings by the day they are listed on the schedule below.

Academic Integrity and Assistance: There is a zero-tolerance policy for any form of cheating and plagiarism on this campus and in this class. You must familiarize yourself with the

definitions and consequences of plagiarism at UConn by working through the Plagiarism Module linked below.

http://irc.uconn.edu/PlagiarismModule/intro_m.htm

There are many resources on campus to help you avoid plagiarism and strive for academic excellence. Please consult with the Writing Center should you need additional help with writing assignments in this course.

<http://www.writingcenter.uconn.edu/index.php>

Students with Disabilities: I will do all in my power to make the appropriate accommodations for students enrolled in the course. This requires clear communication so I urge you to consult with The Center for Students with Disabilities to acquire the necessary paperwork. Please see the following website for more information. <http://www.csd.uconn.edu/>

Grading

1. [20%] Mid-Term Exam
2. [20%] Critical Thinking Essay (Units 1,2 & 3)
3. [30%] Final Exam
4. [15%] Attendance/Preparation: Complete weekly readings and be prepared to discuss the material in class. (Readings are listed on the day they will be discussed)
5. [15%] Participation

All assignments and exams will be graded according to structured rubrics. The rubric method of grading is designed to create consistency between individuals and to communicate clear learning objectives.

Critical Thinking Essays are assignments designed to give you the opportunity to tie together the readings, lectures, films, and discussion. Let me underscore that the essays are going to focus on analysis and evaluation of the historical material. Because this is an introductory course you will not need to do any outside research. You will use a generic format for in text citations to reference course material, for example (Author, Date, Page #). Your focus should be on constructing a well-written essay.

Essays must follow the following criteria to be accepted:

1. 1 Inch Margins
2. 12pt Font
3. Single Spaced
4. 2 Page Limit
5. Page Numbers
6. Name and Assignment Title in Header

Required Books

All texts are available at the UConn Co-Op

1. Takaki, Ronald. 1998. *Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.
2. Wu, Ellen. *Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
3. Espiritu, Yen Le. *Body Counts: The Vietnam War and Militarized Refuge(es)*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
4. “(Re)Collecting the Vietnam War.” *Asian American Literary Review*. 6:2 2014.

DATE	READINGS	TOPIC	FILMS	Due Dates
1-Sep	Logistics			
3-Sep	Introductions			
8-Sep	Four Centuries	Deep history	Ancestors	
10-Sep	Kate Hooper	Coolies		
15-Sep	SFDS 79-131	Chinese Americans		
17-Sep	SFDS 179-229	Japanese Americans		
22-Sep	SFDS 270-293	Korean Americans		
24-Sep	SFDS 315-356	Filipino Americans		
29-Sep	SFDS 132-178	Hawaii/Imperialism		
1-Oct	SFDS 357-405	WWII & Internment		Essay 1
6-Oct	COS 11-42	Race and Culture		
8-Oct	COS 43-71	Race and Nationalism		
9-Oct	Progress Reports			
13-Oct	COS 72-110	Japanese Am. Soldiers		
15-Oct	COS 111-144	Cold War Chinese		
20-Oct	Midterm			
22-Oct	COS 145-180	Japanese Americans		
27-Oct	COS 181-209	Chinatown turnover		
29-Oct	COS 210-241	Race and the Asian Pacific		
3-Nov	COS 242-258	Model Minority	Sa-I-Gu	Essay 2
5-Nov	BC 1-23	Refugees & War		
10-Nov	BC 24-48	Militarization		
12-Nov	BC 49-80	Refugee Camps	Boi Dai	
17-Nov	BC 81-104	Race in War and Peace		
19-Nov	BC 105-138	Remembering		
24/26-Nov				
1-Dec	BC 139-170	The Second Generation		
3-Dec	BC 171-188	War, Race, and Legacy		Essay 3
8-Dec	Review			
10-Dec	Final			