Ethnic Studies 20: Introduction to Asian American Studies  
FALL 2007  
Lecture: Tues/Thurs. 12:30 – 1:50 pm in CENTER 212

Instructor: Thuy Vo Dang  
Office: Social Sciences Building (SSB) 249  
Email: t5vo@ucsd.edu  
Office Hours:  Tues. 2:30-4pm  
Thurs. 10:30am-12pm

Course Description
This course will critically examine Asian Americans through U.S.-national and transnational frameworks. We will explore a range of scholarly, literary, and visual texts in order to understand how the interdisciplinary field of Asian American Studies has shifted from an investment in domestic social justice concerns to consider how war, colonialism, and global capitalism have shaped Asian American lives historically and in the contemporary moment. This course pays particular attention to the ways in which Asian Americans negotiate these structural forces in their everyday lives. We will also consider queerness, silence, and expressive cultural forms in order to explore questions of agency and identity.

Section Information*

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>A01</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>York 3000A</td>
<td>Cathi Kozen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ckozen@ucsd.edu">ckozen@ucsd.edu</a></td>
<td>SSB 250</td>
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<tr>
<td>A02</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>WLH 2208</td>
<td>Ma Vang</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mvang@ucsd.edu">mvang@ucsd.edu</a></td>
<td>SSB 250</td>
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<tr>
<td>A03</td>
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*You must attend the section you are enrolled in. You WILL NOT receive credit for attending a section you are not enrolled in.

Required Texts

Books are available at Groundworks Bookstore (855) 452-9625

- Ethnic Studies 20 Reader sold by University Readers
  Course readers can be ordered online at [www.universityreaders.com/students](http://www.universityreaders.com/students) or by calling (800) 200-3908 or (858) 552-1120.

The books and reader are on reserve at the Social Sciences and Humanities Library.

Requirements
1) **Attendance**: It is required that you attend all lectures and discussion sections. Pop quizzes may be given occasionally during either lecture or section. Films and other media shown during lectures will not be made available on reserve.
2) **Readings**: You should complete weekly readings before Tuesday lectures. This will help you get the most out of lectures and be prepared to participate in discussion.

3) **Assignments**:
   a. Assignment #1 will be due in lecture Oct. 16
   b. Assignment #2 will be due in lecture Nov. 13

4) **Exams**
   a. Midterm: Thurs., Oct. 25
   b. Final: due Mon., Dec. 10

**Grading**
Section Attendance, Participation, and Quizzes** .................15%
Assignment #1.........................................................................15%
Assignment #2.........................................................................15%
Midterm.................................................................25%
Final.................................................................................30%

*You must complete all course requirements in order to pass the course.
**You must receive a passing grade in section to pass the course. Section grades are assigned by your teaching assistant and will be based on your attendance and active participation in classroom discussion.

**Reading & Lecture Schedule**
*This schedule is subject to change

**Sept. 27**: Introduction

**Week 1 (Oct. 2 & 4): Roots of Asian American Studies**


**Week 2 (Oct. 9 & 11): Asian American Racial Formation in National & Transnational Context**

*Impossible Subjects*, pp. 1-55


**Week 3 (Oct. 16 & 18): “Towards a Critical Transnational Perspective”**
*Assignment #1 due in Lecture Oct. 16


Week 4 (Oct. 23 & 25): Midterm

Film screened in lecture
MIDTERM OCT. 25

Week 5 (Oct. 30 & Nov. 1): Global Capitalism, War, and Postwar Reckonings

The gangster we are all looking for

Impossible Subjects, pp. 93-126


Week 6 (Nov. 6 & 8): Post-1965 Immigration


Week 7 (Nov. 13 & 15): “Model Minorities and Bad Subjects”

*Assignment #2 due in Lecture Nov. 13

Impossible Subjects, pp. 175-201


**Week 8 (Nov. 20 & Thanksgiving)**

Film screened in lecture

**Week 9 (Nov. 27 & 29): Queering Asian America**


**Week 10 (Dec. 4 & 6): New Directions/Different Strategies**

*Impossible Subjects*, pp. 227-70.


**FINAL PAPERS/PROJECTS DUE MONDAY, DEC. 10**

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**Majoring or Minoring in Ethnic Studies at UCSD**

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a social science, non-contiguous, or other college requirement. Often students have taken three or four classes out of "interest" yet have no information about the major or minor and don't 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, public policy, government and politics, journalism, education, public health, social work, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor at UCSD, please contact Yolanda Escamilla, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor, at 858-534-3277 or yescamilla@ucsd.edu.