HAVC 127F
The Politics of Exclusion: Asian American Art and Visual Culture
Summer 2018 | | Modules Published MW (All times are Pacific Time)| | Online

Course Instructor
Michelle Yee
Office Hours: By Appointment via Zoom, FaceTime, or Google Hangout – please sign up via email
Canvas Chat: Weekly, Friday 10 AM – 11 AM PDT
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Teaching Assistants
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Canvas Chat: M 12-1 PM  Chat: W 1-2 PM  Chat: W 10-11 PM

**SYLLABUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Any and all changes will be announced via Canvas. It is your responsibility to stay up to date with changes.

Course Description
This course offers a critical look at Asian American Art and Visual Culture. Positioned as perpetual foreigners in the United States, Asian Americans have always been situated in a racially ambiguous place in the US. Nevertheless, since the 19th century, Asian Americans have been major players in both the development of this nation and in its various art circles. This course examines both the role of Asian American artists as well as depictions of Asian Americans throughout U.S. history. It engages with issues of race and identity in American visual culture while also examining the problematic nature of homogenizing all Asian Americans as a particular ethnic group. The course addresses such themes as migration and dislocation, Asian American identities, intergenerational relationships, origins and diasporas, colonization and American foreign policy in Asia.

Requirements

- Participation Quizzes (20%) – 10 short answer or multiple-choice quizzes following each module to ensure participation.
- Weekly Discussions (10%) – Each week, you will be asked to respond to a discussion question and to reply to at least one other student’s response. Please feel free to engage and respond to any of the responses and to create lively discussion. Discussion questions are posted on Mondays with the first module of the week. Answers and responses should be posted by 5 PM the following Sunday. Please be sure to read through that week’s discussion thread by the end of the weekend.
- Assignment #1: Exhibition Review (20%) – A 750-word response to one of the five online exhibitions that make up California Cultures: Asian Americans. https://calisphere.org/exhibitions/t9/california-cultures-asian-americans/
- Assignment #2: Museum Paper (20%) – A 750-word analysis of the Asian American holdings of any museum in your town.
• Final Paper (30%) – a 1000- to 1500-word paper on a final topic of your choosing.

Readings

Reading assignments for each module are to be completed prior to viewing the module’s lecture and engaging with the module’s activities. The reading assignments complement the other material and are not the basis for the lectures and are not reviewed in the lectures or activities. All readings will be posted as PDFs or hyperlinks on Canvas.

Assignments

In order to pass the course, you must complete all assignments. Please note that this class is an accelerated, upper-level course. Because of that, neither the instructor nor the TAs will provide extensions to any deadlines.

All assignments must be submitted via Canvas by entering text into the in-text submission page for the appropriate assignment. Please be sure to use proper citations using the Chicago Style. For more information on the Chicago Manual of Style, please refer to the Purdue Online Writing Lab. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, or as further specified in the Student Policies and Regulations Handbook. Academic misconduct will result in automatic failure of the class and university disciplinary procedures. If you are unsure as to what constitutes academic misconduct, consult the Handbook or your T.A. before beginning assignments or taking exams. For a more detailed discussion of academic integrity, see: https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct.

Online Etiquette

This is an online class, which may create a less interactive and social learning environment. Tone is often lost in translation through electronic communication. Thus, it is imperative that you show respect for your peers, T.A.s and instructor. Please be respectful in all online class discussions, posts, and responses to your classmates’ views.

Students with Disabilities

If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center to the professor within the first two weeks of the quarter. Information will be shared only with your TA in order to provide for adequate accommodation both in lecture and section. Information on the Disability Resource Center and disability accommodations are available at https://drc.ucsc.edu/.

Course Schedule

July 30, 2018
Module 1A: Introduction to the Course and The Invisibility of Asians in America
Lectures:
- 0: Introduction to the Course and Syllabus
- 1A: The Invisibility of Asians in America

Readings:
- Claire Jean Kim, “The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans,” 105-138

Assignments and Activities:
- 1A Quiz
- Begin thinking about Week 1’s Discussion Question

August 1, 2018
Module 1B: The Politics of the Hyphen: Asian American Identities Formations

Lecture:
1B: The Politics of the Hyphen: Asian American Identities Formations

Activity:
Explore *California Cultures: Asian Americans*, an online collection of exhibitions for Assignment #1 - [https://calisphere.org/exhibitions/t9/california-cultures-asian-americans/](https://calisphere.org/exhibitions/t9/california-cultures-asian-americans/)

Please read paper prompt, paper due next Wednesday on August 8, 2018.

Readings:

Assignments and Activities:
- 1B Quiz
- Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
- Watch NYTimes video
- Watch Martin Wong video
- Watch Tseng Kwong Chi video

Reminders:
- Assignment #1 Due on Canvas, Wednesday, August 8 at 5 PM
- Assignment #2 Museum Selection Due to TAs by Friday, August 10
Week 2: What is Asian American Art History and Visual Culture?

August 6, 2018
Module 2A: Overview of Asian American Art History

Lecture:
2A: What is Asian American Art History and Visual Culture?

Readings:
• Mark Dean Johnson, “Beyond East and West: Artists of Asian Ancestry in America” in *Asian American Art: A History*.

Assignments and Activities:
• 2A Quiz
• Begin thinking about Week 2’s Discussion Question

Reminders:
• Assignment #1 DUE on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8
• Assignment #2 Museum Selection Due to TAs by Friday, August 10

August 8, 2018
Module 2B: Which Asians get to claim Asian America?

Lecture:
2B: Which Asians get to claim Asian America?

Readings:
• Laura Kina and Wei Ming Dariotis, “Miscegenating Discourses: Critical Contexts for Mixed Race Asian American Art and Identity,” 3-21
• Mariam Lam, “Pacific Standard Time: Queering Temporality in Asian American Visual Cultures” in *Queering Contemporary Asian American Art*

Assignments and Activities:
• 2B Quiz
• Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
• Assignment #1 Due TODAY

Reminders:
• Assignment #2 Museum Selection Due to TAs by Friday, August 10
• Final Paper Topic Due to TAs on Wednesday, August 15
Assignment #2 DUE on AUGUST 17.

Week 3: Asian American Art Exhibitions, the Culture Wars, and Generational Identities

August 13, 2018
Module 3A: From Orientals to Asian Americans: The Makings of Asian Americanness in the Art World

Lecture:
- 3A: From Orientals to Asian Americans

Readings:
- Jeffery Wechsler, *Asian Traditions, Modern Expressions*

Assignments and Activities:
- 3A Quiz

Reminders:
- Final Paper Topic Due to TAs on Wednesday, August 15
- Assignment #2 DUE on Friday, August 17

August 15, 2018
Module 3B: Different Generations, Shifting Identities

Lecture:
- 3B: Different Generations, Shifting Identities

Readings:
- Margo Machida, “Reframing Asian America” in exh. cat. *One Way or Another: Asian American Art Now*
- Suzette Min, “The Last Asian American Art Exhibition in the Whole Wide World” in *One Way or Another: Asian American Art Now*

Assignments and Activities:
- 3B Quiz
- Watch 1993 Whitney Biennial Roundtable Interview
- Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
- FINAL PAPER TOPIC DUE TODAY
Reminders:
• Assignment #2 (Museum Paper) Due Friday, August 17

Week 4: American Imperialism and Art of/from Trauma

August 20, 2018
Module 4A: War Prisoners at Home: The Japanese American Internment Camps

Lecture:
• 4A: War Prisons at Home: The Japanese American Internment Camps

Readings:
• ShiPu Wang, Chiura Obata, An American Modern, exhibition catalogue. (This exhibition is currently on view and is traveling. If you have a chance to see it if it comes near you, please do. Selections from the exhibition catalogue will be made available on Canvas.)

Assignments and Activities:
• 4A Quiz
• Listen to #GoodMuslimBadMuslim Podcast: Manzanar Pilgrimage
• Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
• Work on your final paper

August 22, 2018
Module 4B: American Imperialism and the “new” Asian Americans

Lecture:
4B: American Imperialism and the “new” Asian Americans

Readings:
• “Binh Danh” in One Way or Another: Asian American Art Now, exh. cat.

Assignments and Activities:
• 4B Quiz
• Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses if you have not already
• Work on your final paper
Week 5: Re-thinking, Re-Framing, Re-Negotiating Asian American Art and Visual Culture

August 27, 2018
Module 5A: Intersectionality: Asian American Art Beyond Race

Lecture:
5A: Intersectionality: Asian American Art Beyond Race

Readings:
• Jan Christian Bernabe and Laura Kina, “For the Love of Unicorns: Queering Contemporary Asian American Art” in *Queering Contemporary Asian American Art*

Assignments and Activities:
• 5A Quiz
• Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
• REMINDER ALL MODULES 5A and 5B QUIZZES AND DISCUSSION POSTS DUE FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018 by 11:59 PM
• Final paper due at 11:59 PM August 31, 2018

August 29, 2018
Module 5B: Asian American Art as Frame

Lecture:
5B: Asian American Art as Frame

Readings:
• Ien Ang, “Introduction: Between Asia and the West (In complicated entanglement)” in *On Not Speaking Chinese: Living Between Asia and the West*

Assignments and Activities:
• 5B Quiz
• Respond to this week’s discussion question and to one of your peer’s responses
• REMINDER ALL MODULES 5A and 5B QUIZZES AND DISCUSSION POSTS DUE FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018 by 11:59 PM
• Final paper due at 11:59 PM August 31, 2018

**Final Papers are DUE on: August 31, 2018**