**Course Instructor**

Christina Ayson Plank  
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00 pm or by appointment via Zoom  
Zoom Link: [https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/96531548743](https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/96531548743)  
Email: cmayson@ucsc.edu

**Teaching Assistants**

Catherine Ries  
Students – Aguinaga to Kim  
Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00 am-12:00 pm  
Zoom Link: [https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/93694779013](https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/93694779013)  
Email: cmries@ucsc.edu

Madison Treece  
Students – Koh to Ordonez  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:00-1:00 pm  
Zoom Link: [https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/2405889402](https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/2405889402)  
Email: mtreece@ucsc.edu

Zoe Weldon-Yochim  
Students – Perelmutor to Zou  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00 am  
Zoom Link: [https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/96747321510](https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/96747321510)  
Email: zweldony@ucsc.edu

***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 U.S. Nevertheless, since the 19th century, Asian Americans have always 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 and the difficulties of defining “Asian,” “American,” and “Asian American.” Alongside traditional art forms, the course analyzes a variety of mediums including film, performance, and comic books. The course addresses such themes as migration and dislocation, Asian American identities, diasporas, colonization and American foreign policy in Asia.
CLASS FORMAT
Modules will be released twice a week on Monday and Wednesday. All times are referenced in Pacific Standard Time. Lectures will be pre-recorded and available when modules are released. 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 and activities will be posted as PDFs or hyperlinks on Canvas.

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, TAs and instructor. Please be respectful in all online class discussions, posts, and responses to your classmates’ views. Please read A Working List of Group Agreements for Learning Together posted on Canvas for our class agreements.

REQUIREMENTS

- **Participation Quizzes (16%)** – 8 short answer or multiple-choice quizzes following each module except for week 5. Answers should be posted by 11:59 pm the following Sunday.
- **Weekly Discussions (10%)** – Each week, you will be asked to respond to a discussion question and to reply to at least one other student response. Your response to the discussion question should be AT LEAST 100 words. Your response to one other student should be AT LEAST 50 words. 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 11:59 pm the following Sunday. Please be sure to read through that week’s discussion thread by the end of the weekend.
- **Writing Assignment #1: Exhibition Review (20%)**: A 500 to 600-word review of one of the five online exhibitions that make up California Cultures: Asian Americans. Due by 11:59 pm Sunday, August 9, 2020
- **Writing Assignment #2: Film Analysis (20%)** – A 750 to 850-word analysis on the film *Bontoc Eulogy* by Marlon Fuentes. Students can access the film online through our library at this link. You will have to log in using your UCSC account. Due by 11:59 pm Sunday, August 16, 2020
- **Final Paper Topic Submission (4%)** – A 2-3 sentence statement describing your final paper topic. Your submission should state the visual materials you wish to engage with in your paper. It is encouraged that you submit a draft of your thesis statement for your TA to review and provide feedback. Due by 11:59 pm Wednesday, August 12, 2020
- **Final Paper (30%)** – A 1000 to 1500-word research paper on a topic of your choosing that discusses themes raised in class. Your paper must engage with and incorporate analysis and consideration of visual materials – this can be Hollywood, mass media, fine art, commercials, billboards, political cartoons, video games, etc. Due by 11:59 pm Friday, August 28.

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ASSIGNMENT AND LATE WORK POLICY

In order to pass the course, you must complete all writing assignments. Please note that this class is an accelerated online course. Because of that, neither the instructor nor the TAs will provide extensions to any deadlines. Late work will not be accepted.

All assignments must be submitted as Word documents via Canvas. Please be sure to use proper citations using Chicago Style. For more information on the Chicago Manual of Style please refer to the worksheets listed in the Writing Reference folder or refer to the Purdue Online Writing Lab. [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/)

IMPORTANT 2020 DEADLINES

Session 2:
Drop: Monday, August 3
Request for “W”: Friday, August 14

Neither Summer Session nor instructors drop students for non-attendance or non-payment. Students must drop themselves. Dropping results in full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund). For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: [https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html](https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html) For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

DRC REMOTE ACCOMMODATIONS

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, please contact the DRC office at 831-459-2089 or [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student’s transcript.

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For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the online reporting option, you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.

Student Resources

We understand that students are continuing to adjust and respond to the complications and challenges posed by COVID-19. Your TAs and instructor are here to help you navigate this course and summer learning by connecting you to resources that are available to you. Here is a noncomprehensive list of key resource centers on campus:

**CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services)**
If you are in distress, managing heightened stress and anxiety, or want to get more support and a counselor’s perspective on something you’re going through, CAPS provides a variety of services for your needs—including immediate crisis support, scheduled individual appointments, group counseling, and workshops led by peer advisors.

**Slug Support**
If you are facing financial challenges, food and housing insecurity, or other concerns, and you are not sure how to find the resources you need, contact Slug Support at (831) 459-4446. You can also contact Slug Support if you are concerned about a friend or peer and they will connect with that person to help them get access to the resources they need. I can also contact Slug Support on your behalf.

**Basic Needs**
If you are experiencing challenges related to basic needs, such as food, housing, health & wellness, or financial security, visit the Basic Needs hub for information about food pantries, accessible housing, mental health support, and financial aid options.

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Student Health Center

In addition to providing medical and health care, the Student Health Center provides resources and information for overall wellness and sexual health at Student Health Outreach and Promotion (SHOP). SHOP also provides a safe, confidential, and nonjudgmental space where you can talk about and get information about alcohol and other drugs. The COVE offers a space for sober students or students questioning their relationship to alcohol and other drugs. If you’re seeking more information, strategies, and opportunities to engage in honest dialogue about safer social and party experiences, visit Party Like a Slug.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE SCHEDULE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: Invisibility and Identities</strong></td>
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### 1A: Monday, July 27, 2020

**Lecture:** Forever Foreigner: Asian American Exclusion

**Readings:**
1. Greg Robinson, “Exclusion” in *Keywords for Asian American Studies*
2. Karen Leong, “Foreign” in *Keywords for Asian American Studies*
3. Anne D’Alleva, “Formal Analysis” in *Look! The Fundamentals of Art History*
4. Sylvan Barnet, “Writing a Review of an Exhibition”

**Watch:**
Hasan Minhaj, *Don’t Ignore the Asian Vote in 2020*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwFr6RX2Y40](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwFr6RX2Y40)

**Due this week on Sunday, August 2, 2020**
- 1A Quiz
- 1B Quiz
- Week 1 Discussion Post

### 1B: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

**Lecture:** Orientalism and Asian American Identities

**Readings:**
5. Jennifer Ho, “Identity” in *Keywords for Asian American Studies*
7. John Tchen, “Believing is Seeing: Transforming Orientalism and the Occidental Gaze” in *Asia/America: Identities in Contemporary Asian American Art*
8. Adrian De Leon, “The long history of U.S. racism against Asian Americans, from ‘yellow peril’ to ‘model minority’ to the ‘Chinese virus’”

**Watch:**
*East Meets West – Tseng Kwong Chi Documentary*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Duery10DKB0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Duery10DKB0)

*Martin Wong*’s Bronx Museum Retrospective Truly Shines

Edward Said on Orientalism
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjlRR-qRkcc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjlRR-qRkcc)

Announcements:
- Writing Assignment #1  
Due Week 2 on August 9, 2020

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### Week 2: Representation Matters: Asian American Art History

#### 2A: Monday, August 3, 2020

**Lecture:** Representation and Art in the Asian American Movement

**Readings:**
11. Taylor Weik, “The history behind ‘Yellow Peril Supports Black Power’ and why some find it problematic”

**Activity:**
Browse through the *Gidra* Collection on the Densho website
http://drr.densho.org/ddr-densho-297/

Browse through *Mountain Movers* website
http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress/mm/default.aspx

**Due this week on Sunday, August 9, 2020**
- 2A Quiz
- 2B Quiz
- Week 2 Discussion Post
- Writing Assignment #1

### Announcements:
- Writing Assignment #2 Due Week 3 on August 16, 2020
- Final Paper Topic Due Week 3 on August 12, 2020

#### 2B: Wednesday, August 5, 2020

**Lecture:** Building an Asian American Art History

**Readings:**
15. Allan M. Gordon, “On Understanding Third World Art” in *Other Sources*

**Watch:**
“Whitney Museum 1993 Biennial Curators Respond”
https://charlierose.com/videos/15655

### Week 3: Erasures and Absences in Asian American Art

#### 3A: Monday, August 10, 2020

**Lecture:** Interrogating the Museum

**Watch:**
Marlon Fuentes, *Bontoc Eulogy*
Access *Bontoc Eulogy* through our library at this link. Click on the link titled “Alexander Street Press.” You will need to be logged into the library account with your CruzID and gold password or logged into the VPN to view the film.

**Readings:**

#### 3B: Wednesday, August 12, 2020

**Readings:**
**Lecture:**
Which Asians get to claim Asian America?

18. Tina Takemoto, “Notes on Internment Camp”
20. Nicole Miyoshi Rabin, “Picturing the Mix”

**Watch:**
Christine Sun Kim, “The enchanting music of sign language” - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Euof4PnjDk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Euof4PnjDk)


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Week 4: American Imperialism and Cold War Politics

**4A: Monday, August 17, 2020**

**Lecture:**
The Refugee: Artists Responding in the Diaspora

**Readings:**
21. Yến Lê Espiritu, “Refugee” in *Keywords for Asian American Studies*
23. Thi Bui, *The Best We Could Do*

**Watch:**
Binh Danh National Gallery of Art - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ulouy87SUV0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ulouy87SUV0)

The Propeller Group - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK7RtpOs79M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK7RtpOs79M)

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**Due this week on Sunday, August 23, 2020**
- 4A Quiz
- 4B Quiz
- Week 4 Discussion Post

**Announcements:**
- All assignments including final paper are due on Friday, August 28

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**4B: Wednesday, August 19, 2020**

**Lecture:**
The Model Minority Myth

**Watch:**
Renee Tajima-Peña, *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* Access *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* through our library at this [link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK7RtpOs79M). Click on the link titled “Alexander Street Press.” You will need to be logged into the library account with your CruzID and gold password or logged into the VPN to view the film.

**Readings:**
27. Claire Jean Kim, “The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Week 5: Re-thinking, Re-Framing, Re-Negotiating Asian American Art and Visual Culture</strong></th>
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<td><strong>5A: Monday, August 24, 2020</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lecture:</strong> In the Surveillance State: Asian American Art after 9/11</td>
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<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
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<td>30. Tahney Fosdike, “In conversation with Anida Yoeu Ali: ‘I never thought that I would actually be banned’”</td>
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<td><strong>Activity:</strong></td>
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<td>Browse through the website, Anida Yoeu Ali <em>The Red Chador Is Dead</em>, <a href="https://redchadorisdead.com/">https://redchadorisdead.com/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Due this week on Friday, August 28, 2020</strong></td>
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<td>● Week 5 Discussion Post</td>
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<td>● Final paper</td>
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<td>● Extra credit</td>
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| **5B: Wednesday, August 26, 2020** |
| **Lecture:** Asian America and Black Lives Matter |
| **Readings:** |
| **Watch:** |
| “Why so many black people love kung fu” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2uDE8TuULs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2uDE8TuULs) |
| **Activity:** |
| Listen to The Code Switch Podcast, “A Letter From Young Asian-Americans To Their Families About Black Lives Matter” - [https://www.npr.org/transcripts/487375314](https://www.npr.org/transcripts/487375314) |

| **Final paper and all assignments due by 11:59 pm Friday, August 28** |

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