SOAN 218: Asians in the United States

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Office Hours: Tues: 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Wed: 3:00 - 3:45 pm
Fri: 3:30 - 4:30 pm
And by appointment, if necessary

Course Description:
Are Asian Americans forever foreigners or honorary whites? This class introduces you to the sociological research on Asian Americans. We begin by a brief introduction of U.S. immigration history and sociological theories about assimilation and racial stratification. We then cover research on racial and ethnic identity, educational stratification, mass media images, interracial marriage, multiracials, transracial adoption, and the viability of an Asian American panethnic identity. We will also examine the similarities and differences of Asian Americans relative to other minority groups when applicable.

Student Learning Outcomes:
The Department of Sociology and Anthropology has specified six student learning outcomes (SLOs) that we want students to acquire. In this course, our focus is on the following three:

- ✓ Learning how to connect information about historical and contemporary socio-cultural phenomena;
- ✓ Applying sociological theory to analyze socio-cultural phenomena;
- ✓ Drawing upon your understanding of historical and contemporary socio-cultural phenomena to engage the world.

Required Course Materials:
Several journal, magazine, and newspaper articles can be downloaded from the course's Moodle page. The following four books are also required, and they can be purchased from the Carleton Bookstore:

1. Pawan Dhingra, Robyn Magalit Rodriguez. 2014. Asian America: Sociological and Interdisciplinary Perspectives. New York: Wiley.

2. Mia Tuan. 1999. Forever Foreigners or Honorary Whites?: The Asian Ethnic Experience Today. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

3. Shelley Sang-Hee Lee. 2014. A New History of Asian America. New York: Routledge.

Assignments and Evaluation:
Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance on the following activities:

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Response Paper 1	8%
Response Paper 2	8%
Midterm	22%
Group Poster	15%
Interview	15%
Final Exam in class	22%
Participation/Attendance	10%

Policy on late work: The ten week term is short and falling behind is a recipe for disaster. Get your assignments done on time. In general, I do not accept late work and I do not give makeup exams.

Grades will be assigned according to the following distribution:

A	100-94	B+	<90-88	C+	<80-78	D+	<70-68
		B	<88-84	C	<78-74	D	<68-60
A-	<94-90	B-	<84-80	C-	<74-70	F	<60

FREE Resources for Students
Take advantage of the FREE resources that will improve your educational experience!

Don't forget about the *Writing Center*! Again, go early and often to take advantage of these resources. Trust me, after college, you will have to start paying for these things out of pocket so soak up as much as you can now!
http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/asc/writingcenter/

Get to know your professors! Carleton will pay for you to take two professors per term to lunch at the college dining hall. I imagine that this is an under-utilized perk of a your tuition dollars. Take advantage of it.

Academic Integrity

In line with Carleton's policy on academic integrity, it is assumed that the student is the author of all coursework. Please refer to Carleton's full policy for additional information or see me if you have questions. http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/doc/integrity/

Please also see this helpful post on plagiarism from the blog *Everyday Sociology*

http://www.everydaysociologyblog.com/2011/05/writing-sociology-papers-how-not-to-plagiarize.html

Disability Services for Students

Carleton College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services, Andy Christensen, at 222-4464 or anchrist@carleton.edu, to begin the process.

Attendance/Class participation/Respectful use of electronic devices
Just showing up to class is not sufficient. You are encouraged to speak up, raise questions and take risks. *There is no such thing as a stupid question*!

Students who are consistently tardy or miss three or more classes will forfeit their participation grade. I am a reasonable person so should you have an extenuating circumstance and the documentation to verify it (i.e. a note from a doctor, class dean, etc.), we can work something out.

It should go without saying but in addition to being present, students should refrain from inappropriately using electronic devices during class time.

The "default" participation grade is 5 out of 10, so students who actively and productively contribute to class will substantially increase their grades. Egregious absenteeism and tardiness will significantly affect your grade beyond participation points.

Calendar

Part 1: History of Asian Immigration

Mon Sept 15: Introduction to the course

Wed Sept 17: The Asian Diaspora in the Pre-Exclusion Years
- A New History of Asian America: Chapters 3 and 5

Friday Sept 19: World War II
- A New History of Asian America: Chapters 8 & 9
- Euphemisms, Concentration Camps and the Japanese Internment (short)

Part 2: Racialization of Asians

Mon Sept 22: Racial Positioning
- Neither Black Nor White by Angelo Ancheta (moodle)
- The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans by Claire Jean Kim (moodle)
- From Bi-Racial to Tri-Racial by Eduardo Bonilla-Silva (moodle)

Wed Sept 24: Models of Assimilation
- Are Asian Americans becoming white? By Min Zhou (moodle)
- Against the Whitening Literature by Nadia Kim (moodle)

Fri Sept 26: Forever Foreigners
- Introduction, Chapters 3-4

Response Paper 1 Due on or before the start of class

Mon Sept 29: Forever Foreigners

- Chapters 5-7

Part 3: Formation of Asian American Panethnicity

Wed Oct 1: Politics and Activism

- A New History of Asian America: Chapter 11
- Selections from Asian American Panethnicity by Yen Le Espiritu (moodle)

Fri Oct 3: The Legacy of Vincent Chin

- Reactive Solidarity: Asian American Violence (moodle)
- A New History of Asian America: Chapter 13

Part 4: Beyond East Asians

Mon Oct 6: The Transformation of Asian America

- A New History of Asian America Chapter 10
- Excerpts from the Late Homecomer (moodle)

Wed Oct 8: Vietnamese and American

- Excerpts from Growing Up American (moodle)
- A Gulf Unites Us: The Vietnamese Americans of Black New Orleans East (moodle)

Fri Oct 10: South Asian and American

- South Asian Muslim Youth in Post 9/11 America (moodle)
- Style and Language Use among Youth of the New Immigration: Formations of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Class in Everyday Practice (moodle)

Response Paper 2 Due on or before the start of class

Part 5: The Model Minority

Mon Oct 13: Placing Educational Attainment in Context

- Asian America: Chapter 4: Class and Work Lives
- Asian America: Chapter 5: Education

Wed Oct 15: Affirmative Action

- Neither Black nor White: Affirmative Action and Asian Americans (moodle)
- Excerpts from Unraveling the Model Minority Stereotype (moodle)

Fri Oct 17: Tiger Moms

- Being Practical or Doing What I Want: The Role of Parents in the Academic Choices of Chinese Americans (Moodle)
- Does “tiger parenting” exist? Parenting profiles of Chinese Americans and adolescent developmental outcomes (moodle)

Mon Oct 20: No Class Midterm Break

Wed Oct 22: **Midterm in Class**

Fri Oct 24: Cambodian Refugees

- Watch Sentenced Home in Class

Part 6: Gender and Sexuality

Mon Oct 27: Intersectionality

- Asian America: Chapter 2: Race, Gender, and Sexuality
- Race Gender Stereotypes and Online Dating Preferences (moodle)
- Watch clip from Seeking Asian Female

Wed Oct 29: Intermarriage

- Marriage & family review: Intergenerational Assimilation by Intermarriage: Hispanic and Asian Immigrants (moodle)
- Relevance of Race: Children and the Shifting Engagement with Racial/Ethnic Identity among Second-Generation Interracially Married Asian Americans (moodle)

Fri Oct 31: LGBT

- Asian America: pgs. 103-107
- Sexualizing Asian Male Bodies
- READING TBA

Part 7: Asian American Families

Mon Nov 3: Children of Immigrants

- "Am I *Really* Asian?" Educational Experiences and Panethnic Identification among Second–Generation Filipino Americans (moodle)
- Second-Generation Asian American Pan-Ethnic Identity: Pluralized Meanings of a Racial Label (moodle)
- The Multifaceted American Experiences of the Children of Asian Immigrants: Lessons for Segmented Assimilation (moodle)

Wed Nov 5: Multiracial Asian America

- The Role of Reflected Appraisals in Racial Identity: The Case of Multiracial Asians (moodle)
- A PostRacial Society or a Diversity Paradox? Race, Immigration, and Multiraciality in the Twenty-First Century (moodle)

Fri Nov 7: Adoption

- An "Orphan" with Two Mothers: Transnational and Transracial Adoption, The Cold War and Contemporary Asian American Cultural Politics (moodle)
- Pandas, Lions, and Dragons, oh my! How white adoptive parents construct Chineseness (moodle)

Part 8: Pop Culture post 9/11

Mon Nov 10: Racial Performance

- Rethinking Accents in America and Running from the Joint: Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanomo Bay (moodle)
- Racial Naturalization, Advertising, and Model Consumers for a New Millennium (moodle)

Interview due at the start of class, Monday Nov 10th

Wed Nov 12: Literary Depictions of Asian Americans in Sociological Perspective

- Hell-Heaven by Jumpa Lahiri (moodle)
- Hunger by Angie Chau (moodle)

Study Break: Optional dinner at my house, Thursday Nov. 13, 5:30pm

Fri Nov 14: Asian Americans in Television and Cinema

- Missing in Action: Asian Americans in Prime Time Television (moodle)
- A Shot at Half Exposure: Asian Americans in Reality Television (moodle)

Mon Nov 17: POSTER SESSION in class

Wed Nov 19: POSTER SESSION in class
Wrap up and evaluations

Final Exam in Class Saturday Nov 22, 3:30pm