

Spring 2009 Course Syllabus for
**ART AS A FORM OF RESISTANCE IN
ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES**
Asian American Studies 98/198 Sec. 4
Thursdays 6-8pm, 206 Wheeler, 2 Units, P/NP

Facilitator: Leslie Dinh
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Office Hours: Thursdays 2-3pm or by appt.
Faculty Sponsor: Professor Elaine Kim

AAS 98 CCN: 06132
AAS 198 CCN: 06306

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to history and issues revolving around Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities and different forms of art they use as a form of expression and resistance to those issues. This course will also include discussions on the experience and development of the different API groups in the U.S. as well as organizations here on the University of Berkeley campus. Classes will be taught through guest lecturers and educational and outreach events and supported by group discussions, in-class activities, supplemental readings, and different forms of art, such as film, poems, visual art, etc.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this course is to examine a number of critical questions regarding agency, history, identity, and solidarity among the various communities of Asians and Pacific Islanders. By the end of this course, students will be expected to have the knowledge to analyze issues within their communities and to have established their own medium of resistance as a construction or expression of their own identities or view of their own communities.

REQUIREMENTS:

To "PASS" the class, the student must have a 70% or better and complete ALL assignments. Grades will be determined by:

1) 15% Attendance & Evaluations:

Attendance is mandatory, accounts for 10% of your grade, and will be taken every week at the end of each class period. Students may miss no more than 2 unexcused/excused absences. Students who have more than 2 unexcused/excused absences will receive a "No Pass" grade. In any case of an emergency, conflicts with religious affiliation days, or unforeseen circumstances and the student needs to miss class, he or she must inform the main facilitator as soon as possible to request for an alternative assignment. There will be two mandatory course evaluations (5% of your grade), which will give students a chance to evaluate guest speakers and give feedback on the course.

2) 40% Educational Outreach Events:

Every student will be required to attend at least three educational outreach events on campus of their choice- one conference (20%) and two open seminars, two meetings, or one of each (10% each), which accounts for a total of 40% of your grade. Students will be able to make up unexcused absences through additional educational outreach events, one event per unexcused absence or through an alternative assignment discussed later in the course. A short reflection paper must be turned in for each event. This short reflection paper is a 2-3 page open-ended paper that discusses how the event enhanced the student's knowledge or further developed it, any questions

or the suggestions the student may have about the event, and how it relates to the course.

API Issues Conference, March 14, 2009
Asian Pacific Islander Youth Conference (APIYC), TBD
Annual Pacific Islander Symposium, TBD
REACH! Meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8pm, 220 Wheeler

Other events will be announced later on in the semester.

3) 45% Final Project:

Based on the API issues taught through different forms of art, PowerPoint lectures, guest lecturers, and so on, you are required to conduct a final project reflecting on the knowledge that you gained within the course or how it relates to you personally. This project, which accounts for 45% of your grade, can be anything that you desire, such as creating an informal newspaper discussing issues within your communities or the representation of Asians and Pacific Islanders, a PowerPoint lecture, art, photographs, spoken word/poems, a literal essay or personal narrative, a short video, etc. or combinations of different mediums of art. This is an open-ended project! Use your creativity!

All students are required to present their project on the last day of class. Each presentation should range from 10-12 minutes.

Students are highly encouraged to work in groups but of no more than four in one group. However, students are also able to work individually.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: I will be more than happy to make any accommodations if necessary. Please just let me know ahead of time.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE:

Week 1: Introductions

2/5 Introduction to Course

Week 2: Privilege

2/12 Film, Discussion

Week 3: Privilege

2/19 Guest Speaker: Binly

Week 4: Gender Equity/LGBTIQQA

2/26 Film, Discussion

Week 5: Gender Equity/LGBTIQQA

3/5 Guest Speaker: Christine

Week 6: Globalization

3/12 Film, Discussion

Week 7: Globalization

3/19- No Class

Week 8: No Class

3/26- Spring Break

Week 9: Globalization

4/2 Guest Speaker: Elizabeth Sy

Week 10: Environmental Injustice

4/9 Film, Discussion

Week 11: Environmental Injustice

4/16 Guest Speaker: Marirose

Week 12: API Movement: The API Community in the U.S.

4/23 Spoken Word, Film, Discussion

Week 13: API Movement: The API Community in the U.S.

4/30 Guest Speaker: Cal Slam,

Week 14: Final Project Presentations, Class Conclusions and Evaluations

5/7 Presentations.

*Syllabus is tentative and subject to change