



C-ID Descriptor

Asian American History

Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** Asian American History
- **C-ID Number:** 120
- **Units:** 3
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General Description

Analysis of Asian American and Desi American experiences and contributions to United States history spanning the earliest to the 49ers, through the Japanese American concentration camp experience and the post-1965 immigrants, refugees and American born in an era of globalization. Emphasis on race, ethnic and language background, class, immigration status, gender, sexuality and interethnic and transnational relations.

Any rationale or comment:

On many campuses, an Asian American history course is the main beginning course in the Asian American Studies Discipline and one of the four (4) core areas of Ethnic Studies. Some campuses offer one course, and other campuses split the material into 2 different courses. At these campuses both classes meet the CSU US-1 Historical development of American institutions and ideals, US-2 United States Constitution and government and US-3 California state and local government requirements. For the Asian American Studies ADT either course in the 2 course sequence is acceptable. Some campuses match CSU Asian American Studies Department CSU US-1 Historical development of American institutions and ideals for one course. This one course is acceptable for the Asian American Studies ADT.

Prerequisites

None

Corequisites

None

Advisories

None

Content

1. Early Immigration Waves
 - A. Key terms (race, racism, anti-racism, imperialism, ethnicity, Eurocentrism, xenophobia, feminism, sexual identity)
 - B. US race relations
 - C. Earliest Asians
2. Chinese Immigration
 - A. Migration factors
 - B. Community formation (Chinatowns)
 - C. Economic contributions (Gold Rush, railroad, agriculture, business)
3. Hawaii and Asian Migration
 - A. Hawaiian history and sovereignty
 - B. Plantation economy and resistance
 - C. Cultural dynamics
4. Continuing Mainland Migration, Community Development, Government Policies and Resistance
 - A. Japanese immigrants
 - B. Korean immigrants
 - C. South Asian immigrants
 - D. Filipino "Nationals" and Aliens
5. 1934-1965: Mid-Century Milestones
 - A. Second Generation Emergence
 - B. World War II Impact
 1. Japanese American incarceration
 2. Other Asian American communities
 3. Fighting for rights
 - C. Post-War and Cold War
6. Transformations 1965-1992

- A. 1965 Immigration Act and Community Developments
 - B. US Third World Movements
 - C. Model Minority Stereotype
 - D. Vietnamese, Hmong, Laotian and Cambodian American Refugees
 - E. 1992 LA Riot
7. 1992-Present: Contemporary Issues
- A. Evolving social justice frameworks
 - B. Feminist and sexuality movements
 - C. Political participation
 - D. Solidarity movements including BLM
 - E. Anti-Asian hate crimes with trade tensions, post-9/11 and COVID-19

Lab Activities

The course may include a lab component.

Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. In written or oral work, analyze the cause and impact of important events on Asian American history.
2. Critique varied historical sources, perspectives and debates in Asian American studies.
3. Assess the importance of historical evidence from major eras, political figures, legislative acts, social trends, economic policy, and globalized perspectives in Asian American studies.
4. Compare and contrast the experiences of marginalized groups with that of the dominant power structure, including concerns of race, economic class, gender, sexuality, immigration status, language, etc. in Asian American history.
5. Apply lessons of history and ethnic studies to civic responsibilities.
6. Critically compare the experiences of Native American Indians, African Americans, Asian Americans, Latino/a Americans using interdisciplinary ethnic studies concepts/theories.
7. Analyze and articulate concepts such as race and racism, racialization, ethnicity, equity, ethno-centrism, eurocentrism, white supremacy, self-determination, liberation, decolonization, sovereignty, imperialism, settler

colonialism, and anti-racism as analyzed in Asian American Studies.

8. Apply theory and knowledge produced by Asian American communities to describe the critical events, histories, cultures, intellectual traditions, contributions, lived-experiences and social struggles of those groups with a particular emphasis on agency and group-affirmation.
9. Critically analyze the intersection of race and racism as they relate to class, gender, sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability, tribal citizenship, sovereignty, language, and/or age in Asian American communities.
10. Critically review how struggle, resistance, racial and social justice, solidarity and liberation, as experienced and enacted by Asian Americans are relevant to current and structural issues such as communal, national and international, and transnational politics as, for example, in immigration, reparations, settler colonialism, multiculturalism, language policies.
11. Describe and actively engage with anti-racist and anti-colonial issues and the practices and movements in Asian American communities and a just and equitable society.

Evaluation Methods

May include, but are not limited to:

1. In-class essay exam to demonstrate knowledge of factual data to support thesis and analysis.
2. Group projects to encourage collaboration and respect of different opinions.
3. Scholarly papers to facilitate independent research from primary and secondary sources with correct citation format.
4. Class participation to encourage verbalization of perspectives and opinions and knowledge of factual information.
5. Objective exams to measure acquisition and understanding of main facts and details.

Textbooks

Choy, Catherine Ceniza. Asian American Histories of the United States. Beacon Press, 2023.

Lee, Erika. America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States. Basic Books, 2021 2nd.

Fujiwara, Lynn, ed. Asian American Feminism and Women of Color Politics. University of Washington Press, 2018.

Man, Simeon. Soldiering through Empire: Race and the Making of the Decolonizing Pacific.

University of California Press, 2018.

Shrake, Eunai, Teresa Williams Leon and Edith Chen. Asian Pacific American Experiences Past, Present and future. Kendall-Hun, 2020.

Or equivalent Open Educational Resource