Asian American Studies San Francisco State University

**AAS 212 (05) #8641**

**ASIAN AMERICAN AND MASS MEDIA**

**Instructor’s Information**: **Course Schedule and Location**:

Mr. Lewis Kawahara Spring 2020

Office: EP-211 Location: HSS 213

Office Phone: -- Tuesdays/Thursdays 11-12:15PM

E-mail: Lkawahara2017[@sfsu.edu](mailto:@sfsu.edu) Or jagardener9066@gmail.com Course Attributes:

Office Hours: Tue/Th 10-11AM or AFTER class or by apptC1: Arts; Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

**Course Description**:

AA S 212 Asian Americans and Mass Mediais a course to help students explores the complexities of ethnicity/race in the U.S. through analyses of the media, especially moving/still images, television, advertising, popular literature, and commercial art. We will examine how images are projected in media to show racial and ethnic stereotypes, examine class and racial exploitation, and the “OTHERING” and the “whitening” of Asian America to conform to a national identity.

AAS 212 provides a framework for understanding the relationship between media and society. And will help students develop skills for critically evaluating both conventional wisdom and their own assumptions about the role of the media.

**Objectives/Learning Outcomes:**

* Understand the purpose and role of mass media in how it presents images of AA/APIs and its communities.
* Understand the increasingly important role of media in our daily life.
* Understand the need for a higher degree of accountability in mass media.

**Grading**:

I. Participation (15 Points):

* Attendance is MANDATORY.
  + No make-ups.
  + Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the class. And/or a written summary will be due at the end of each class, this will be your proof of attendance
    - Questions will be given out in class.
  + NO electronic copy will be accepted.
* There are two (2) exceptions to the attendance policy:
  + Verifiable emergencies, your Instructor will expect some form of written documentation to verify excuse or tardiness.
  + Before class begins, email your Instructor that you will not be attending. You will be marked as being “excused”.

II. Homework:

* Each week, reading assignments are located on iLearn.
* Be ready to discuss the Weekly readings, which may include the following: key arguments and concepts presented by the author, and your critique of the subject.
* QUIZ questions will come from weekly reading articles.
* If absent, it is the student’s responsibility to ask a classmate for their notes for that day.
* Finally, pop-quizzes may be give at any time. These Pop-quiz questions will come from the assigned reading for that week, and may be used as proof of attendance.

III. On-Line Quiz (4 x 15 Points = 60 Points):

* Four multi-choice quizzes will be given on-line during the semester. (See the course schedule for quizzes dates.)
* All (4) quizzes can be found on iLearn.
  + Time limit: 3 hours.
  + One-attempt ONLY.
  + Hours open on iLearn: 24 hours
  + Quiz is open book, use class notes, summaries for student presentations.
* Make up quiz ONLY when student contacts Instructor and will need a valid reason/excuse (with written documentation to verify excuse).

IV. Final Report (25 Points):

* A handout sheet will be given out later.
* Each student will complete a Final Report focusing on a topic of your own choosing but must be within the framework of the course and our syllabus.
* The Final Report is a minimum of 4 pages of text with a maximum of 5 pages or 1,500 words.
* The Final Report is due on or before Thursday, May 21, 2020 by 1:00 PM.

***NO EXCEPTIONS*** -- If student fails to complete this assignment, it is an automatic “F” for the semester.

**Required Text**:

* ALL reading assignments is located on iLearn, see our Course website.
* Though the majority of the readings are already chosen, I reserve the right to make slight and reasonable alterations, depending on the interests of the class.

**Course Schedule and Readings:**

WEEK\_1 Jan. 28 & Jan. 30 **Introduction**

* Introduction to course and review of the Course syllabus.

For our first meeting please share with us a six-word story about YOU.

Please make it a story with a beginning, middle and end, and not just six adjectives. And use proper punctuation and use spell check. At the end of class you will hand in your story as proof of attendance and more importantly a way to introduce myself to the class – additional instructions will be given at our first meeting.

Please – make us laugh or cry or feel something about YOU.

Examples:

Earth Day 2019: “Get off your phone look up”

“Los Angeles air almost smog free”

Mother’s Day 2019: “Many mothers are often father’s too”

“My job: Make Mommy happy. Failed.”

“I have the world’s best mom.”

Father’s Day 2019: “I always knew he loved me.”

“Oh, how I miss my Papa.”

“Smart, crafty, taught me a lot.”

* film:
* Multi-facial. 1994, 20 min
* Racial Facial. 9 min.

WEEK 2 Feb. 4 & Feb. 6 Theme: MEDIA: WHO ARE THE API ‘MASSES’!

* Introduction to terms and images. + aa histories.
* Lecture/discussion.
* *Go to iLearn for this week’s reading assignment*
* Success Story (Newsweek 1971)
* Hollywood, separate and unequal.
* Fade to White.
* Language Rights (2012)
* Yellow-Facing-01.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Enter the Dragon*. 1973, 102 min
* *The Curse of Quon Gwon. 1916*
* *Broken Blossoms. D. W. Griffith. 1917, 89 min.*
* *Mr. Wong.*
* *Charlie Chan: The Chinese Cat. 1944, 65 min.*
* *Breakfast atTtiffany’s. (excerpt Mickey Roone)*
* *Hollywood Chinese. 2007, 89 min.*
* *Slanted Screen. Jeff Adachi. 2006, 60 min*

WEEK 3 Feb. 11 & Feb. 13 CARTOONS

* *Go to iLearn for this week’s reading assignment*.
* Superman[p1] (NOTE: hard to read)
* How Bambi got its look.
* Revisiting that Ado over Apu.
* WK04 UP & Airbender.
* Mulan Whiteness.
* Beyond Snow White.
* Arts of Activism/Political Cartoons(from “Serve the People”)
* AA actors voice (Giving Asian Actors heir animated due).
* http://www.gracelin.com/media/press/press\_snowwhiteessay.pdf
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
  + *A Flicker in Eternity.* Sharon Yamato. 25 min

**WEEK 4** Feb. 18 & Feb. 20 Theme: **Massive sounds**

* **QUIZ #1** (Opens at 3:00 PM and closed Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 3:00 PM.
  + WEEK 1-WEEK 4 / 15points)
* Guest Lecturer: Mark Izu
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* Taiko in Asian America
* Baby Shark
* Hollywood separate unequal.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* The Spirit of Taiko. 2005, 56 min.
* Cruisin’ JTown. 24 min.
* Chinatown 2-Step. 1975, 17 min.
* Our Man in Tokyo: The Ballad of Shin Miyata. 2018, 19 min.
* Vimeo: Christine Sun Kim. 2018, 23:30 min

**WEEK 5** Feb. 25 & Feb. 27 Theme:   **sports**

* Lecture/discussion.
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* Asian/AA in sports
* Tackling Pacific hegemonic formations on the American gridiron.
* Media as King Makers (2015)
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* Transcending: The Wat Misaka Story. 2008, 86 min.

WEEK 6 March 3 & March 5 Theme: Arts

* Guest Speaker:
* Lecture/discussion.
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
  + *Arthur & Estelle Ishigo*.
  + *Pledge of Allegiance* Performance
  + Q: 27&28 = REVIEW for “*Pledge of Allegiance* Performance” article
  + *What is Chinese American art?*
  + *Performing race and ethnicity* (2018)
  + *Tattoo School Teachers.*
  + *Kearny St workshop.*
  + *Japanese dance teacher*.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Days of Waiting*. 2000, 28 min.
* *The Worlds of Bernice Bing*. 2013, 34 min.
* *Piecing Memories*. 2000, 31 min
* *Drawing the Line*. 2011, 42 min.

WEEK 7 March 10 & March 12 Theme: Community.

* Guest Lecturer: Steve Nakajo, Brandon Quan, and US Census members
* Handout will be given out during class. Start thinking about a Final Term Paper topic. Sign up for an appointment starts next week and the meeting/appointments start WEEK 9.
* *Go to iLearn for this week’s reading assignment*
* *China Beach leaves out the bad parts.*
* *Teaching Vincent Chin.*
* *Why Vincent Chin matters.*
* *Vincent Chin and baseball*
* *LA Riots*.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Sa-I-Gu (April 29). 1993, 34 min*.
* *Remembering Manzanar*. 22 min
* *9066 to 9*/11. 2004, 2004, 20 min.

**WEEK 8** March 17 & March 19 Theme Community

* **QUIZ #2 –** readings from WEEK 5 thru WEEK 8
* GUEST SPEAKER: Nina Bazan-Sakamoto & Mario de Mira
* Lecture/discussion.
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* Hmong Women.
* Place and Space (Brannan Street)
* JANM-01 (Community on Display)
* UCLA Diversity Report 2018 https://socialsciences.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/UCLA-Hollywood-Diversity-Report-2018-2-27-18.pdf
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *A Village Called Versailles*. 2009, 68 min.
* *CSM Riots/Uprising* (@10 min clip)

**WEEK 9** March 23-27 **SPRING BREAK** Theme: Tech

* Homework: FOR APRIL 2 class, research newspapers/other printed materials about AA in politics. Additional hand out will be give out in class during WEEK 8.
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* *Social Change thru the AA Market* (2016)
* *Online AA popular culture.*
* *Facebook limits.*
* *AA Youtube Celebrities Creating Popular Culture Networks.*
* *Utilizing Skills and Passion to spread Online Activism*.

**WEEK 10** March 31 = **NO** Class & April 2 Theme: ELECTION

* Homework: For Thursday, April 2 have your list of AA/API candidates. This assignment will need a hard copy to be turned in after class is over – it is also your proof of attendance. Will be divided into small groups.
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* News Coverage of Asian American Candidates 1993-2003.

**WEEK 11** April 7 & April 9 Theme: OUTsiDe sources

* On-campus field trip=Garden of Remembrance
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* Aloha spirit at Filoli.
  + Gardener01
  + Fil Gardener
  + 2019 KOA North American Camping Report.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Moving Walls.* Sharon Yamato. 26 min
  + *Garden of Remembrance (Henry’s Garden). 2003, 6 min.*
  + *Ruth Asawa: A Community Artist. 2008, 9 min.*
  + *Blossoms & Thorns: A Community Uprooted.2012, 19 min.*
  + *Ken Burn’s The National Parks.*
* *“Back of Beyond” 15 min.*
* *“Matsushita & Obata” 29 min.*

WEEK 12 April 14 & April 16 Theme: Love and Romance

* **QUIZ #3** WEEK 9 thru WEEK 12
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* *Interracial love is saving America.*
* *Mix race-01.*
* *Love and Hapaness.*
* *Rethinking mixed race.*
* *AA interracial marriage*.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* Youtub*e*: *Blind Devotion*. 2015, @9 min.
* *Kelly loves Tony. 1998, 57 min.*
  + *Korla*. 2014, 78 min (“passing”)
* *ONE BIG Hapa Family*. 2019, 48 min.
* *A Beautiful Blend: Mixed race in America*. 2004, 27 min.

WEEK 13 April 21 & April 23 Theme: Health

* Guest Lecturer: AA Donor Program (AADP)
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* *(Geneticist-01) Geneticists see work distorted for racist ends.*
* *The Science and Business Genetic Ancestry Testing.*
* *UC Santa Barbara: Stem Cell Matching.*
* *With migration, Digestive changes*
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Mixed Match*. 2016, 56 min.
* *Creased. 16 min.*
* *Painted Nails.2016, 58 min.*
* *Unnatural Causes...is inequality making us sick? 29 min.*
* *Documentary for Health & Social Justice: Breathing Khmer. 15 min.*

WEEK 14 April 28 & April 30 THEME: Food

* Guest Lecturer: Lisa Suguitan Melnick, College of San Mateo Professor
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
  + *Cheerios Family…*
  + *Lopez: AA food blogging.*
  + *Missing Saigon.*
  + *How to cook like a banana.*
  + *Taro-01 (Origin Stories).*
  + *Taro-02 (Farming Story)*
  + *Tofu Maker-01*
  + *Chinese restaurants-01 (No successor for owners)*
  + *Filipino food-01(Her great mission…)*
  + *AA food app.*
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *SNL: John Belushi*. 3:32 min
* *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom.* 9 min*.*
* *Off the Menu Asian America.* 2015, 56 mi*n.*
* *Keepsake 15min?*
* Youtube: Double Dip. 42 sec
* Youtube: Sausage Party. The Great Beyond song. 2016, 3 min.
* Youtube: Cheerios
* Youtube: Jennifer 8 Lee: General Tso (TED, 16:30min)

WEEK 15 May 5 & May 7 **HAWAI’I + Pacific islanders**

* **NO** OFFICE Hour– Appointment ONLY
* *This week’s reading assignment on iLearn*:
* *Paradise, Hawaiian style.*
* *Army learns to Luau.*
* *Which of these things is not like the other.*
* *Great Beyond.*
* *DeYoung: Native People painting*.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
  + *A force for Creation*. 8 min
  + *Then there were NONE*. 1996, 20 min.
  + *Out of State*. Ciara Lacy. 2017, 79 min.
  + *Islands of Sanctuary*: Kaho’olawe Hawai’i. 2013, 32 min
  + *Hawaiian cowboys*. 2006, 3 min.

WEEK 16 May 12 & May 14 **HAWAI’I + Pacific islanders**

* **NO** OFFICE Hour– Appointment ONLY
* **QUIZ #4**. WEEK 12 – WEEK 15 (opens at ??? PM and closes at ????day, ?? at ?? PM).
* *Go to iLearn for this week’s reading assignment*.
* *Pacific: Fiji, Tonga, Samoa.*
* *Oceaning American Studies.*
* *Federal judge ruled Am. Somoan.*
* *Environmental-01.*
* *Crossing an Ocean to butcher hogs[p2]*
* *Samoa and measles[p1]*
* *De Young Museum: Native Peoples painting.*
* *Taiwan loses Solomon.*
* *Coral reef dying – Hawai’i.*
* *South Pacific Island votes*.
* Film/clips: Excerpts from:
* *Skin Stories*. 2006, 56 min.
  + *Leitis in Waiting*. 70 min,
  + *Lady Eva*. 11 min
  + *Omai Fa’atasi*: Samoa Mo Samoa. 1978, 30 min.

WEEK 17 May 21 by 1:00PM --– **FINAL report DUE = on iLearn**

* NO OFFICE Hour– Appointment ONLY

REMEMBER: Failure to submit a Final Report will automatically flunk student from the course. If student foresees ANY problem please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**General Considerations:** (Update: 1/18/2020)

1. Attendance is MANDATORY. I cannot teach a student who is not present, so regular attendance is expected.

A. Work is **NOT** an excusable absence nor is a campus sport event/practice. Please have your program director/coach contact me about you’re missing a class session or leaving early.

B. If you are planning on leaving class early, please sit near an exit door -- AND remember, regularly leaving early will be marked as an absence.

2. Quiz questions will come from the following sources: ANYTHING from your Weekly Reading Assignments (even if it was not discussed) and ANYTHING from class lectures, and films screened in class. Please do your best and read the Weekly Readings, attend class, and take good notes.

* Also it is highly recommended to form a study group with your class members, if you need assistance to form a study group, please contact the Instructor.

3. Make-up quizzes will be scheduled only for emergencies or special circumstances as approved by the instructor. Verification of emergency -- required.

4. Grading – see Page #1 on “GRADING.”

A. If a student has **ANY** questions about their grade, please make an appointment with the Instructor or visit during regular posted office hours.

B. The Instructor **WILL NOT/DOES NOT** “discuss” grades over the telephone or through e-mail, nor will a “third party” (parent, spouse, or friend) be allowed to intervene in the student’s behalf.

C. Student’s grade does not only reflect the level of your critical thinking, but also your ability to clearly and concisely communicate your thinking to the Instructor and class. Indeed, these go hand in hand. Thus, while I appreciate and expect hard work and diligence, it cannot really be a factor in the grade. This means that telling me that you “worked really hard on this” does not means that you get an “A.” You will have ample opportunity to see how I grade and how you are doing through the quizzes, writing assignments and pop quizzes. If you sense you may be heading towards a grade you do not want, talk to me before the last few weeks of the semester when it will invariably be too late.

D. Method of Evaluation is based on 100 point/percent. Your grade can be followed on iLearn.

* REMEMBER: Poor participation/attendance **will affect** your final grade. Also students must complete all elements/assignments (i.e., Quizzes, Final Paper, etc.) of the course to pass.
* Final Grades are NOT negotiable.

5. Students wishing to be immediately notified of their Final Grade need to provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope or postcard.

A. The instructor will **NOT** and does NOT respond to other requests such as email or telephone conversation that pertains to final grades.

B. If student wants to discuss any grade[s] an appointment should be arranged.

6. **ASK QUESTIONS!** If there is something in the Course readings or class lecture that you do **NOT** understand it is important to ask for assistance since not all materials can be located on iLearn, some will be discussed in class and it could be in your quizzes or used for your Final Report.

7. Material and topics dealing with issues of diversity, and historical and cultural issues is a major component of this course.

8. **BEWARE**: Certain films may contain language/scenes that the student may find offensive.

9. Pager, cell phones, or other electrical devices **MUST BE TURNED OFF** during class. The instructor will not tolerate unacceptable or inattentive behavior during class. Sleeping, tardiness, side conversations, text messaging, doing homework for another class, and going in/out of class will be immediately addressed in class AND counted as an absence.

10. No sun glasses, unless you have a note from your eye doctor.

11. No voice recording, video/moving or still images and/or wearable technology is allowed without consent from the Instructor.

12. Accommodations: Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone(voice/TTY415-338-2472 ) or by email *(*[*dprc@sfsu.edu)*](mailto:dprc@sfsu.edu))*.*

13. Students who needs accommodations to observe religious holidays please see the Instructor as soon as possible.

14.Academic Honesty: The SFSU standards of academic honesty will be applied in this class. Dishonesty such as cheating in any form, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University and its officials is prohibited and may lead to appropriate disciplinary action.

15. KEEP this syllabus, it contains all course requirements. If lost or misplace it, a copy can be found on our iLearn site.

16. Violations of the any of the above rules will/can damage your final grade outcome (i.e., being dropped from course and/or receiving a failing grade).

17. Course Attributes: C1: Arts; Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

18. Student disclosures of sexual violence: SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination.  If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Dean of Students.  To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact:

* + The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; <http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/>
  + Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; <http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/>

 For more information on your rights and available resources: <http://titleix.sfsu.edu>

19. NOTE: Films, articles, websites or commercial products mentioned in this course is not meant to promote (upgrade or downgrade) any product or company. These materials are only meant to show different opinion(s) and view(s).

20. If student need/is using a sensory device (aka “fidget toy” “fidget spinner” “fidget tool”), please talk to your Instructor. Most of the time, a device will not be a problem but if a “spinner” has lights or other movements[?] then this maybe a distraction to other students in the room.

21. Equity: The faculty at SFSU affirm that students are entitled to an equitable learning environment that celebrates their voice, fosters their agency, and develops their capacity for self-advocacy, and that is free of unfair practices.If you feel you are in an environment that is not conducive to your learning or you want to learn more about educational equity, please come talk to me.