Content
This course examines how racialized ideas about gender and sexuality have shaped Asian Pacific American literature and culture. We begin by studying the ways that Asian immigration has been central in defining Asian Pacific American communities, citizenship, and cultures. Using novels, short stories, illustrations, film, historical essays, and poems, we will look at how twentieth century writers use notions of visibility, embodiment, and voice to broaden and question definitions of Asian America.

Evaluation
• Preparation and Participation (20%)
Please bring the assigned readings to class and be prepared to discuss them. I will occasionally check during class to see if you have your texts and notes. Also, you may be asked to offer a brief summary of or response to the assigned readings during class discussions.
• Two papers, 3-4 pages each. Due in class on Friday, January 23 and Friday, February 27 (50%)
Topics will be provided at least one week before the due date. You are expected to write nuanced and analytical essays. If you want to write on a different topic, please consult with me at least 3 days before the due date. Papers are due at the beginning of class - hard copy only, no e-mail attachments. Papers that have not been spellchecked/proofread or that are submitted late will be marked down one letter grade. No papers will be accepted more than one week after the due date.
• Midterm in class on Friday, Feb. 20 (20%) The exam will cover Weeks 1-7 (multiple choice, passage identification, short response questions).
• Short response question assignment on Weeks 8-10 (In class, Friday, March 13 (10%)
• Attendance Policy: After three unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by 1/3 of a letter for each absence. (B- becomes C+). You are no longer eligible for a grade if you miss more than six classes (excused or unexcused). Repeated tardiness or leaving before class is over will also lower your grade.

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make an appointment to meet with me soon.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Books are available for purchase at the University of Oregon Bookstore or on 2-hour loan from Knight Library Course Reserves:

Brian Roley, American Son (2001)
Lois Ann Yamanaka, Saturday Night at the Pahala Theatre (1993)

Articles are available from the Course Documents folder on the Blackboard site for ENG 245/CRN21940. You will need to use your UO Duck ID and password to log into Blackboard.
SCHEDULE
PART I: ASIAN/AMERICAN

Week 1
M 1/5   Introduction

W 1/7

Illustrations: “How to Tell Your Friends From the Japs.” Time, 22 December 1941. B
“How to Tell Japs from the Chinese.” Life, 22 December 1941. B


F 1/9
Film: “Rabbit in the Moon” (1999, dir. Emiko Omori, 85 min.)


Week 2    History and Memory
Weekend Assignment for Jan 12 class: Visit the Japanese American Memorial in downtown Eugene, next to the Hult Center (W. 6th Ave. at Willamette St.). How does it depict the Japanese American internment? Are there aspects of internment that are emphasized/downplayed/omitted?

M 1/12
Film: “History and Memory: For Akiko and Takashige” (1991, dir. Rea Tajiri, 32 min.)


W 1/14


F 1/16
1899 Political Cartoons Reflecting U.S. Images of the Philippines B


Film: “Savage Acts” (1995, dir. Pennee Bender, 30 min.)

Tolentino- ENG 245
2 of 5
Week 3
M 1/19
No class – Martin Luther King, Jr.

W 1/21

F 1/23
Film: “The Fall of the I-Hotel” (2005; dir. Curtis Choy; 57 min)

**Paper 1 due in class**

**PART II: VISIBILITY, AUTONOMY, AGENCY**

Week 4
M 1/26
Brian Roley, *American Son*

W 1/28
Brian Roley, *American Son*

F 1/30
Brian Roley, *American Son*

Film clip: “La Visa Loca” (2005, dir. Mike Meily)

Week 5
M 2/2

Film: “The Grace Lee Project” (2005; dir. Grace Lee; 68 min)

W 2/4

Film: “My Life as a Poster” (1996; dir. Shashwati Talukdar; 8 min)

F 2/6
No class – Professor Tolentino at an academic conference
Please read the entire book of *The Woman Warrior* for the next class

Week 6
M 2/9  Storytelling; mothers and daughters
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*

W 2/11 Sisters; The Racial Shadow
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
F 2/13  Being a Writer  
Maxine Hong Kingston, The Woman Warrior  

Film: “The Stories of Maxine Hong Kingston” (1994; dir. Leslie Clark; 60 min)  

Week 7  
M 2/16  

Lois Ann Yamanaka, Saturday Night at the Pahala Theatre  

W 2/18  
Lois Ann Yamanaka, Saturday Night at the Pahala Theatre  

Film: “Fishbowl” (2005, dir. Kayo Hatta, 28 min.)  

F 2/20  
Midterm  

PART III. BORDERLANDS  

Week 8  
M 2/23  

W 2/25  

F 2/27  

Film clip: “The Host” (2007; dir. Bong Joon-ho, 119 min.)  

Paper 2 due in class  

Week 9  
M 3/2  

Film: Art 21 segments on An My Le’s photographs (Season Four: Protest)  

W 3/4  

Film: “Kelly Loves Tony” (1998, dir. Spencer Nakasako, 57 min.)


Week 10
M 3/9

Film clip: “Slaying the Dragon” (1987, dir. Deborah Gee, 60 min.)

W 3/11
On Cultural Authenticity


F 3/13
In-class assignment