Asian American Studies

College of Ethnic Studies

Interim Dean: Amy Sueyoshi

Department of Asian American Studies

EP 103
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Program Scope

The goals of the Asian American Studies Department are to:

- Provide a comprehensive offering of courses which offer all students the opportunity to study and develop greater understanding and awareness of the histories, cultures, communities, and experiences of Asian Americans.
- Integrate knowledge and skills from a variety of other disciplines into a coherent body of information and methodologies that reflect Asian American perspectives, approaches, and needs.
- Increase the general body of information within the field of Asian American Studies.
- Encourage and promote the application of skills and knowledge from Asian American Studies to the improvement of conditions within Asian American communities and the larger society.

These goals are approached through a combination of course offerings, guided research, supervised fieldwork and participation, and student/faculty involvement in Asian American community activities and issues. The department is committed to a constant evolution of its programs and perspectives so as to reflect the dynamic character of Asian American life and circumstances. Towards these ends, courses offered by the department can be used in a number of programs and to meet a variety of graduation requirements. Solid course work in the discipline will be of value to any student intending a career that involves significant contact with Asian Americans.

Undergraduate Program

The department offers a B.A. in Asian American Studies for students who wish to pursue a comprehensive program of study on Asian American experiences. The major is designed to provide students with a broad range of knowledge of the diverse Asian American population through disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries and analyses of Asian American history, literature the arts, gender and family, and communities. Under advisement, students may use two specific courses to fulfill the history and government requirements and may use an unlimited number of units in Asian American Studies courses to count towards General Education. Students majoring in Asian American Studies are encouraged to study a modern Asian language or related courses.

Minor Program

The department offers a minor in Asian American Studies for those who wish to pursue a coherent course of study of the Asian American experience while completing a major in other fields. The minor program is designed to provide a wide range of course selections while ensuring knowledge of a broad range of different Asian American groups. The minor is of particular value for those students whose careers may bring them into regular professional contact with Asian American groups and communities.

General Education and SF State Studies

The Asian American Studies Department has designed its course offerings so that students may take a broad range of Asian American Studies courses while also meeting some General Education and other baccalaureate requirements. These offerings explore all aspects of Asian America, providing students with the opportunity to obtain a solid understanding of Asian American life and communities. In addition, by using AA S courses to partially complete General Education requirements, students can earn a major or minor in Asian American Studies in conjunction with another major, all within 120 units.

Liberal Studies

Asian American Studies courses can be used to meet many of the requirements for a B.A. in Liberal Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/liberal-studies), most especially as the basis for an emphasis in Ethnic Studies in Area III, Behavioral and Social Sciences. Students planning to seek a multiple subjects credential to teach in the elementary school grades can use additional Asian American Studies courses to meet some of the subject matter and general unit requirements. Students are encouraged to see a Liberal Studies advisor early in their enrollment.

Teacher Preparation

Courses in Asian American Studies provide important knowledge on Asians in America that can assist them in teaching in California. Course work in Asian American Studies also will help prepare students to meet credential subject matter requirements as described above as part of the Liberal Studies major.

Graduate Program

The Master of Arts in Asian American Studies is designed, through disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries and analyses of Asian American history, literature and art, gender and family studies, as well as community studies, to provide students with a critical knowledge of the diverse Asian American communities. Students in Asian American Studies are encouraged to study a modern Asian language other than English.

Career Outlook

Both baccalaureate and master’s degrees can be used to enhance work in Asian American communities; enhance career opportunities in the Pacific Rim areas; prepare for a teaching and other professional career; and prepare for doctoral studies or other professional degrees.

Professors

Dong, Gonzales, Hom, Jeung, Le, Pelaud, Tintiangco-Cubales, Yoo

Associate Professors

Dariotis, Lee, Soe, Ueunten

Assistant Professors

Pido, Sasaki, Sudhakar

Major

- Bachelor of Arts in Asian American Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/ethnic-studies/asian-american-studies/ba-asian-american-studies)
Minor

• Minor in Asian American Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/ethnic-studies/asian-american-studies/minor-asian-american-studies)

Masters

• Master of Arts in Asian American Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/ethnic-studies/asian-american-studies/ma-asian-american-studies)

AA S 101 First-Year Experience (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: First-year freshmen.
Foundations of intellectual, academic, and career preparation for students enrolled in Asian American Studies courses.

AA S 102 Identity, Equity, and Student Success (Units: 3)
Exploration of racial/cultural identity, equity, and student success. Topics include an overview of academic success skills, racial/cultural identity development, social justice, equity and personal and community responsibility, educational strategies and planning, interpersonal communication, career development, health issues, and self-assessment strategies. May be repeated for a total of 6 units.

AA S 110 Critical Thinking and the Asian American Experience (Units: 3)
Development of basic critical thinking skills involved in understanding, criticizing, and constructing arguments reflective of the experience of Asian Americans and key themes in of Asian American Studies. (Note: In order for this course to satisfy General Education, students must earn a C- or CR or higher grade if taken fall 2014 or later.)
Course Attributes:
• A3: Critical Thinking
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 210 History of Asians in the United States (Units: 3)
Comparative analysis of the experience of different Asian American groups and their place in the general history and development of American society. [Formerly AA S 200]
Course Attributes:
• U.S. History
• D2: Social Sciences: U.S. Hist
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 211 Contemporary Asian Americans (Units: 3)
Examination of factors that define minority groups and their positions in contemporary U.S. society, using Asian Americans as a case study. [Formerly ETHS 220]
Course Attributes:
• D1: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

AA S 212 Asian Americans and Mass Media (Units: 3)
Images and treatment of Asian Americans in mass media, especially motion pictures, television, advertising, popular literature, and commercial art. American minorities in the entertainment industry. [Formerly AA S 518 and AA S 693]
Course Attributes:
• C1: Arts
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 213 Asian Americans and American Ideals and Institutions (Units: 3)
The Asian American experience in the U.S., focusing on basic governmental ideals and institutions. Impact of Asians on legal-constitutional America and the countervailing impact of political-legal structures imposed on Asians. [Formerly AA S 205]
Course Attributes:
• U.S. Govt CA State Local Govt
• D3: Social Sciences: US CA Gov
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

AA S 214 Second Year Written Composition: Asian American Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent with a grade of CR or C- or better. Reading and writing with speech as a supportive language skill. Must be taken after completing 24 units and before completing 60 units. (Plus/minus ABC/NC, CR/NC allowed)
Course Attributes:
• A4: Written English Comm II
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

AA S 216 Introduction to Asian American Literature (Units: 3)
Reading and analysis of Asian American literature. Appreciation of literature from a literary standpoint with a focus on history, identity, and representation. [Formerly AA S 206]
Course Attributes:
• C3: Humanities: Literature
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 218 Asian American Culture (Units: 3)
Ethnic values and cultures in America using Asian American arts, languages, and literatures. How these works reflect and express the character of the Asian American experience and the forces that have shaped that experience. [Formerly ETHS 210]
Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• C2: Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

AA S 301 Asian Americans of Mixed Heritages (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Issues concerning Asian Americans of mixed racial and ethnic heritages, focusing on mixed heritage identities in relation to their ethnic and cultural sensibilities. [Formerly AA S 550]
Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• U-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice
AA S 320 Chinese in the United States (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

The Chinese American experience in critical historical perspective from the beginning of immigration in the 19th century to the present. [Formerly AA S 310]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

AA S 322 Chinese American Language and Literature (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Cultural identity of the Chinese American as it is expressed in the language and literature; Chinese community and its influence on the creative process in literature.

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 323 Chinese American Identities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Historical, institutional, and cultural sources of Chinese American identity and sensibility. Mental health issues related to self-perception, stereotypes, family problems, institutional racism, and the development of autonomy. [CSL may be available] [Formerly AA S 315]

Course Attributes:
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 330 Nikkei in the United States (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Historical experience of Japanese Americans in the United States: prewar immigration and settlement, the struggle against racial exclusion, World War II incarceration, and the postwar return and development of contemporary Nikkei community. [Formerly AA S 331]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 332 Japanese American Art and Literature (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of Japanese American art and literature through historical, social and cultural factors that influenced its development. Specific works and artists representing different genres and periods will be analyzed. [Formerly AA S 444]

Course Attributes:
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 333 Japanese American Identities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Japanese American character, identity, self-image, and behavioral manifestations of the interaction of American and Japanese cultural values. [Formerly AA S 335]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 338 Okinawan American Heritage and Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Analyzes the identity formation and cultural preservation of Okinawans in the U.S. and other parts of the Americas. Theoretical frameworks, such as racial formation theory and world systems theory, will be explored and developed to understand the complex evolution of the Okinawan diaspora within the dual imperial contexts of American and Japanese empires. [Formerly AA S 337]

AA S 350 Filipina/os in the United States (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Immigration of the Filipina/os to the United States; various coping mechanisms used in response to adjustment problems; changing structure of the community. [Formerly AA S 456]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 352 Filipina/o American Literature, Art, and Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Critical perspectives on Filipina/o American culture through the examination of diverse genres of art and literature primarily written in English about Filipina/os in the United States, the Philippines, and in diaspora. [Formerly AA S 363]

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice
AA S 353 Filipina/o American Identities (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Historical, social, and cultural influences that impact the identities of Filipina/o Americans through a framework of decolonization. [Formerly AA S 355]  
Course Attributes:  
- UD-D: Social Sciences  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Social Justice  

AA S 360 Koreans in the United States (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Korean Americans in the U.S., examining the historical experience and the sociological, political, and economic implications of being a minority and immigrant in the U.S. [Formerly AA S 380]  
Course Attributes:  
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop  
- UD-D: Social Sciences  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Global Perspectives  
- Social Justice  

AA S 370 Vietnamese in the United States (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Origins and causes of Vietnamese movements to the U.S. and nature of Vietnamese experience in America in terms of political, cultural, and economic factors.  
Course Attributes:  
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop  
- UD-D: Social Sciences  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Global Perspectives  
- Social Justice  

AA S 372 Vietnamese American Literature (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
A critical survey of Vietnamese American literature, taking into account issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, and trauma.  
Course Attributes:  
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  

AA S 373 Vietnamese American Identities (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Vietnamese American experience since 1975: psychological adaptation, educational adjustment, socioeconomic integration, and cultural/ethnic maintenance. [Formerly AA S 375]  
Course Attributes:  
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop  
- UD-D: Social Sciences  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Global Perspectives  
- Social Justice  

AA S 377 Cambodians in the United States (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Examine push-pull factors that led people to flee Cambodia; focus on constraints and strategies (institutional, artistic, community, cultural) deployed by Cambodian Americans to negotiate their status in the U.S. politically, culturally, economically, and socially. [Formerly AA S 393]  
Course Attributes:  
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop  
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Global Perspectives  
- Social Justice  

AA S 510 Asian Americans in California (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Asian American contributions to the building of the state from their first arrival in the 19th century to their role within California’s multiracial racial formation and their growing influence on contemporary California. [Formerly AA S 300]  
Course Attributes:  
- UD-D: Social Sciences  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Environmental Sustainability  
- Social Justice  

AA S 512 Asian American Children's/Adolescent Literature (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.  
Literary works with Asian American themes that are written for youth (preschool to middle school). How Asian Americans are depicted from the 19th century to the present in this literature. [CSL may be available] [Formerly AA S 502]  
Course Attributes:  
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities  
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities  
- Social Justice
AA S 514 Asian American Community Arts Workshop (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Interdisciplinary collaboration in a variety of Asian American creative art forms through community-based workshops. Classwork, 2 units; activity, 1 unit. [Formerly AA S 304]
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 516 Asian American Photographic Explorations (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Photography as a personal tool for the exploration, recording, understanding, and expression of Asian American life. Classwork, 2 units; laboratory, 1 unit. [Formerly AA S 308]
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 520 Asian American Musical Communities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of instructor.
Review of the Asian American musical experience, including the cultural sources that have informed artists’ projects, as well as the history that has shaped collective arts organization and activism among Asian Americans.

AA S 522 Transracial Adoptee Experience (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of instructor.
Examination of transracial adoption from historical, cultural, and sociopolitical perspectives. Addresses ways in which transracial adoptions challenges notions of culture, race, gender, sexuality and nation.

AA S 540 South Asians in the United States (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
History of South Asian immigration to the U.S., and how South Asian Americans negotiate ethnic belonging and national citizenship. Topics include racialization, class divides, gender, inequalities, queer politics, and youth culture. [Formerly AA S 340]
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 541 South Asian Diaspora (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Uses transnational and comparative frameworks to examine South Asian immigration to various countries; how colonialism, nationalism, and the politics of race, gender, class, and sexuality shape diasporic identities and communities. [CSL may be available] [Formerly ETHS 657]
(This course is offered as RRS 657 and AA S 541. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

AA S 570 Southeast Asians in the United States (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Comparative exploration of Southeast Asian America by examining the histories and experiences of Burmese, Cambodian, Filipina/o, Hmong, Indonesian, Lao, Mien, Mong, Vietnamese, and Thai Americans. [Formerly AA S 390]
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

AA S 581 Asian American Women (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Social, political, and economic situation of Asian American women within the family, their communities, and the larger society. [Formerly AA S 603]
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

AA S 582 Asian American Women's Literature and the Arts (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Works by Asian American women writers and artists; how Asian American women are depicted in literature and the arts. [Formerly AA S 622]
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice
AA S 584 Asian American Sexualities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Introduction to Asian American queer theory and sexuality studies. Examination of how sexuality impacts the lived experience of immigration, race, gender, class and generational difference among Asian Americans.

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

AA S 585 Asian American Religiosities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Major issues particular to the predicaments of Asian Americans and their religions; interdisciplinary and anchored in critical Asian American Studies perspectives constructed within the context of the intersections of race and religion.

Course Attributes:
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

AA S 587 Asian Americans and Environmental Justice (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of the environmental racism issues faced by Asian Americans and how their communities have organized for justice.

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Environmental Sustainability
- Social Justice

AA S 588 Asian American Media Workshop (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Film and media arts as self-expression, reflection of community, and a tool for activism in the Asian American community. Classwork, 2 units; activity, 1 unit.

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

AA S 591 Asian American Community Health Issues (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of community health concepts and needs specific to the Asian American communities; practical skills in community health issues and service. [Formerly AA S 575]

Course Attributes:
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- UD-B: Physical Life Science
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 593 Asian Americans in Education (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Exploration of the historical and contemporary narratives and counter-narratives of Asian Americans in education, development of Asian American Studies, pedagogical issues and interventions that have shaped their identities and communities, and the duality of education as a tool for oppression and as a means toward liberation. (Plus-minus ABC/NC, CR/NC) [Formerly AA S 684]

AA S 595 Asian American Communities and Public Policy (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Public policy issues, their impact on and the responses from the Asian American communities; relationship and complexities of local, state, and federal policies facing the Asian American communities. [CSL may be available] [Formerly ETHS 665]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 681 Asian American Community Changes and Development (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division Asian American Studies majors and minors only; 6 units of AA S GE courses or consent of instructor.

Asian American community origins, changes, economics; trends in residential and community patterns; and effects of immigration and population growth. [CSL may be available] [Formerly AA S 680]

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

AA S 685 Projects in the Teaching of Asian American Studies (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; 3.3 GPA in AA S courses; and consent of instructor. Limited to undergraduate students only.

Academic service learning practicum/internship experience as an undergraduate instructional aide. Participation in the teaching of a regular instructionally-related class. (Students may earn a maximum of 4 units toward the baccalaureate degree for any course(s) numbered 685 regardless of discipline.)
AA S 688 Asian American Community Service Internship (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing and consent of instructor.
Supervised fieldwork/service for 100 hours minimum in an approved Asian American organization or agency, plus regular meetings with supervising faculty. May be repeated for a total of 6 units. (CR/NC grading only) [CSL may be available]

AA S 696 Critical Approaches to Asian American Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Asian American studies majors and minors with 24 upper division units in AA S classes or consent of instructor.
Study of fundamental tools of critical thinking and theorization through the lens of Asian American Studies. Focus on reading, thinking, and writing critically by exposing topics and theories of Asian and Ethnic Studies. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

AA S 697 Proseminar in Asian American Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Asian American Studies majors with 24 upper division units in AA S classes or consent of instructor.
Practical application of research methodology in Asian American Studies through critical examination, analysis, and peer critique to develop a publishable product. [CSL may be available]

AA S 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing with 3.0 GPA and consent of instructor and department chair.
Supervised individual study of a particular issue in Asian American Studies. May be repeated for a total of 6 units.

AA S 710 Critical Approaches to Asian American Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate level standing in Asian American Studies or consent of instructor.
Critical understanding of theory and research methodologies in Asian American Studies; available resources as preparation for graduate-level research. Guidance in literature review and bibliography in the student's chosen area.

AA S 800 Theory and History in Asian American Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Asian American Studies or consent of instructor.
Integration of historical review with contemporary theory relating to Asian Americans.

AA S 810 Seminar: Asian American Immigration (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate level standing in Asian American Studies or consent of instructor.
Theoretical and methodological understanding of Asian immigration to the U.S. Asian Americans within structures of American immigration history.

AA S 822 Seminar: Asian American Literature and Arts (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate level standing in Asian American Studies or consent of instructor.
Intersections of history, gender, culture, and creativity as they pertain to the conception of an Asian American literary aesthetic; Asian American literature within the genre of U.S. literature.

AA S 833 Seminar: Asian American Family and Identity (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate level standing in Asian American Studies or consent of instructor.
Issues concerning Asian Americans in family and group structures.