

HIS 338
Asian & Pacific Islanders in American History

Satisfies: SBS+

Thematic Categories: "Empires, Violence & Global Connections," "Law, Politics & Social Justice," & "Race, Religion, Gender & Sexualities"

Online: Asynchronous

Professor Shirley Lim

Asians and Pacific Islanders in American History is an introduction to the historical and contemporary factors that have molded AAPI life in the United States of America. Drawing from a range of interdisciplinary approaches and sources, we will explore the importance of the Asian American experience to U.S. history while also giving due consideration to the global and international forces that shaped it. Students will investigate broader themes including migration, race, labor, citizenship, community formation, and empire. Key events covered include the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Philippine War, Japanese Internment and World War II, and labor organizing. The course has three main aims: (1) to introduce students to the major themes of Asian American history; (2) to provide a critical perspective on the conventional narrative American history – a narrative that largely excludes Asian Americans; (3) to analyze the Asian American past through the lens of race, gender, and class. Attendance and class participation are mandatory. Students will take two essay midterm examinations. Quizzes are possible.