

Contemporary Vietnam

Meeting Time: TTh 1500-1615

Classroom: Clark 122

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Cate

E-mail: slcate@att.net

Office Hours: MW 1230-1300, TTh 1300-1430

Office: Clark 463

Phone: 408-924-5714

Class web site: http://stage.sjsu.edu/faculty_and_staff/faculty_detail.jsp?id=1010

Library Liaison: Bernice Redfern

Course Description

The past decade has witnessed a tremendous amount of change in Vietnamese culture and society. Since 1986, when the Vietnamese government instituted the renovation policy (*doi moi*), Vietnam has become a popular tourist destination, religious practices have flourished, and many Vietnamese-Americans have returned to visit their country of origin. This course will explore culture and society in Vietnam, focusing on recent social and cultural changes, and the relationships between Vietnamese and Vietnamese Americans.

Introduction to MUSE

University-level study is different from what you experienced in high school. The Metropolitan University Scholar's Experience (MUSE) is designed to help make your transition into college a success by helping you develop the skills and attitude needed for the intellectual engagement and challenge of in-depth university –level study. Discovery, research, critical thinking, written work, attention to the rich cultural diversity of the campus, and active discussion will be key parts of this MUSE course. Enrollment in MUSE courses is limited to a small number of students because these courses are intended to be highly interactive and allow you to easily interact with your professor and fellow students. MUSE courses explore topics and issues from an interdisciplinary focus to show how interesting and important ideas can be viewed from different perspectives.

Peer Mentor

Phiphi Dinh has been assigned to work with you as the Peer Mentor. She can be reached at phi2dinh@gmail.com or at the Peer Mentor Center in Clark Hall, 408-924-2198. Her office hours are: **MW 9:45am -12:00pm**

General Course Goals

1. Develop an understanding of the historical, cultural, and environmental contexts of contemporary Vietnam [class activities, research poster/paper, field trip]
2. Identify the dynamics of ethnicity, gender/sexuality, class, and regional variation in Vietnam [class activities]
2. Characterize the effects of Renovation Policy (*doi moi*) on employment, family life, village life, leisure time, and religious belief and behavior [class activities, film analysis]
4. Synthesize symbols of Vietnamese ethnic identity, including cultural heroes, food, clothing, festivals, and holidays [research poster/paper, field trip, class activities]

5. Describe the emerging relationship of Vietnamese and Vietnamese-Americans and the effects of transnational relationships on both groups [class activities, field trip, film analysis]

MUSE Goals

In addition to the course goals above, this class will also be focused on the MUSE goals:

6. To establish a strong foundation for becoming a university level student and scholar [MUSE workshops, research activities]
7. To become acclimated to both the intellectual and social activities of university life [MUSE workshops, library tutorials on Research and Academic Integrity]
8. To understand the learning process and your responsibility and role in it.
9. To know what it means to be a member of a metropolitan university community.

GE (General Education) D1 Student Learning Goals

Students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of a society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation. Students will be able to:

- place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts [class activities, research poster/paper, field trip]
- identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them [class activities]
- evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues [research exercises, class activities, poster/paper]
- recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals [class activities, poster/paper]

Goals of the Anthropology Department

In addition to the GE area goals, this class will also meet the following goals of the anthropology department:

Knowledge

1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.
2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of cultural anthropology.
4. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomena shaping global society.

Skills

5. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
6. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
7. Knowledge of the research methods of cultural anthropology.
8. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Professional Values

9. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Course Text and Materials

A course reader has been designed specifically for this course. It is available at Maple Press (481 E. San Carlos Street, between 10th and 11th Streets). In addition, we will use:

Duong, Uyen Nicole. 2005 *Daughters of the River Huong: A Vietnamese Royal Concubine and Her Descendants*. Oakdan, VA: RavensYard Publishing.

Kendall, Laurell. 2003. *Vietnam: Journeys of the Mind, Body and Spirit*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

Course assignments consist of

1. Attending three MUSE workshops and writing 2-page reflective papers about the topic of the workshop (700 words each)
2. Conducting two library tutorials and exams which prove you have successfully completed the tutorials
3. A one-page research proposal (350 words) with an annotated bibliography
4. A four-page research paper (1400 words) and a poster presentation synthesizing research on your topic
5. A three-page analysis of a film (1050 words)
6. An in-class midterm exam
7. An in-class final exam

Your final grade will be determined by the total points you earn:

MUSE workshops, reflective papers (20 pts. x 3)	60 points
Library tutorials (20 pts. x 2)	40
Research proposal/bibliography	50
Research paper/poster	100
Film Analysis	50
Exams (50 points x 2)	<u>100</u>
Total possible points	400 points

Letter grades are determined by your total final points:

392-400 = A+	308-319 = C+
372-391 = A	292-307 = C
360-371 = A-	280-306 = C-
348-370 = B+	268-279 = D+
332-347 = B	252-267 = D
320-331 = B-	below 252 = F

Penalty for late work: Late work will be accepted ONLY with an adequate reason. Late work will lose points for each class day after the due date.

Disability Accommodations If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please

make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.

Classroom Etiquette: Please be respectful, to your instructor and your classmates. If you come late to class or leave early, please enter and exit quietly, without letting the door slam. Cellphones must be **turned off and put away. No text messaging in class.** Computers may be used only for note-taking, not surfing the Web or e-mail.

Class Schedule

August 26 Course Introduction

Reading the Greensheet

Phiphi: Ice Breaker activity, finding the reader

August 28 What is Anthropology?

Phiphi: Finding your way around SJSU

September 2, 4 Anthropological Methods, Researching Vietnam

Read: Scupin, "Introduction to Asia" (Reader)

Activity: Do you Eat Hot Dogs (or Pho) for Breakfast?

Phiphi: Time & Stress Management

DUE Thursday: Library tutorials exams

September 9, 11 Southeast Asia: Geography, Environment, Ethnic Groups

Read: Oscar Salemink, "One Country: Many Journeys" (Kendall)

Frank Proschan, "Vietnam's Ethnic Mosaic" (Kendall)

"Mountains and Rivers" (Reader)

Librarian Bernice Redfern visit to class: How to do library research (Tuesday)

DUE THURSDAY: MUSE Paper #1

September 16, 18 Ethnocentrism and film analysis

Film: *Daughter from Danang*

Read: Uyen Duong, Part One

Phiphi: Brainstorming for paper topics

September 23, 25 Chinese in Vietnam / The French Influence

Read: Truong Buu Lam, "The Vietnamese Perception of Colonialism" (Reader)

Uyen Duong, Parts Two & Three

Phiphi: Essay writing

Sept. 30, Oct. 2 The American War & The Vietnamese Diaspora

Read: Hue Tam Ho Tai: "Faces of Remembrance and Forgetting" (Reader)

Andrew Lam, "My 'Vietnam, My America," (Reader)

Uyen Duong, Parts Four & Five

Phiphi: How to study for an exam

October 7, 9

Film: *Thanh's War*

MIDTERM on Thursday, OCT. 9

October 14, 16 Renovation & Reconciliation

Read: Hy Van Luong, "Wealth, Power and Inequality: Global Market, The State, and Local Sociocultural Dynamics (Reader)

Phiphi: Critique Essays

DUE THURSDAY: Film Analysis

October 21, 23 Vietnam Tourism

Read: Claire Burkett, "Scenes from the Sa Pa Market" (Kendall)

L. Kennedy, M.R. Williams, "The Past Without the Pain: The Manufacture of Nostalgia in Vietnam's Tourism Industry" (Reader)

DUE TUESDAY: Research Proposals

October 28, 30 Food and Clothing of Vietnam

Read: Andrea Nguyen, "How to Eat Pho," at www.vietworldkitchen.com

Let's Go Eat Pho!

November 4, 6 The Family, Gender and Sexuality

Read: Belanger and Hong, "Too Late to Marry: Failure, Fate or Fortune" (Reader)

Tine Gammeloft, "The Irony of Sexual Agency: Premarital Sex in Urban North Vietnam" (Reader)

Shaun Malarney, "Weddings and Funerals in Contemporary Vietnam," (Kendall)

Phiphi: Checking In on the Research Paper

November 11 Veteran's Day, No Class

November 13 DUE: Research Paper/Poster – class presentations

November 18, 20 Religion in Contemporary Vietnam

Read: Fitzgerald, "Buddhism" (Reader)

November 25 Vietnam's Festivals and Holidays

Read: Nguyen Van Huy, "Tet Holidays: Ancestral Visits and Spring Journeys" (Kendall)

Nguyen, Van Huy, "The Mid-Autumn Festival, Yesterday and Today (Kendall)

November 27 THANKSGIVING – No Class

December 2, 4 Vietnamese-Americans at Work, School, Play

Read: Khoi Luu, "A Heart of Sorrow: Exposing the Lighter Side of the Vietnamese American Experience (Reader)

DUE: MUSE Paper #3

December 9, 11 Vietnamese-Americans and Vietnam

Phiphi: Jeopardy game for final

FINAL EXAM Wednesday, December 17, 1445-1700

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY - MUSE-Anth 96HY, FALL 2008

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State University. As such, students are expected to **perform their own work** (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests, quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to the Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and will not be tolerated. It also demonstrates a lack of respect for oneself, fellow students and the course instructor and can ruin the university's reputation and the value of the degrees it offers.

We all share the obligation to maintain an environment that practices academic integrity. Violators of the Academic Integrity Policy will be **subject to failing this course and being reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action** which could result in suspension or expulsion from San José State University.

CHEATING

At SJSU, cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means. Cheating at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

Copying in part or in whole, from another's test or other evaluation instrument; Submitting work previously graded in another course unless this has been approved by the course instructor or by departmental policy. Submitting work simultaneously presented in two courses, unless this has been approved by both course instructors or by departmental policy. Altering or interfering with grading or grading instructions; Sitting for an examination by a surrogate, or as a surrogate; any other act committed by a student in the course of his or her academic work which defrauds or misrepresents, including aiding or abetting in any of the actions defined above.

PLAGIARISM

At SJSU plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substances of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work. **Appropriate citation and representation includes putting quotation marks around the sentences of other writers as well as full citation of the source in a footnote or in parentheses at the end of the sentence/paragraph.**

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I have read the above statement and pledge to submit work according to these academic standards.

Name

Date