

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Sciences/Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Department/Asian**  
**American Studies Program**  
**AAS 33B (Sect. 5): Asian Americans in the U.S. Historical and Political Process,**  
**Spring Semester 2020**

<b>Instructors</b>	Soo H. Choi, Ph.D.
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<b>Office Hours</b>	1:30-2:30 M&W, 12:00-12:30 T
<b>Class Days/Time</b>	M & W 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>Prerequisites</b>	Must have completed AAS 33A
<b>GE and SJSU Studies</b>	D3 and US2 and US3
<b>Category</b>	

**Canvas** This course will use Canvas for announcements, tests, quizzes, papers, posting of grades, PDFs, etc. If necessary consult, <https://sjsu.instructure.com/>

### **Course Description**

The purpose of the course is to examine the historical and political development of the United States from a multicultural perspective. The course will examine the principle events, developments, and problems of the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present, emphasizing the role of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality in American history and politics. The course will examine the diversity of the Asian American experience within the context of the development of the United States as a developing nation-state and world power and within the context of its race relations with other minorities such as Native Americans, African Americans, and Mexican Americans.

The social history of Asian America forms an important part of the broad understanding of the social, economic, and political contours of America. In turn, the contours of American history and political institutions help us to better understand the particular social experiences of Asians and Asian Americans as immigrants, workers, and small business entrepreneurs and the impact of social institutions upon the formation of families, and communities.

In addition, the course will examine the history and politics of California government, contrasting the similarities and differences between California and U.S. Constitutions, the

relation between the federal and state and local governments, and contemporary issues of California government and politics.

### **Texts**

Greenberg, Edward S., and Benjamin I. Page, *The Struggle for Democracy*, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, Longman Publishers, 2014

Jones, Jacqueline, et. al., *Created Equal: A Social and Political History of the United States*, 4th Edition Longman Publishers, 2014

Lee, Shelley Sang-Hee, *A New History of Asian America*, Routledge, 2014.

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

**MIDTERMS** consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer items and long essay items based on class lectures, activities, and readings. This exam will cover the assigned chapters in the textbooks, Canvas activities, and lectures for weeks.

**FINAL EXAM** consists of a combination of multiple choice, short answer items and long essay items based on class lectures, activities, and readings. The final exam will cover the assigned chapters in the textbooks, Canvas activities, and lectures for the entire semester with a focus on week 13 – 15.

**GROUP PRESENTATION** Students in their groups will present their research on given prompts. Coordination and cooperation are required to find, analyze, and present their thesis.

**PARTICIPATION** This involves showing civility in class, participating in class discussions, and doing in class and out of class exercises.

### **Assignments and Grading Policy**

Assignments	Proportion of Grade	GELO Assessed
Midterms	40%	<b>GELO (US2 and US3)</b>
GROUP PRESENTATION	20%	<b>GELO (US3)</b>
FINAL EXAM	20%	<b>GELO (US2 and US3)</b>
QUIZZES	20%	<b>GELO (US2 and US3)</b>

### **Grading Scale:**

93-100% A      90-92% A-    87-89% B+  
83-86% B      80-82% B-    77-79% C+  
73-76% C      70-72% C-    67-69% D+  
63-66% D      60-62% D-    <59% F

## Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to arrive on time, participate in class discussions and exercises, and to be attentive to lectures and discussions. It is important to be courteous and respectful to ones peers as well as to the instructors. Students are asked to refrain from using cell phones, earphones or other devices. Students are expected to use laptop computers for classroom related work. Otherwise, electronic devices will be banned from the classroom except for those students who have identified problem with the Disabled Resources Center.

## Course Schedule

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1/23	Introduction
1/28	Chinese Immigrants, 1830's-1880's Readings: Lee, Introduction; Chapter 1
1/30	Reconstruction or Restoration: 1865-1877 Readings: Jones, Chapter 15  The Structural Foundations of American Government and Politics Reading: Greenberg, Chapter 4, Jones, pp. xviii-xxvi
2/4	Industrialization, Urbanization, and Capitalism in America, 1877-1890 Readings: Jones, Chapter 16
2/6	Challenge to Government and Corporate Power: Resistance and Reform, 1877-1890 Readings: Jones, Chapter 17
2/11	Political and Cultural Conflict: Depression and War Reading: Jones, Chapter 18
2/13	
2/18	Excluded Chinese Americans: Chinatown, 1880's-1900 Reading; Lee, Chapter 2
2/20	Japanese Americans, 1860's-1900 Reading; Lee, Chapter 3 & 4
2/25	Progressive Reform, 1900-1912

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2/27	Readings: Jones, Chapter 19 <b>Midterm</b>
3/3	Filipino American Immigration, 1900-1945 Reading: Lee, Chapter 5
3/5	World War I and Revolution, 1912-1920 Readings: Jones, Chapter 20
3/10	Indian American Immigration, 1860's-1950 Reading: Lee, Chapter 6 Korean American Immigration, 1860's-1950 Reading: Lee, Chapter 6
3/12	Asian American During and after the WW II Reading: Lee, Chapter 7 & 8
3/17	1920s: Great Depression and the New Deal Readings; Jones, Chapters 21-22
3/19	America at War: World War II. Reading: Jones, Chapter 23
3/24	Cold War and the Korean War: 1945-1953
3/26	Readings: Jones, Chapter 24 Lee, Chapter 9
3/31	Domestic Dreams and Nightmares; Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Readings: Greenberg, Chapters 15-16
4/2	Jones, Chapter 25 Political Linkage, Political Linkage: Public Opinion, the News Media, Interest Groups and Business Corporations Reading: Greenberg, Chapters, 5-7
4/7	The Vietnam War; Asian Immigrants and Refugees Readings: Jones, Chapter 26 Lee, Chapter 10

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
4/9	Midterm
4/14	Political Parties and Social Movements; Reading: Greenberg, Chapters, 8, 9, 10
4/16	Asian Americans since 1965 Lee. Chapter 11
4/21	Stagflation and the Overextended Society; Readings: Jones, Chapter 27
4/23	The Cold War Returns---and Ends, 1979-1991 (part I) Readings: Jones, Chapter 28
4/28	The Cold War Returns---and Ends, 1979-1991 (part II) Readings: Jones, Chapter 28
4/30	Asian Americans since 1980's Readings: Lee, Chapter 12-13
5/5	America: 1991-2000 Readings: Jones, Chapter 29
5/7	The New Millennium & Review Readings: Jones, Chapter 30
<b>5/13 Wed</b>	<b>Final Exam 12:15-2:30 pm</b>

