

# AAS 197M-1 GENDER AND SEXUALITY

UCLA Asian American Studies, Spring 2003

Instructor: Eric Estuar Reyes

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## Course Description

The course focuses on gender and sexuality in Asian America. Issues covered include: history, community politics, transgender issues, political activism, HIV/AIDS and health issues, coming out, relationships and family, transnational perspectives, and cultural politics. The course is a combination of lecture, discussion, and presentations (film/videos, guest speakers, panel discussions). In addition to required attendance and participation in discussions, course requirements include a midterm exam, final research paper, and periodic assignments.

## Course Objectives

Through the course, students should endeavor to: 1) better understand the intersection of multiple oppressions in APIA communities focusing on gender and sexuality, and, 2) develop their research and writing abilities.

## Course Requirements

- 1) Active participation and attendance in class discussions (20%)
- 2) Midterm Exam (30%) - An in-class short answer exam will be during Week 6.
- 3) Response Paper - One response paper is due April 24<sup>th</sup> during Week 4. The paper should be a contemplative subjective short essay one typed page in length. Response papers should be highly subjective and fall somewhere between journal writing and a essay.
- 4) Final Research Paper (50%) - The major requirement in the course is a final research paper. This 8-10 page paper must be typed, double-spaced, and have appropriate endnotes or footnotes. I will not tolerate sloppy spelling, grammar, and formatting. A bibliography is required. Topics should explore gender and sexuality issues in Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Specific themes include but are not limited to: oral histories, community building, community organizing, political activism, and cultural critique. All students must email or discuss with me your final paper topic by May 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a writing exercise on your final paper on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The final paper is due 12 noon on Friday June 6<sup>th</sup> in my box at the Asian American Studies Center.
- 5) Meet all deadlines. I will NOT accept any late papers.

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<b>Office Hrs:</b>	Tues. 3:30-5:30 at Hershey 1219	<b>Class Meeting:</b>	TTh 2:00-3:15
<b>Email:</b>	e2reyes@earthlink.net	<b>Class Location:</b>	Dodd 167

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## **Readings**

Texts are at the UCLA Bookstore and on reserve at the College Library. Reader articles can be found at both College Library and the AASC Reading Room.

Eng, David L. and Alice Y. Hom. Q&A: Queer in Asian America. Philadelphia: Temple UP, 1998.

Wat, Eric C. The Making of a Gay Asian Community: An Oral History of Pre-AIDS Los Angeles. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2002.

## **Films/Videos**

Coming Out, Coming Home

I'm the One that I Want

The Wedding Banquet

## COURSE OVERVIEW

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### Week 1

**April 1 Introduction**

**April 3 Queering Asian America**

Eng/Hom, "Introduction Q&A: Notes on a Queer Asian America" 1-24

### Week 2

**April 8 Personal and Community Activism**

Aguilar-San Juan, Karin. "Going Home: Enacting Justice in Queer Asian America" 25-40

Yoshikawa, Yoko. "The Heat is On *Miss Saigon* Coalition: Organizing Across Race and Sexuality" 41-56

**April 10 Community and Campus Organizing**

Guest Speakers: Steven Shum and Alice Y. Hom

Wat, Eric C. The Making of Gay Asian Community 1-114.

### Week 3

**April 15 Community Building**

Wat, Eric C. The Making of Gay Asian Community 115-198.

Shah, Nayan. "Sexuality, Identity, and the Uses of History" 141-156

**April 17 Coming Out**

In class video: *Coming Out/Coming Home: Asian and Pacific Islander Family Stories*

Hom, Alice Y. "Stories from the Homefront: Perspectives of Asian American Parents with Lesbian Daughters and Gay Sons." 19-32 READER

Bannerji, Kaushalya. "No Apologies." 59-64 READER

### Week 4

**April 22 Performing Gender and Sexuality**

Butler, Judith. "Imitation and Gender Insubordination" 307-320 READER

**April 24 Intersections - Gender/Sexuality/Race/Class**

< Response Papers Due >

Ting, Jennifer P. "The Power of Sexuality" 65-82 READER

Hom, Chen, Duvauchelle et al and Uyeda. Selections from The Very Inside 78-121 READER

### Week 5

**April 29 Family, Marriage and Relationships**

In-class video: *The Wedding Banquet*

Han, J. with M. Morohoshi. "Creating, Curating, and Consuming Queer Asian American Cinema" 81-94.

Chiang, Mark. "Coming Out into the Global System: Postmodern Patriarchies and Transnational Sexualities in *The Wedding Banquet*" 373-396

**May 1 Family, Marriage and Relationships**

In-class video: End of *The Wedding Banquet*

Lim, You-Leng Leroy. "Webs of Betrayal, Webs of Blessings" 323-334

## Week 6

### May 6 Cultural Representations and Orientalisms

Fung, Richard. "Looking for my Penis: The Eroticized Asian in Gay Video Porn" 115-134

Lee, Jee Yeun "Why Suzie Wong is Not a Lesbian: Asian and Asian American Lesbian and Bisexual Women and Femme/Butch/Gender Identities" 115-132 READER

### May 8 < In-class Midterm Exam >

## Week 7

### May 13 Transnational Perspectives

< Final Paper Topic Deadline >

Manalansan IV, Martin F. "In the Shadows of Stonewall Examining Gay Transnational Politics and the Diasporic Dilemma." 485-505 READER

Puar, Jasbir. "Transnational Sexualities: South Asian (Trans)nation(alism)s and Queer Diasporas" 405-422.

### May 15 International Organizing

Guest Speaker - Daniel Lee

Bau, Ignatius. "Queer Asian American Immigrants: Opening Borders and Closets" 57-64

Miller, Alice M. "Human Rights and Sexuality: First Steps toward Articulating a Rights Framework for Claims to Sexual Rights and Freedoms" 288-303 READER

## Week 8

### May 20 The Social Body, Health, and HIV/AIDS

Masequesmay, Gina. "Everyday Identity Work at an Asian Pacific AIDS Organization" 113-138 READER

Patton, Cindy. "Migratory Vices" 15-37 READER

### May 22 Transgender Issues

Tran, et al. "Transgender/Transsexual Roundtable" 227-243

Tseng, Jennifer "Mahu: The Gender Imbalance" 244-255

## Week 9

### May 27 Cultural Politics and Performance

Cho, Margaret. *I'm the One that I Want*

In class writing exercise - final paper update

hooks, bell. "Eating the Other: Desire and Representation" 21-40 READER

### May 29 Cultural Politics and Performance

Cho, Margaret. End of *I'm the One that I Want*

## Week 10

### June 3 Performance Panel: Alison de la Cruz and Noel Alunit (to be confirmed)

Chin, Justin. *Monster* 369-373

### June 5 Conclusions/Course Evaluations

< FINAL PAPER DUE - 12:00 NOON JUNE 6th >