

Spring 2017  
CES 152—Introduction to Asian American Studies  
Item #5615 MW 12:30-2:20pm / Room R101

Instructor: Professor Ma

Office: R230I

Office Hours: M 10:30-11:30am, TTH 2:30-4:00pm & by appointment

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

From South Asians who arrived under the coolie system to Chinese laborers of the Gold Rush to Southeast Asians refugees, Asian America consists of diverse immigrant communities and histories, cultural practices, and political interests. This class examines the racial formation of Asian Americans in the U.S. within global and comparative contexts. Special attention will be paid to the history of Asian immigration to the U.S., class and gender relations, education and the model minority myth, and community activism. We will examine the ways in which Asian Americans have not only been racialized in relation to whiteness but also in relation to African Americans. To this end, we will take a closer look at Asian Americans' struggles for civil and political rights and discuss comparative framework to explore Asian Americans' role in contemporary issues such as the Black Lives Matter movement and the recent immigration ban.

**CLASS PHILOSOPHY:**

I envision this class to be a positive, rewarding learning experience for all of us. Together we can create a safe and respectful academic environment to stimulate intellectual discussions and to foster dialogues. Each of us has a unique voice, and I hope that we can cultivate, nurture and celebrate each other's and our own voice in class. Racist, sexist, homophobic or other comments intended to belittle or threaten others will not be tolerated and may be grounds for removal from the class.

**TEXTS & MATERIALS:**

- Lee, Erika. *The Making of Asian America*
- A selection of articles (provided by the instructor)
- A notebook for note-taking, drafting, and other activities (optional)

**\*\*For readings that are posted on Canvas, you must BRING A HARD COPY to class. You have 15 dollars of credit on your student account, which you may use in the N building for printing. You can also print up to 75 pages per week for free at any branch of the King County public libraries. For each class period that you fail to bring your book/assigned reading, your participation grade will be deducted by five points.**

## CLASS ASSIGNMENTS OVERVIEW:

**Reflections:** You will be responsible for writing five 1-page reflections based on a reading assignment or an assigned topic.

**“Asian America in the News” Reports (2):** You will write two 2-3 page reports discussing current news that address Asian American issues.

**Profile Project:** You will write a 2-3 page essay that profiles a member of the Asian American community or an Asian American establishment.

**Research Proposal:** By the end of the quarter, you will learn to identify a research topic and question and will write a research proposal based on your research question

**Participation:** There are two parts to earning participation grade. The first part (100 points) involves completing in-class assignments, such as quizzes, writing exercises, and so on. The second part is to participate in an active manner (100 points). Having regular attendance is only the first step to active participation. Active participation means that you engage class materials in a thoughtful and proactive manner. It means that you attend and contribute to class discussions regularly, listen to the ideas of others attentively, and raise questions either in class or office hours. If you are participating in these activities, it shows me that you are prepared and thinking about the course material.

## GRADING:

Reflections (5): 20%

“Asian America in the News” Reports (2): 20%

Profile Project: 20%

Research Proposal: 20%

Participation: 20%

## GRADE BREAKDOWN:

930-1000	A	880-899 830-879	B + B	780-799 730-779	C + C	650-699 600-649	D+ D
900-929	A-	800-829	B-	700-729	C-	0-599	F

## ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Class attendance is a crucial component in such a process-oriented class. Any **class work**—in-class writing, quizzes, group work, peer reviews—**cannot be made up due to absence**. You are

permitted **three absences** for any reason. After that, your final grade will drop by half of a letter grade for each absence (i.e. B→B-). If you leave class early for any reason, you will be counted absent. **Two tardies equal to one absence.** It is your responsibility to verify that you have been marked late rather than absent.

You are also encouraged to get the contact information of at least one of your classmates to ensure that you obtain any class materials you may have missed due to absences. Please note that while I am happy to answer any questions you may have about a particular class that you have missed, I will not re-teach the class.

\*I do excuse absences due to medical and family emergencies. Should such situations arise, please try your best to make arrangements with me early to have your work made up or submitted. In case of absences due to medical reasons, a doctor's note is needed to have your absences excused.

\*\*Exceptions will also be made if you have accommodations through the Disability Resources Center (DRC) in regard to attendance.

## **CANVAS AND EMAILS:**

Announcements and assignment changes may be made through email and the Canvas system. All students are responsible for checking their Canvas accounts at least once every day. All emails will be sent to your Canvas account. To create your account, go to: [Create Email](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/netid/default.aspx) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/netid/default.aspx>).

\*Please give me at least **24** hours to respond to your email. If you want to schedule an appointment outside of office hours, please email me at least **two days in advance** so that I can make arrangements to meet with you. **I do not respond to emails after 5:00pm and on weekends.**

\*\*I receive a lot of emails in my BC account. Therefore, it is best for you to email me through Canvas.

A note about email etiquette: Emailing your instructor is not the same as texting your friend. When emailing an instructor, please address the instructor and write your name at the end. Write in complete sentences and avoid abbreviations that would not appear in a formal essay.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT:**

To successfully complete this course you need to have access to an Internet capable computer with a high bandwidth connection to the Internet.

Other requirements include:

1) **Internet Browser.** Bellevue College recommends Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, or Microsoft Internet Explorer. All are available as free downloads.

2) **Plug-ins.** These programs run within your Internet browser to ensure that you can run videos, audio tracks, or display PDF files. Many computers come with standard plugins already installed when they're purchased. Here is the recommended plugin for this class.

Adobe PDF reader- Some course-related documents will require that you to be able to view PDF files.

\*Internet capable computers are available on the Bellevue College campus for student use. BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Technology Help Desk](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/serviceesk/students/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/serviceesk/students/>).

\*\*Laptops may also be checked out from the BC library in D126 (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/borrowing/>).

\*\*\* Technology makes the learning process more efficient and fun when it is working properly but can create stress and chaos when it fails unexpectedly. I highly recommend that you have a backup plan for how you will complete work and turn in assignments when your technology fails.

## **CLASS POLICIES:**

- **Deadlines & late work:** All assigned essays are due in a *paper copy* format at the beginning of class on the date specified by the syllabus. Email attachments will not be accepted unless you have made special arrangements with me prior to the due date. A paper is considered late until a paper copy is turned in.

**Please note that I DO NOT accept late reflections.** I do accept late work on the news reports and the profile assignments. For each class period that you turn in a paper late, your grade for that particular essay will be deducted by 10% (i.e. if a paper is worth 100 points, you will lose 10 points for each class period after the due date). Except in the case of medical or family emergency, papers received more than two class periods past the due date will receive no point. Alternative arrangements may be made for students who receive DRC accommodations for flexibility.

- **Participation:** Having regular attendance is only the first step to active participation. Active participation means that you engage class materials in a thoughtful and proactive manner. It means that you attend and contribute to class discussions regularly, listen to the ideas of others attentively, and raise questions either in class or office hours. If you are participating in these activities, it shows me that you are prepared and thinking about the course material.

- Disruptions to class: The following scenarios are considered disruptive to class: cell phone going off, text-messaging, chatting, talking out of turn, disruptive late arrival or early departure, shuffling before a class ends. Every student has one warning during the quarter for disruptive behavior during class. After the first warning, the student(s) involved may be asked to leave and will be counted **absent**. You may NOT use your notebook computer during class unless it is for an assigned activity.
- Appointments with the instructor: When scheduling an appointment with me outside of office hours, please let me know **at least two days in advance** so that I can make arrangements with you. Let me know as soon as possible if you cannot make to an appointment so that I can give that time to another student. Except for cases of emergency, if you do not give me prior notice and fail to show up for your appointment, you will lose your privilege to schedule appointments with me **outside of office hours** for **three** weeks beginning on the day of your original appointment.

## **DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC):**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with disabilities. A disability includes any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Common disabilities include physical, neurological (e.g. Autism, ADD), and mental health (e.g. depression, anxiety). If you are a student who has a disability or if you think you may need accommodations in order to have equal access to programs, activities, and services, please contact the DRC.

If you require assistance in an emergency, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan for while in class and contact the DRC to develop a safety plan for while you are elsewhere on campus.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators (ASN). (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/>). Email and phone number are on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in building B, room 132. You can contact the DRC by stopping by B132, calling our desk at 425-564-2498, emailing [drc@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:drc@bellevuecollege.edu), and Deaf students can reach us by Skype (account name **DRCatBC**). For more information about the services we offer, including our Initial Access Application, visit our website at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc).

## **Accessibility**

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me

know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

### **Public Safety and Emergencies**

Public Safety is located in the D building (D171) and can be reached at **425-564-2400** (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at [RAVE Alert Registration](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/alerts/?ref=footer) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/alerts/?ref=footer>).

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

**If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:**

- 1) Take directions from those in charge of the response--**We all need to be working together.
- 2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to)--**Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.
- 3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.**

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the [Public Safety](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/) web page (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>) for answers to your questions.

## **ACADEMIC CALENDARS:**

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- [Enrollment Calendar](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/deadlines/)--<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/deadlines/>  
On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- [College Calendar](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/holidays/)--<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/holidays/>  
This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

## **CLASSROOM LEARNING ATMOSPHERE**

- **Affirmation and Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

- **Religious Holidays**

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair or Dean.

## **COLLEGE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY AND MANDATORY REPORTING**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/).

For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/>).

## **DIVISION STATEMENTS**

- Value Conflicts

Essential to a liberal arts education is an open-minded tolerance for ideas and modes of expression which might conflict with one's personal values. By being exposed to such ideas or expressions, students are not expected to endorse or adopt them but rather to understand that they are part of the free flow of information upon which higher education depends. TO THIS END, you may find that class requirements may include engaging certain materials, such as books, films, and art work, which may, in whole or in part, offend you. These materials are equivalent to required texts and are essential to the course content. If you decline to engage the required material by not reading, viewing, or performing material you consider offensive, you will still be required to meet class requirements in order to earn credit. This may require responding to the content of the material, and you may not be able to fully participate in required class discussions, exams, or assignments. Consult the syllabus and discuss such issues with the instructor.

- Academic Honesty

The principle of academic honesty underlies all that we do and applies to all courses at Bellevue College. One kind of academic dishonesty is plagiarism, which may take many forms, including, but not limited to, using a paper written by someone else, using printed sources word-for-word without proper documentation, and paraphrasing or summarizing the ideas of others without acknowledging the source. Plagiarism can also occur when non-written ideas are taken without documentation--using someone else's design or performance idea, for example. In short, plagiarism is passing off someone else's ideas, words, or images as your own; it amounts to intellectual theft--whether or not it was your intention to steal. Bellevue College instructors have access to commercial plagiarism detection software, so please be advised that any work you submit may be tested for plagiarism. Participating in academic dishonesty in any way, including writing a paper or taking a test for someone else, may result in severe penalties. Dishonestly produced papers automatically receive a grade of "F" without the possibility of make-up. The Dean of Student Services will also be notified of such conduct, and repetition of the behavior will result in progressively more serious disciplinary action (for example, an instructor may recommend that the student fail the course for a second offense or even that a student be expelled for a serious offense, such as stealing an exam). Grades lowered for plagiarism or other forms of dishonesty may be appealed through the regular channels, and any further disciplinary action taken by the Dean may also be appealed through existing processes.

\*If you are having trouble, do NOT copy someone else's work. Come see me.

## **FINALLY...SOME GENERAL ADVICE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS:**

- ✓ Be punctual
- ✓ Be present
- ✓ Be prepared
- ✓ Be persistent
- ✓ Be proactive

✓ Be patient

Please feel free to ask me any questions you might have about this syllabus or any part of this course. I very much look forward to working with you this quarter.

Good luck!