How do race and culture define who belongs to the nation? For instance, how can ethnic minorities at times be ‘out-whiting whites’ but still be denied full citizenship? We answer these questions by examining Asian Americans’ efforts for belonging and social justice. Topics include generational change, the ‘war on terror’, media, trans-nationalism, multi-racial, pan-ethnicity, identity, and much more, and will be addressed from an intersectional approach. Readings come from many disciplines, with stress on sociology.

Required Readings:

Guevarra, Anna, *Marketing Dreams, Manufacturing Heroes: Transnational Labor Brokering of Filipino Workers*
Chou, Rosalind, *The Myth of the Model Minority: Asian Americans Facing Racism*
Lee, J & Zhou M., *Asian American Youth: Culture, Identity, and Ethnicity*
Maeda, Daryl, *Chains of Babylon: The Rise of Asian America*
Kibria, Nazli, *Becoming Asian American*

Course Requirements:

1. Come prepared to discuss the assigned readings and offer constructive/critical comments on the course materials. Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences will count against your final grade.
2. There will be two required papers (9-10 pages). The topic will be assigned by the instructor. These two papers will make up 70 percent of your final grade.
3. You are required to bring two typed discussion questions from the readings to class on Fridays. You will be graded on your in-class participation and your comprehension of the course materials. Your in-class participation will make up 30 percent of your final grade.

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Week 1) Introduction
Feb 8:

Week 2) Roots
Feb 15: Sucheng Chan, *Asian Americans: An Interpretive History*, chapters 1-2

Week 3) Branches

Week 4) Asian American Movement

Week 5) Generations of Change
March 8: A. Portes and R. Rumbaut “Growing Up American” in Portes and Rumbaut *Immigrant America*

Week 6) Becoming Asian American
March 15: N. Kibria, *Becoming Asian American*, chapters 1-3
J. Lee and M. Zhou, *Asian American Youth*, chapter 2

Week 7) Paths to Integration
March 22: N. Kibria, *Becoming Asian American*, chapters 4-6

**Paper Due: Mar 22**

March 29: Spring Break

Week 9) Youth and Culture
April 5: Lee and Zhou, *Asian American Youth*, chapters 9, 10, 12, 13

Week 10) Cultural Formations
April 12: Lee and Zhou, *Asian American Youth*, chapters 8, 15, 16, 18

Week 11) Racial Dilemmas
M. Zhou “Are Asian Americans Becoming White?” (blackboard reading)

Week 12) Diaspora and Migration
April 26: A. Guevarra, *Marketing Dreams, Manufacturing Heroes*, chapters 1-3
S. McKay “Filipino Sea Men: Constructing Masculinities in an Ethnic Labor Niche”
 (blackboard)

Week 13) Changing Terrains
May 3: A. Guevarra, *Marketing Dreams, Manufacturing Heroes*, chapters 4-8
Lee and Zhou Asian American Youth, chapter 20

Week 14) Conclusion and Wrap up
May 10: Readings TBA

**Finals: Paper # 2: Due Date TBA**
May 17

**Honor Code:** This course will follow the policies described in the Oberlin College Honor Code and Honor System. Please contact me if you have any questions about citation, or the relationship of the Honor Code to your work in this course. For more information on the Honor Code, see [http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html).