Asian American Studies Courses

Courses that include at least a third of its content on Asian American history
None for Spring 2016

Courses in which Asian American experiences are addressed in a sociopolitical context

AAST 0194-01 (SOC 0070): Immigration and American Society ~ Helen Marrow
TR | 4:30-5:45pm

AAST 0194-02 (SOC 0188-09): Youth of Color ~ Orly Clerge
W | 9:00-11:30am

AMER 12 - Race in America ~ Jean Wu
TH | 4:30PM - 7:15PM

AAST 0194-04 (AMER 0180-06): Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH | 1:30 - 4:15pm

ENG 0002-13 Writing Seminar: Asian American Perspectives ~ Grace Talusan
TR | 10:30-11:45am

HIST 0003 - World in Motion: Global History and Migration ~ Reed Ueda
T | 9:00 - 11:30 am

Elective courses
(Note: Students wishing to count these courses towards the minor in Asian American Studies must consult with the course instructor for permission to focus coursework (e.g. a paper) on a topic related to Asian Americans):

AAST 0194-03 (CD 0062-01): Childhood Across Cultures ~ Jayanthi Mistry
TR | 10:30-11:45am

AAST 0194-04 (AMER 0180-06): Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH | 1:30-4:15pm

ANTH 0149-31/CST 0149-01/ENG 0092-03 - Colonialism and Decolonization ~ Amahl Bishara and Lisa Lowe
MW | 1:30-2:45pm

CH 0055 - Race, Ethnicity and Health ~ Shalini Tendulkar and Carolyn Rubin
MW | 10:30-11:45am

HIST 0093 (AMER 0194-09): Family, History and American Culture ~ Kendra Field
M | 1:30pm-4:00pm

Independent Study and Capstone Project
AAST 0193 Independent Study ~ Staff
AAST 0198: Capstone Project
Course Descriptions

AAST 0193 Independent Study ~ Staff
Upon consent of the director of the minor, a student may design an independent study to be guided by the director or a faculty member associated with the minor.

AAST 0194-01 (SOC 0070): Immigration and American Society ~ Helen Marrow
TR | 4:30-5:45pm
The United States in this course is used as a lens for understanding the movement of people across nation-state boundaries and their settlement in various receiving societies. Why people migrate across international borders; the ability of the nation-state to control migration flows; assimilation and incorporation of foreign outsiders into American social life; ways that migrants build and sustain lives across international borders; and challenges to two traditional types of membership: race and ethnicity, and citizenship and national belonging, will be explored.

AAST 0194-02 (SOC 0188-09): Youth of Color ~ Orly Clerge
W | 9:00-11:30am
This seminar takes a sociological approach to understanding the lives of youth of color. Through an exploration of the experiences of non-white youth and the ways in which they negotiate and redefine the identities imposed upon them at birth, this course outlines their social development across the life course, as they progress from children to young adults. Through a comparative examination of the social implications of race, ethnicity and gender, we will also consider the impact of social institutions such as the family, school, and the law on the life chances of youth of color. Significant class time will be dedicated to analyzing real world data on black youth and the opportunities and challenges they negotiate as they come of age in the 21st century. Prerequisites: 2 Sociology, Africana, Asian American, and/or American Studies Classes

AAST 0194-03 (CD 0062-01): Childhood Across Cultures ~ Jayanthi Mistry
TR | 10:30-11:45am
Intermediate-level study of child development, with emphasis on cultural perspectives integrating psychological and anthropological theory. Children’s development examined across cultures and in the context of the various social institutions and settings within which they live.

AAST 0194-04 (AMER 0180-06): Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH | 1:30-4:15pm
An exploration of decolonizing methodologies in research and knowledge production. Students will complete a final research project or paper on a topic of their choice. Prerequisites: Race in America and consent of the instructor.
AAST 0198: Capstone Project
An integrative capstone course or project that focuses on an Asian American community. The capstone project must be approved by AAST committee and may be fulfilled in one of three ways:
1. A faculty-supervised internship in an Asian American organization or organization that significantly services Asian American communities. Students must produce a final paper about their experience.
2. A community-based research course which focuses on an Asian American community.
3. An independent research paper or project on the Asian American experience supervised by an AAST faculty or an AAST-approved faculty advisor.

AAST 0194-04 (AMER 0180-06): Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH 11:30 - 4:15pm
An exploration of decolonizing methodologies in research and knowledge production. Students will complete a final research project or paper on a topic of their choice. Prerequisites: Race in America and consent of the instructor.

AMER 12 - Race in America ~ Jean Wu
TH 4:30PM - 7:15PM
"In 1903, the famous African American scholar and activist W.E.B. DuBois said, "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." Many people today believe that race will continue to be "the" issue of the 21st century. In this course, we will examine the meanings of race in modern America, analyze the root causes and consequences of racist ideologies, and discuss current and future activist approaches to the issues raised by racist theories and practices. Our study will be multicultural in focus, with attention being given to Asian American, Native American, African American, European American, and Latino/a perspectives. Questions we will ask will include: How is race defined in the USA? Who defines it? How is it experienced? Who experiences it? What is its role in our lives as individuals, members of groups and of society at large? The course will be interdisciplinary, emphasizing in particular social science and arts/humanities approaches; and active student participation will be an important component. Note: This course is high-demand AMER majors have priority; please contact Professor Wu at Jean.Wu@tufts.edu to be added to the roster."
In this co-taught course (with Prof. Lisa Lowe, English), we will consider historical and ongoing colonialisms and empire, examining the political economy, discourse, biopolitics, military, and cultural practices of colonial rule, as well as modes of resistance, and the intellectual and political responses of the colonized. Various units will focus on settler colonialism and indigenous critique, slavery and antislavery revolts, and militarism and resistance, in North America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and South Asia. Readings will include works by Marx, Fanon, Mamdani, Hall, Ileto, Chakrabarty, Mohanty, James, Du Bois, Mbembe, Simpson, Byrd, Goldstein, Roy, and others. This course counts toward the Social Sciences distribution requirement.

Examination of racial and health disparities. The nature of racial and ethnic categories, data issues, current health status of various populations, and approaches to resolving disparities including the concept and practice of cultural competence.

This is a composition course exploring the heterogeneity and multiplicity of Asian American identity construction through close examination of texts by both Asian Americans and non-Asian Americans. How have Asian Americans been represented in films and books? Can only Asian American artists authentically portray Asian Americans? Do Asian American writers and filmmakers have a social responsibility to counter and challenge stereotypical depictions, or can they just tell an “American” story? Students will read stories about “coming of age” in various media, such as the film, Better Luck Tomorrow; the novel, American Son; and Asian American X, the anthology of essays by college-age Asian Americans. Through class discussions students will consider identity formation, but the primary mode of expression will be writing. Students will consistently practice writing and discuss their processes with their colleagues.

Examination of migration as a factor in historical studies. The role of migrations in empires, frontiers and borderlands, slavery and indentured labor, oceanic history, industrialization, urbanization, intra-state conflict, and globalization.
The AAST minor requires six credits:

1. One introductory survey/foundation course on Asian American experiences with at least a third of its content on Asian American history.

2. At least one course focused on race in which Asian American experiences are addressed in a sociopolitical context.

3. At least one course with full or partial focus on Asian American experiences beyond the foundation.

4. Up to two elective courses that while they may not have direct Asian American content, must address topics relevant to the historical and/or contemporary experiences of Asian Americans. Examples include: immigration, educational access, bilingualism, health disparities, labor relations, environmental justice, media representations, cultural resistance productions, comparative race and ethnic studies. Students wishing to count these courses towards the minor in Asian American Studies must consult with the course instructor for permission to focus independent work (e.g. a paper) on an appropriate topic. All elective courses must be approved by the Asian American Studies director. To do so, send a copy of the syllabus and short summary of the proposed independent project to the Program Director.

5. An integrative capstone course (AAST 0198) or independent study project under the guidance of an affiliated Asian American studies faculty that focuses on an Asian American community. The capstone project must be approved by the Asian American Studies director. Complete and submit the one-on-one form and a copy of the project prospectus to the Program Director.