Description
This course examines how U.S. cultural and political encounters with Asia shape ideas about United States national identity and global power in the twentieth and twenty first century. Using novels, essays, a play, and a film, we will analyze interactions between Asia and the United States since the late 1920s. The course begins by analyzing narratives of war and espionage, as they intersect U.S. race relations and issues of gender and sexuality. Next, we will analyze the United States – Asia relationship through global stories about family, immigration, and food. This course also serves as a point of entry to canonical writers such as John Steinbeck and W.E.B. DuBois; cultural theory by Edward Said; and key twentieth century texts by anthropologist Ruth Benedict and diplomat George Kennan.

Required Assignments and Evaluation
Please bring the assigned readings to class and be prepared to discuss them. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make an appointment to meet with me soon.

• Attendance Policy: After three unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by 1/3 of a letter for each absence. (B- becomes C+). You are no longer eligible for a grade if you miss more than six classes (excused or unexcused). Repeated tardiness and leaving early will also lower your grade.
• Four in-class assignments e.g. group activity, response to book or film (20%)
• Two essays, 3-4 pages typed, double-spaced. Due Feb. 4, Feb. 25 (50%)
• Two essays, 2-3 pages typed, double-spaced. Due Jan. 14 and March 11 (no late papers accepted for the March 11 essay) (30%)

If you want to write on a different topic, please consult with me at least 3 days before the due date. Papers that are submitted late will be marked down one letter grade. Papers will not be accepted more than one week after the due date.

Required Texts
• Books for the course are available for purchase at the University of Oregon Bookstore. They can also be checked out on 2-hour loan at Knight Library Course Reserves.
• Articles can be found in the Assigned Readings folder on the Blackboard site for ENG 395/CRN 22337. Use your UO webmail ID and password to log into Blackboard.

Books
Susan Choi, The Foreign Student (1999)
Michael Crichton, Rising Sun (1999)
WEB DuBois, Dark Princess: A Romance (1928)
Books (continued)
David Henry Hwang, M. Butterfly (1988)
S. Mitra Kalita, Suburban Sahibs: Three Immigrant Families and Their Passage from India to America (2003)
John Steinbeck, Cannery Row (1945)

Part 1: U.S. Wars in Asia
Week 1
M 1/3 Introduction

W 1/5
No class – Prof Tolentino at MLA conference

F 1/7
No class – Prof Tolentino at MLA conference
Read The Foreign Student

Week 2
M 1/10
Susan Choi, The Foreign Student

W 1/12
Susan Choi, The Foreign Student


F 1/14
Susan Choi, The Foreign Student

2-3 page essay due – a literary portrait of Chang or Katherine

Week 3 Race and Corporate Warfare
M 1/17
No class – Martin Luther King, Jr.

W 1/29
Michael Crichton, Rising Sun

F 1/21
Michael Crichton, Rising Sun

Week 4  Yellow Peril and Red Menace
M 1/24

Film: The Manchurian Candidate (1962; dir. John Frankheimer; 126 min)

W 1/26
Film: The Manchurian Candidate (1962; dir. John Frankheimer; 126 min)

F 1/28
The Manchurian Candidate (1962; dir. John Frankheimer; 126 min)

Week 5  East-West Relations
M 1/31

W 2/2
David Henry Hwang, M. Butterfly

F 2/4
David Henry Hwang, M. Butterfly

3-4 page essay due on representations of East-West relations in Rising Sun, The Manchurian Candidate, or M. Butterfly

Week 6  Afro-Asian Internationalism
M 2/7

W 2/9
WEB DuBois, Dark Princess: A Romance

F 2/11
WEB DuBois, Dark Princess: A Romance

Part 2: Globalization

Week 7  California Orientalism
M 2/14
W 2/16
John Steinbeck, *Cannery Row*

F 2/18
John Steinbeck, *Cannery Row*

Week 8       Families of Globalization
M 2/21

W 2/23
Mona Simpson, *My Hollywood*

F 2/25
Mona Simpson, *My Hollywood*

Essay due: 3-4 page comparative essay on the politics of inclusion in *Dark Princess*, *Cannery Row*, and/or *My Hollywood* (compare at least two books)

Week 9       From Suburb to Ethnoburb
M 2/28

W 3/2
S. Mitra Kalita, *Suburban Sahibs*

F 3/4
S. Mitra Kalita, *Suburban Sahibs*

Week 10      Food Pornography or Asian American Culinary Fiction?
M 3/7

W 3/9
Jennifer 8. Lee, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles*

F 3/11
Jennifer 8. Lee, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles*
Essay due: 2-3 page book review of *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles* or *Suburban Sahibs*