

Comparative Literature 2410H: Asian-American Literature
Tues. & Thurs. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, Fall 2007
241 Joseph Brown Hall

Professor: Masaki Mori Office: 228 Joe Brown
Office Hours: Mon. 9:05 - 9:55 AM, Thurs. 9:55 - 10:45 AM, & by Appt.
Phone #: 706-542-2360 E-mail: [Use "Private Mail" in the course web page]

This reading course surveys works by writers of Asian descent, primarily seeking to help students become familiar with Asian-American cultures and their social/historical backgrounds by way of comparison of literary texts. Rather than simply gaining data, students are expected to address relevant human issues through critical appreciation of literature.

Required Texts:

- Hosseini, Khaled. The Kite Runner. New York: Riverhead Books, 2003.
- Kingston, Maxine Hong. The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood among Ghosts. New York: Vintage Books, 1989.
- Lahiri, Jhumpa. Interpreter of Maladies. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1999.
- Lee, Chang-rae. Native Speaker. New York: Riverhead Books, 1995.
- Lim, Shirley Geok-lin, ed. Asian-American Literature: An Anthology. Lincolnwood, Illinois: NTC Publishing Group, 2000.
- Okada, John. No-No Boy. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1979.

Grading Policies:

- One 75-minute class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In order to prove the legitimacy of absence, a signed letterhead or its photocopy with a telephone # and (if available) an e-mail address, such as a letter from a medical doctor or from the organizer of an official school activity, should be submitted upon the student's return to class. Otherwise, any absence from class, including showing up more than 5 minutes late as well as early leaving, will be subject to the loss of points in attendance. In case of showing up late, it is the student's responsibility to confirm their presence with the professor after the class is over.
- Regardless of legitimate excuses, the student will be disqualified to get an A or an A- for the course grade if s/he misses more than five classes. Five unexcused absences before the semester's midpoint (10/12), and nine throughout the semester, will be deemed excessive absences, subjecting the student to dismissal from the course.
- Participation will affect 10% of the final, cumulated attendance grade. Frequent, voluntary contribution to in-class discussions will augment the participation percentage while disruptive behavior/remarks and a sustained lack of active commitment affect it negatively. Students can also improve their participation by publicizing their ideas about the course content on the course Bulletin Board.
- If the student drops the course before the midpoint of the semester with the course grade less than 60.1%, s/he will receive a WF.
- The student should check "Bulletin Board" and "Private Mail" in the course Web page on a regular basis, at least once before a new class. All relevant e-mail correspondence with the professor should be made through "Private Mail."
- In a 30-minute presentation, two students will discuss crucial points and raise questions about a text's assigned section. A presentation done after its scheduled date will lose 10% of its full possible points.
- In each short paper of 550-700 words, the student will post in a designated section of the Bulletin Board a passage from a text and his/her comment before midnight (24:00) of its due

date. S/he will lose one point every twelve hours for a short paper posted within one week after its deadline, and all the points thereafter.

- The student will post a critique on one of the classmates' short papers for exchange of ideas at some point of the semester.
- The final exam will be an essay of minimum 1800 words, due electrically before midnight (24:00), December 11. A paper submitted within twelve hours after the deadline will lose 5% of its full possible points, 10% within two days, and 20% thereafter.

Grading System:

Attdnc/prtcptn [7 x 30]	210	100 % - 93.1%	A	78.0% - 74.1%	C+
Presentation	50	93.0% - 90.1%	A-	74.0% - 70.1%	C
Short Papers [40 x 5]	200	90.0% - 86.1%	B+	70.0% - 66.1%	C
Critique	10	86.0% - 82.1%	B	66.0% - 60.1%	D
<u>Final Paper</u>	<u>100</u>	82.0% - 78.1%	B-	66.0% -	F
Total (Maximum)	570				

Schedule:

Aug.	16 R:	Introduction	
	21 T:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	23 R:	<u>The Woman Warrior</u>	
	28 T:	<u>The Woman Warrior</u>	
	30 R:	<u>The Woman Warrior</u>	
Sept.	4 T:	<u>The Woman Warrior</u> ; Presentation 1	Short Paper 1 (24:00, 9/5)
	6 R:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	11 T:	<u>No-No Boy</u>	
	13 R:	<u>No-No Boy</u> ; Presentation 2	
	18 T:	Poems; <u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	20 R:	<u>No-No Boy</u>	
	25 T:	<u>No-No Boy</u> ; Presentation 3	Short Paper 2 (24:00, 9/26)
	27 R:	Film	
Oct.	2 T:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	4 R:	<u>Native Speaker</u>	
	9 T:	<u>Native Speaker</u> ; Presentation 4	
	11 R:	<u>Native Speaker</u>	
	16 T:	<u>Native Speaker</u> ; Presentation 5	Short Paper 3 (24:00, 10/17)
	18 R:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	23 T:	<u>Interpreter of Maladies</u>	
	25 R:	Fall Break	
	30 T:	<u>Interpreter of Maladies</u>	
Nov.	1 R:	<u>Interpreter of Maladies</u> ; Presentation 6	
	6 T:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	Short Paper 4 (24:00, 11/7)
	8 R:	Film	
	13 T:	<u>A-A L. Anthology</u>	
	15 R:	<u>Kite Runner</u>	
	20 T:	<u>Kite Runner</u>	
	22 R:	Thanksgiving Recess	
	27 T:	<u>Kite Runner</u> ; Presentation 7	Short Paper 5 (24:00, 11/28)
	29 R:	Film	
Dec.	6 R:	Review	
	10 M:	Final paper due (24:00)	

* All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

* The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.