

Professor Richardson

STH 618

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Office Hours by Appointment

HI/AA 490

Blacks And Asians: Encounters Through Time and Space

Spring 2017

This course is a comparative study of the way a group of Black and Asian writers engaged with white western racism, imperialism and arrogance. We will be particularly interested in uncovering their conceptions of self, including how race, gender, nation and ethnicity figured into their self concepts.

This is a discussion course. The basic course requirement is that you come to class prepared to participate actively in intensive discussion and analysis of the texts we will study. Each of you will make a ten minute thematic oral presentation on one of the texts for the course. Class participation, including your oral presentation, will constitute 50% of your grade. The other 50% will represent your final project. Each of you must research and write a ten to fifteen page final essay comparing the work of a Black and an Asian writer in terms of the questions and issues we address in the course. Your final essay will be due on May 2, the last day of class for this course. We will discuss the nature of the final project in detail during our first class meeting. **I have required only one written project so that you will have ample time to focus on it and can go into depth in your work. Therefore, I will not accept late work except in the case of a documented medical emergency.** As this is a discussion course attendance is mandatory. If you miss three class sessions you may earn a failing grade for the course.

Required Texts

Maxine Hong Kingston, China Men ISBN-13: 978-0679723288

Frantz Fanon, Black Skin White Masks ISBN-13: 978-0802143006

Junichiro Tanizaki, Naomi ISBN 0-375-72474-5

James Baldwin, Notes of a Native Son ISBN-13: 978-0807064313

James Baldwin, Giovanni's Room ISBN-13: 978-0345806567

James Baldwin, Another Country ISBN-13: 978-0679744719

Yukio Mishima, Confessions of a Mask ISBN 0-8112-0118-X

Yukio Mishima, The Temple of the Golden Pavilion ISBN-13: 978-067975270

Yukio Mishima, Spring Snow ISBN-13: 978-0679722410

Frank H. Wu Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White ISBN-13: 978-0465006403

John Nathan, Mishima: A Biography ISBN-13: 978-0306809774

Reading and Discussion Schedule

1/24: Orientation

1/31: Fanon, Black Skin White Masks

2/7: Tanizaki, Naomi

2/14: Baldwin, Giovanni's Room

2/28: Mishima, Confessions of a Mask

Film: Mishima Documentary

3/14: Baldwin, Notes of a Native Son

Film: Baldwin Documentary

3/21: Baldwin, Another Country

3/28: Mishima, The Temple of the Golden Pavilion

4/4: Mishima, Spring Snow

4/11: Nathan, Mishima

4/18: Kingston, China Men

Film: Eat a Bowl of Tea

4/25: Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folks

5/2: Wu, Yellow