Asian American Resources for Children and Youth
Summer 2008

Summer 2008: Meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for 6 weeks-- starting July 7, 2008 at 5:00 to 7:15 p.m.  Kuykendahl 201

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Office Hours: Please call or email to make an appointment

Course Description
The course focuses on an examination of Asian American resources for children and youth and for the library professionals working with them. It includes an overview of the socio-historical roots of various Asian groups in the United States; a survey of trends and issues related to multi-ethnic authoring and publishing; the creation of and application of evaluative criteria for information in this area; and an exploration of curricular and library program promotion of these resources.

Prerequisites: none

Core Competencies Addressed: The following competencies have primary emphasis in this course:

- **Resource Building**: creation, evaluation, selection of collections of information; storing, preserving and conserving information.
- **Knowledge Dissemination--Service**: concepts, principles and techniques that facilitate information access for users, interaction with users to provide consultation or guidance in use of information resources, assessment of user needs, diversity in user needs.
- **Social, Historical, and Cultural Context**: concepts and knowledge regarding the socio-historical development of libraries, print culture, and information science; preservation of cultural resources; international dimensions of librarianship, information technology and policy, and social and cultural issues, including the interplay between library and information science and the cultures of Hawaii, the Pacific region, and Asia.

Professional Expectations:

All students in the Program are expected to become familiar with and adhere to the Professional Expectations policies found at [http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/students.php?page=profexp](http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/students.php?page=profexp)

Learning Goals:

- Apply basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services and programs in a variety of information environments;
- Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in evaluating, selecting and
organizing information sources;

- Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in storage, retrieval, dissemination, utilization and evaluation of information;
- Demonstrate basic competencies required for instructional program development in particular information environments;
- Demonstrate an understanding of research techniques and methods of applying new knowledge as it becomes available;
- Demonstrate the professional attitudes and the interpersonal and interdisciplinary skills needed to communicate and collaborate with colleagues and information users;
- Demonstrate basic competencies in the latest specialized information technologies;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the above goals within the perspective of prevailing and emerging technologies.

**Course Objectives:**

The student will be able to

- Articulate an understanding of the historical and cultural roots of various Asian groups in America
- Articulate an understanding of past and current issues and themes reflected in the literature and media about and by Asian Americans and the newer demographics of mixed Asian Ethnicities in America
- Select and critically evaluate a range of resources about Asian Americans focusing on a specific theme, topic, or issue
- Communicate knowledge about these resources as an advocate in an articulate and creative fashion.

Evidence for these objectives will be documented through

- Participation in class discussion and in literature circles
- Creation of response logs to readings and resource speakers
- Creation of a critically annotated mediagraphy on a specific topic, theme or issue related to Asian Americans.
- Design and implementation of a short program focusing on the selected theme, topic or issue related to Asian Americans and targeting 2 specific audiences.

**Teaching Philosophy and Method:**

In this course emphasis is on inquiry-driven learning and the practical application of theory to practice; therefore, in addition to traditional lectures the following strategies will be incorporated into the course:

- Interactive discussions and literature circles
- Cooperative learning activities
- Reflective and analytical writing
- Creative and persuasive student presentations with peer and instructor feedback
- Guest speakers augmented by student or teacher-lead discussions
Research Methods:

While formal research methodologies are not part of the major assignments in this course, students focus on an important element that is crucial in literary research, i.e., the ability to critically analyze selected literature using multiple lenses including historical, social, cultural, and linguistic perspectives.

Requirements

The Instructor as Adjunct Faculty is not on campus full time and so cannot accept Incompletes (INC) for this course. All work must be completed on time as posted on the attached Course Schedule.

Course Assignments and Scoring

Assignments and their respective scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature Circles (4)</td>
<td>5 points each = total of 20 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response Logs (2)</td>
<td>15 points each = total of 30 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mediagraph</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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Maximum possible points: 100 points

Letter Grades for the course:

- A+ 97-100
- A  94-96
- A- 91-93
- B+ 87-90
- B  84-86
- B- 81-83
- C+ 77-80
- C  74-76
- C- 71-73
- B  84-86

Course Text and Readings:

Literature Circle 1A  Due July 16 with evaluation due 7/17 via email

Literature Circle 1B  Due July 18 with evaluation due 7/19 via email

The following readings are available in multiple copies from the Hawaii State Public Library System for a three week loan and will be required for the literature circle discussions. See the appended Course Schedule and Assignments for dates.

Literature Circle 2A and B  Due July 21 continued on July 23 with evaluation due 7/24 via email

**Literature Circle 3 Due July 25** with evaluation due 7/26 via email

**Literature Circle 4 Due July 30** with evaluation due 7/31 via email

**Selected articles**
- Instructor designed question sheets will be provided to assist in the discussion of the DVDs viewed on July 9, July 11, July 14 and July 18.
- Articles will be posted on LIS 689 Asian American Resources for Children and Youth Course Homepage in myuhportal.hawaii.edu – Featured Links and on the appended Course Schedule and Assignments. Those pre-posted and pre-listed items must be read by the due dates indicated to prepare the class for the guest speakers, for the literature circles, or for topics to be discussed in class.
- More articles will be given in class that have no specific due date.
- All articles listed and given in class may be used to fulfill the requirement for 1 of the 2 required response logs.

**To access the resources of the Hawaii State Public Library System:**
- Visit your nearest public library -- see [http://www.libraryshawaii.org](http://www.libraryshawaii.org) website for information on the locations, open hours, and to access the catalog and databases.
- To get a library card - Bring identification with a local mailing address
- Or if your identification does not include a correct and current local mailing address, ALSO bring in an item with your current, correct, local mailing address such as a utility bill with your name on it, a rent receipt, a postmarked and cancelled letter sent to you, etc.

If you are going to call upon a librarian in the public library system to assist you with your mediography or with your program presentation, please understand that they are very busy.
- Do call first and make an appointment.
- Allow the librarian at least a day to pull together the resources that you need.
If you just walk-in you will be probably competing with class visits, or reference desk duties. The librarian will not be able to assist you as fully as he/she would like.

**Technology Requirements:**
- Post and respond to messages via email.
- Download and print readings, and other resources sent by fellow students, the teacher, and other guest speakers via email attachments.
- Produce reports on PC or MAC word processing programs.
- Use various databases including library online catalogs for the University of Hawaii and for
the Hawaii State Public Library System and their shared databases for periodical research.
- Access Course Homepage via the myuhportal.hawaii.edu and refer to posted messages, announcements, and links.
- Access Internet and search for online information.
- Explore various technologies designed to enhance public performance or presentation for example: Powerpoint, Publisher, Adobe Pagemaker, among others.

Specific Guidelines for Assignments:

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<th>Literature Circles</th>
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<td><strong>Objective:</strong> To exchange perceptions, interpretations, and questions about literature read.</td>
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<td><strong>Task:</strong> To participate in 4 literature circles based on the required reading texts. See the appended Course Schedule and Assignments for due dates. The class will divide into smaller groups to discuss the selected readings and compare themes, insights and questions.</td>
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| **Criteria for assessment:** The class will use an instructor-designed discussion guide (appended) for each literature circle to self-evaluate their own performance in the literature circles. Since this is a HITS class, the designated discussion recorders in each group will submit a one-page summary including:
  1) major discussion points and ideas;
  2) the names of each of the participants in the group;
  3) and a simple assessment of each members participation in the discussion to the instructor via email attachment within 24 hours of the discussion for evaluation. |

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<td><strong>Objective:</strong> To examine new information, clarify values and thinking; and to communicate personal perspectives in a logical articulate manner.</td>
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| **Task:** Create 2 response logs. See appended Course Schedule and Assignments for due dates.
  - A log is 250 to 500 words.
  - One of the logs should deal with any of the articles assigned in class by the instructor and as posted in the Course Schedule and Assignments. *You may substitute an article of our own with the instructor’s prior consent and provided the instructor is given a copy of the article to preview at least two days in advance.*
  - The second log may be a response to any one of the guest speakers or DVD presentations. You may cite other readings as applicable to your selected main subject. |
Format for the log: Each log should include:
- Complete bibliographic citation of the resource (using a style manual of your choice).
- Summary of the main points made (no more than 1/3 of the log).
- Personal response to the main points (2/3 of the log). Your responses are not restricted but please address at least one of these aspects: personal insights or perspectives gained, relevance to your own teaching/work, new questions generated.

Example of format to use


Mei Yu Lu argues that schools need to create an environment that fosters mutual understanding. She discusses the importance of multicultural children’s literature in the classroom and guidelines for selection.

The article made me realize anew that we are usually very superficial in cultural studies and that multicultural literature offers a more humanistic approach. In my classroom for example I can see....

Criteria for assessment: Use the following criteria to assess your own logs. The instructor will apply the same criteria for scoring them.
I am able to
- Clearly identify the main ideas.
- Analyze their implications in terms of insights gained, relevance to my work, and/or new questions raised.
- Organize my response in a cohesive and articulate manner.
- While content is most important, correct grammar and spelling will be a consideration in grading.

Mediographies

Objective: To evaluate a range of print and electronic/multimedia resources focusing on a specific topic, issue, or theme relevant to Asians in America.

Task: Develop a critically annotated practical mediagraphy consisting of
- At least 6 print resources (books, periodicals, journals, newspaper articles, etc.).
- At least 4 nonprint item (websites, videotapes, DVD, CD-ROM programs, field trip sites, resource speakers, etc.).
- Annotations must be evaluative. Each annotation should be a minimum of 150 words.

Audience: Instructor and colleagues in class.

Format for annotation: Each annotation should include
- Complete bibliographic citation for the resource (use style manual of your choice).
- Descriptive summary of the resource (no more that 1/3 of the annotation).
- Evaluative analysis of the resource (at least 2/3 of the annotation).
- Here again, while not a large part of the grading, correct spelling and grammar will be a
consideration. Please proofread carefully.

Example of format to use

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
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</table>

This collection of short stories for upper elementary to adult readers deals with growing up “local” in Hawaii. Some of the stories are told in the first person and set in Hawaii circa 1950-1970’s. The Chinese-influenced “pidgin” is reflective of that era in Hawaii history. The stories while nostalgic for adults have a timeless appeal to children and teens for they are told in the child’s voice and deal with issues such as bullying, stereotyping, teasing, fitting-in, etc. For Hawaii-born “pidgin” speakers, the stories beg to be read aloud to the class for they have a cadence and rhythm that can be especially appreciated aurally. Skillfully written so as to be enjoyed and understood by even non-pidgin speakers, the stories are, however, especially useful for motivating local non-readers who have yet to discover that there are good literary stories written about their lives and their lifestyles. ETC....

### Program Presentations

**Objective:** To effectively promote resources dealing with an issue, theme or topic that is relevant to Asians in America.

**Task:** To design and deliver a 20 minute program (10 minutes for lower grades/ 10 minutes for upper) related to the topics, or themes, or issues chosen. This assignment should be built around your mediagraphy.

**Audience:** Instructor and colleagues in class

**Planning Considerations:**
- Select the 2 target audiences for your program (preschool or K-3 *and* gr. 4-6 or middle school or high school)
- You will be required to include at least one picture book read-aloud for preschool or early elementary and one booktalk for gr. 4-12 in your presentation.
- Brainstorm with your classmates for creative ways to interest your target audience in your chosen topic, theme or issue. Guest speakers and some of the lectures will introduce you to some tried and true techniques for promoting materials – but do not be closed to experimentation.
- Plan in advance for all the resources you will need. Lion Dancers? Lists of field trips? PowerPoint capability. Video recorder, table space, etc.
- Rehearse, rehearse, rehearse!
- Come early to set up.

**Criteria for assessment:** Use the following criteria to assess your own program. The instructor and your classmates will apply the same criteria in evaluating the presentation.

I am able to:
- Clearly communicate the focus of my program.
- Creatively present my ideas and resources.
- Design a program that is appropriate and appealing to the 2 intended target audiences.
- Organize my program so that my delivery is smooth and effective.