

**THE FIFTEEN YEAR WAR IN ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC**

Class Meetings: Tu. & Th. 12:30-1:50, Center 109

T.A. : Tomoyuki Sasaki (tosasaki@ucsd.edu)

OPTIONAL SECTIONS: Thursdays, 10-10:50 and 11-11:50 AM, HSS 5086.

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Course Description

This course examines the "Fifteen Year War" (or the Second World War in the Asia-Pacific region) from a variety of critical perspectives. Two themes will especially be highlighted. First, we will consider how imperialism and colonialism of both the Euro-American and Japanese varieties were central to the War's outbreak, conduct, and "resolution." Second, we will explore various "local" rather than simply national experiences and memories of the War. These will include the experiences and memories of marginalized groups in Japan and its colonies, "comfort women," victims of war atrocities, Japanese Americans, African Americans, and Pacific Islanders. Please note that we will attempt to discuss the readings in class every week. Therefore, you must keep up with the readings and complete the weekly assignments by the Tuesday class meetings. Furthermore, attendance at lectures is especially important because these will complement readings and provide information and points of view that will allow us to dispense with a general textbook. You will be held responsible for all films shown and are cautioned that in some cases these films will NOT BE AVAILABLE for viewing outside of the set times. Therefore, you must view the films at the scheduled class times and you should take notes on the films' significances either during or immediately after the film showing.

Books

Horne, Gerald. Race War!: White Supremacy and the Japanese Attack on the British Empire. New York: New York University Press, 2004. (hereafter, RW)

Cook, Haruko Taya and Theodore F. Japan at War: An Oral History. New York: The New Press, 1993. (hereafter, JAW)

Okada, John. No-No Boy. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1978.

Harris, Sheldon, Factories of Death: Japanese Biological Warfare, 1932-45, and the American Cover-up. Revised Edition. London: Routledge, 2002. **BE SURE TO READ THE 2002 REVISED EDITION. DO NOT ASK FOR PERMISSION TO READ THE ORIGINAL EDITION.**

All assigned readings not in the above books are available on electronic reserve at the library. The required books are available for purchase at Groundwork Books and several copies are also on reserve at the library.

Requirements

NO LATE PAPERS ACCEPTED. NO EMAILED PAPERS ACCEPTED, UNLESS INDIVIDUALLY APPROVED BY INSTRUCTOR

1. Attendance at lectures. Be sure to turn off all mobile phones and use computers only for note taking. Students found using computers for any other purpose (such as emailing, playing games, etc.) will have their final grades deducted by 5%. Once the class begins students should stop chatting and engaging in any other kind of disruptive or distracting behavior. When you attend lectures you are expected to stay for the entire period. Any student found leaving early will have his/her final grade deducted by 3% for each instance. In the

event that a student feels physically unable to remain in the class, that student must receive approval from the instructor, TA or Reader to leave the classroom. In the case of a medical emergency, do not hesitate to inform the instructor of your condition directly or through the TA, Reader, or a fellow student so that we can assist you as quickly as possible. If you have a chronic medical condition that may require you to occasionally or regularly leave the classroom, you should inform the instructor of this condition so that accommodations can be made. In no case should you endanger your health to follow these rules. However, those breaking the rules without a legitimate excuse will be treated severely with regard to grade deductions.

2. Midterm Essays due or written out in class on Feb. 5. 40% of grade.

3. Final Essays due or written out in class on Tu., March 18, 60% of grade.

4. Optional discussion sections for extra credit. You must come to at least 7 sections during the quarter to qualify for extra credit. Also, although there will be no additional written assignments, you must demonstrate that you have done the readings by joining in the discussions. You may improve your course grade by up to 5% if you participate in weekly discussion sections, but the amount of extra credit will be determined by the degree of your participation.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be treated as such. In some cases students found guilty of plagiarism will receive a failing grade for the assignment and the class. As the History Department's statement on plagiarism explains, the "most obvious form of plagiarism is the verbatim copying of words, sentences, paragraphs or entire sections or chapter without quotation and proper attribution... You must use quotation marks even if you only borrow several words in sequence from a source." Although this course encourages collaborative learning through discussion and debate, it is also improper for students to copy from one another and to "submit virtually identical assignments." All students should read the History Department's statement on plagiarism:

<http://historyweb.ucsd.edu/pages/undergraduate/Current/plagiarism.htm> If you are unclear about any aspect of the instructor's plagiarism policy and/or the Department's statement on plagiarism, ask for clarification from your T.A. or the instructor before completing your assignments.

Lecture Outlines

Beginning on Jan. 10, the outline for the day's lecture will normally be sent to students via email by 6AM. However, students should note that the actual lectures will cover much more than shows up in the outlines and that you will be responsible for everything covered in class. Conversely, spontaneous discussions may preclude coverage of some less important items listed on the outlines. The bottom line is: you must come to lecture in order to keep up with the class.

PART I: EMPIRES IN CONFLICT

WEEK I

Jan. 8 Introduction

Jan. 10 U.S. and European Imperialism in the Asia Pacific Region

Reading: RW, pp. vii-xvii, 1-79 & 187-218. .

WEEK II

Jan. 15 Japanese Imperialism

Jan. 17 Film: The Human Condition, part 1 (FVLV 2514-2)

Reading: JAW, 3-68, 95-112; "The Family Letters of Robert Wilson," in Timothy Brook, ed., Documents on

the Rape of Nanking (U of Michigan Press, 1999), 207-54;

WEEK III

Jan. 22 U.S., Japan, and the Co-prosperity Sphere

Jan. 24 Film: "First Yank in Tokyo" MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE ON RESERVE

Reading: JAW, 69-95, 240-57; "Tōjō Greets the Greater East Asia Conference," in Joyce C. Lebra, ed., Japan's Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere in World War II (Oxford U. Press), 88-93; John Dower, "Race, Language, and War in Two Cultures," and "Graphic Others/ Graphic Selves: Cartoons in War and Peace," in Japan in War & Peace (New York: New Press, 1993), 257-300; RW, 105-27.

PART II: ETHNIC/RACIAL AND COLONIAL SUBJECTS (BETWEEN EQUALITY AND DIFFERENCE)

WEEK IV

Jan. 29 Koreans in the Japanese Empire

Midterm Exam Question(s) Distributed

Jan. 31 Okinawans in the Japanese Empire

Reading: JAW, 113-20, 192-99, 387-91, 354-72; Wan-you Chou, "The Kominka Movement in Taiwan and Korea: Comparisons and Interpretations," in Duus, et. al., ed., The Japanese Wartime Empire, 1931-1945 (Princeton U. Press, 1996), 40-68; Matthew Allen, "Wolves at the Back Door: Remembering the Kumejima Massacres," in Hein and Selden, ed., Islands of Discontent (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2003), 39-64.

WEEK V

Feb. 5 Midterm Essays Due/ or taken in Class

Feb. 7 The Pacific

Reading: Beth Bailey and David Farber, "Introduction" and "Strangers in a Strange Land," from The First Strange Place (Free Press, 1992), 15-29; Lamont Lindstrom and Geoffrey M. White, "War Stories," and "Karen L. Nero, "Time of Famine, Time of Transformation: Hell in the Pacific, Palau," in Geoffrey M. White and Lamont Lindstrom, The Pacific Theater (U of Hawaii Press, 1989), 3-36 & 117-46. Start reading John Okada, No-no Boy.

WEEK VI

Feb. 12 Asian Americans

Feb. 14 Film & Discussion: "Looking Like the Enemy" NOT AVAILABLE ON RESERVE

Discussion: No-no Boy

Reading: John Okada, No-no Boy.

PART III: "WAR CRIMES" & WAR MEMORIES

WEEK VII

Feb. 19 War and Sex

Feb. 21 Film & Discussion: "Senso Daughters" (1275-1)

Reading: George Hicks, "The Flesh Market," "Shanghai Regulations and their Variations," "Empire of the

Sun," from The Comfort Women (Norton, 1994), 45-65, 83-96, 107-51; Hyunah Yang, "Revisiting the Issue of Korean 'Military Comfort Women': The Question of Truth and Positionality," in positions 5:1 (Spring 1997): 51-71; Beth Bailey and David Farber, "Hotel Street Sex," from The First Strange Place (Free Press, 1992), 95-132.

WEEK VIII

Feb. 26 Film: "Why We Dropped the Bomb" (MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE ON RESERVE)
Feb. 28 Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki
Discussion on the Bomb

Reading: JAW, 337-353; Lisa Yoneyama, "Introduction" & "Ethnic and Colonial Memories: The Korean Atom Bomb Memorial," from Hiroshima Traces (UC Press, 1999), 1-33, 151-86; Sheldon Harris, Factories of Death, xi-xviii, xxvii-xxx, & 3-38.

WEEK IX

Mar. 4 Japanese Atrocities on Trial
Mar. 6 Film: Rashomon (FVL DV 0801-1)
Final Essay Question(s) Distributed

Reading: Sheldon Harris, Factories of Death, 39-134 & 151-98.

WEEK X

Mar. 11 Decolonization and Unresolved Postcolonial Issues
Mar. 13 Conclusions and Further Questions

Reading: Factories of Death, 199-361.

FINALS WEEK

Mar. 18 Final Essays due or written out in class, Tu, 11:30AM -2:30