New Course: AAS 299

This upcoming fall, the Department of Asian American Studies will be offering a new course, AAS 299, Women Immigrant Labor, taught by Professor Naomi Paik.

This course examines the intersections of gender, migration, and labor, with a particular focus on immigrant women of color in the United States. The course will meet Monday and Wednesday from 4:00 pm to 5:20 pm in Daniel Kelley Hall. Seats are still available, so if you need a course to fulfill your US Minority Cultural Studies requirement, this is a great opportunity!

AAS 105

Professor Lila Sharif will be teaching AAS 105, Intro to Arab American Studies this upcoming fall. This interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts of Arab American Studies will address issues of history, race, social organization, politics, and art related to Arab American experiences. The class will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 2:50 pm in 105 Talbot Laboratory. This is a great opportunity for students to satisfy their requirement for a course in US Minority Cultural Studies!

Winners of the Ying Fan Wu Memorial Scholarship

This spring, the Department of Asian American Studies was excited to announce the establishment of the Ying Fan Wu Memorial Scholarship to honor the memory of Dr. Ying Fan Wu, an alumnus of 20 years of Asian American Studies on campus. University alumna Honora Wu and her father King Wu generously provided three scholarships of $1,000 each to outstanding students in the field of Asian American Studies. This scholarship was established in honor of Horace Wu’s father, Ying Fan Wu, who attended the University of Illinois in the late 1930s. The penultimate panel included current and past student leaders who discussed the vital need for and public engagement with regards to Asian American Studies and the politics of Asian American visibility on campus and on the national stage. Overall, AAS Unbound was not only about celebrating 20 years of study on campus, but a critical mapping of the legacies and futures of Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois. Social Justice, Performing and American Studies was a symposium devoted to cut-ting-edge Filipina American scholarship. The participants included Christian Balance of the University of California at Irvine, Nerva Balas of Binghamton University, Robyn Rodriguez of the University of California at Davis, and Sarah Lee of the University of California at Riverside. The symposium not only focused on the recently published books of these scholars but also served to highlight the expansive and capacitive scholarship agenda that these works and scholars exemplify. The works cross disciplinary borders and historical periods. The topics revolve around these diverse domains such as the cultural politics of art and museums, colonialism and visuality, and its political condition, and post-9/11 New Jersey community of color activists.

Naiomi Paik Awarded Best Book in History

Dr. A. Naomi Paik, Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies, was awarded the 2018 Association for Asian Studies Award for Best Book in History for her 2016 book Rightlessness: Testimony and Redress in U.S. Prison Camps since World War II. The AASS described her book as “A conceptually brilliant analysis of U.S. racial state power and political renditions, and post-9/11 New Jersey community of color activists. the expansive and capacious scholarly agenda that these works and scholars exemplify. The works cross disciplinary borders and historical periods. The topics revolve around these diverse domains such as the cultural politics of art and museums, colonialism and visuality, and its political condition, and post-9/11 New Jersey community of color activists.