

SYLLABUS

HUM&110 PACIFIC RIM HUMANITIES

Instructor: Vernon Ng

Quarter: Spring 2022

Email: vng@pierce.ctc.edu

Class meeting time: ONLINE – ZOOM MEETINGS 2-3:30pm TBA

Office Hours: ([View availability and sign up here](#))

E-mail Vernon (vng@pierce.ctc.edu) if you would like to meet outside of listed office hours.

[OFFICE HOURS MEETING LINK](#)

Credits: 5

WHAT IS THIS CLASS ABOUT?

In times when there is a lot of *movement* there is also a lot of *friction*. In this class we will use Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing's formulation of "friction" to analyze how interactions among diverse peoples in the Pacific Rim result in rich artistic and cultural productions. We will use a place-based approach not only to focus our attention, but to understand how geography—proximity, distance, and isolation—shapes how we act and what we produce. We will focus on contemporary works from Micronesia, South Korea, Hawaii and the Philippines, knowing that such works are haunted by indigenous and imperial histories and yet train an eye toward the future.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A study of historical and contemporary interactions among Pacific Rim peoples (with an emphasis on Southeast Asian, Pacific Islander, and East Asian) and their respective artistic and cultural productions.

WHAT TEXTBOOKS ARE REQUIRED?

Blu's Hanging , Lois-Ann Yamanaka (978-0380731398)

All other readings will be posted on Canvas.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE/HAVE UNRELIABLE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY?

In this class we will use technology to complete and submit written assignments, complete online quizzes, participate in class, coordinate with other students.

I recognize that some students are unable to afford the cost of purchasing digital devices and some students perhaps have unreliable access to digital devices. Technology problems can be a significant source of stress for students. Given these challenges, **please contact me if you experience a technology-related problem that interferes with your work in this course.** This will enable me to assist you in accessing support.

Technology-related Resources and Support

There are a few tech-related resources and support at Pierce College that are included with your tuition & fees.:

- Office 365, which includes cloud-based versions of applications like Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, etc.
- Student email, your official means of communication with Pierce College.
- Online technology support with STAT, available through [Cranium Cafe](#).

WHAT WILL I LEARN IN THIS CLASS?

OUTCOME	Essay 1	Essay 2	Final Project
1. Compare ethnic formations among Pacific Rim peoples in order to understand the	X		X

evolution and effects of colonization and imperialism.			
2. Analyze how biogeography and biopolitics inform Pacific Rim artistic and cultural production.		X	
3. Analyze how works art and cultural expressions are shaped by their historical, social, and economic contexts.		X	
4. Distinguish images, themes, and ideas found in texts and cultural artifacts in order to examine how they are shaped by--and help shape--the cultures from which they originate.		X	
5. Identify how Pacific Rim artistic and cultural productions interact with political and social justice movements.			X
6. Analyze racial and ethnic identity formations among Pacific Rim peoples in diasporic contexts.	X		X
7. Reflect on how individuals' positional identities in the learning space shape an understanding of the field of study.			X

HOW WILL MY FINAL GRADE BE DISTRIBUTED?

20% ESSAY ONE

20% ESSAY TWO

30% FINAL PROJECT

30% Assignments and Quizzes

Under Pierce's numerical grading system, instructors may report grades from 4.0 to 1.0 in 0.1 increments, and the grade of 0.0. Grades in the range 0.9 to 0.1 may not be assigned.

Letter grade Percentage grade 4.0 Scale

A+	97-100	4.0
A	95-96 (3.9)	93-94 (3.8)
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
F	Below 65	0.0

0.0 F (Indicates student did not do passing work in the course, did not attend during the quarter or did not officially withdraw)

WHAT IS THE LATE WORK POLICY?

Late work will not be accepted.

WHAT IS THE ATTENDANCE POLICY?

This is a fast-paced course that requires you to log in regularly to our Canvas page. A large portion of your learning (and thus your grade) is based on interactions with your peers, with me, and with the texts; the artifacts of these interactions (quizzes, lead discussion posts and replies) are graded and count toward your cumulative assignment grade.

HOW SHOULD I BEHAVE IN SHARED CLASSROOM SPACES?

The classroom community can only work with mutual respect and tolerance. The classroom will be an open space where students are free to test out new ideas. As a result, students must maintain collegial behavior in all interactions with their classmates, the instructor, the writing tutor and the librarian. If a student disrupts the class or harasses/threatens/intimidates other members of the classroom community, the instructor reserves the right to do any combination of the following:

- Suspend the student from a class activity
- Conference with the student
- Conference with the student's advisor
- Pursue academic discipline with the Academic Dean

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM, AND WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES IF I PLAGIARIZE?

Plagiarism is dealt with severely. **As a general rule, if you have ANY information that did not come from your own thoughts, then indicate in-text where you got that information.** As another general rule, avoid reading summaries/other student-generated essays about any of the material in this course. A technical definition of plagiarism we follow in the class is a series of three or more words that are taken directly from another text without proper citation. The first instance will result in a 0% (zero) on the assignment, a conference with me, and communication with your academic advisor. The second instance will result communication with your academic advisor and disciplinary action pursued against the student. If you have any questions about what specifically constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask me. From Pierce College's Student Code of Conduct, [Prohibited Student Conduct](#):

Academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication.

- 1. Cheating includes using or any attempt to use, give or obtain unauthorized assistance relating to the completion of an academic assignment.*
- 2. Plagiarism includes taking and using as one's own, without proper attribution, the ideas, writings, or work of another person in completing an academic assignment. Plagiarism may also include the unauthorized submission for credit of academic work that has been submitted for credit in another course.*
- 3. Fabrication includes falsifying data, information, or citations in completing an academic assignment and also includes providing false or deceptive information to an instructor concerning the completion of an assignment.*

For more guidance about plagiarism, see Pierce College Library's [Rules of Plagiarism](#).

IF I HAVE A DISABILITY OR SUSPECT THAT I HAVE ONE THAT MIGHT IMPACT MY LEARNING, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Pierce College values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to fostering mutual respect and full participation for all students. My goal as your professor is to create a learning environment that is equitable, inclusive, and welcoming.

If you have or think you may have a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact Access and Disability Services at ADS@pierce.ctc.edu or (253) 912-3606 (Ft. Steilacoom) or (253) 864-3383 (Puyallup and JBLM) to see if you are eligible to receive services.

If you are already approved for accommodations through the ADS, have requested your accommodations for this quarter, and would like to use your accommodations in my class, please connect with me outside of class time to discuss your needs.

ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

Pierce College Access and Disability Services (ADS) has a new online request system called **myADS**. This system allows potential ADS students to submit ADS applications online. It

will also allow continuing students to request their quarterly accommodation without all the steps required in the past.

For more information please visit the [Pierce College Access and Disability Services website](#).

If you are already approved for accommodations through the ADS, have requested your accommodations for this quarter, and would like to use your accommodations in my class, please connect with me early in the quarter to discuss your needs.

Contact information

Fort Steilacoom and JBLM

Access and Disability Services

9401 Farwest Drive SW

Lakewood, WA 98498

Location: Cascade Building, Welcome Center

Phone: 253-964-6468

Fax: 253-912-3712

ADS@pierce.ctc.edu

Puyallup

Access and Disability Services

1601 39th Avenue Southeast

Puyallup, WA 98374

Location: Gaspard Building A106

Phone: 253-964-6468

Fax: 253-840-8331

ADS@pierce.ctc.edu

Assistive Technology Lab (Fort Steilacoom)

9401 West Drive SW

Lakewood, WA 98409

Location: Cascade Building 503

Phone: 253-964-6460

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF SOME ASPECT OF MY FAITH OR CONSCIENCE IMPACTS MY ABILITY TO DO WORK IN THIS COURSE?

Reasonable Accommodations for Faith/Conscience: Students who will be absent from or endure significant hardship in course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not impacted. Such requests must be made in writing within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course. Students should review the [Accommodations for Faith/Conscience Policy](#) and follow the procedures.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

It is your responsibility to know and understand emergency procedures. In the event of an emergency call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so, if possible also call Campus Safety at 253-964-6751 (Fort Steilacoom) or 253-840-8481 (Puyallup).

- **Campus Alerts-** Sign up for [Pierce College emergency alerts](#).

COURSE CALENDAR (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

PROLOGUE – TRANS PACIFIC CONNECTION

WEEK ONE

- Anna Tsing, selections from *Friction: An Ethnography of Global Connection*
- "Seduction: Japan's Floating World"
- Terry Perez, "The floating world"
- Maya Alonso, "Black Coral"

WEEK TWO

- Craig Santos Perez, selections from *unincorporated territory*
- Huan He, "On the Perpetual Motion of Search": The Transpacific Networked Poetics of Craig Santos Perez and Theresa H.K. Cha

SOUTH KOREA

WEEK THREE

- Context: Korea Under Japanese Rule
- Theresa Kyung Cha, selections from *Dictee*

WEEK FOUR

- Myung Mi Kim, selections from *Commons*
- Don Mee Choi, selections from *DMZ Colony*

HAWAII

WEEK FIVE

- Context: East Asians and Southeast Asians in Hawaii
- Haunani Kay Trask, selections *From a Native Daughter*

WEEK 6

- Lois-Ann Yamanaka *Blu's Hanging*
- Erin Suzuki, "Consuming Desires: Melancholia and Consumption in Blu's Hanging"

WEEK 7

- Lois-Ann Yamanaka *Blu's Hanging*
- Cynthia Wu, "Revisiting Blu's Hanging: A Critique of Queer Transgression in the Lois-Ann Yamanaka Controversy"

PHILIPPINES

WEEK 8

- CONTEXT: Chinese and Americans in the Philippines
- Lino Brocka, *Manila in the Claws of Light*
- Jose Capino, "The Country and the City: Social Melodrama and the Symptoms of Authoritarian Rule"

WEEK 9

- Jessica Hagedorn, selections from *Dogeaters*
- Barbara Jane Reyes, selections from *Poeta en San Francisco*

SPECIAL TOPICS

WEEKS 10 & 11