

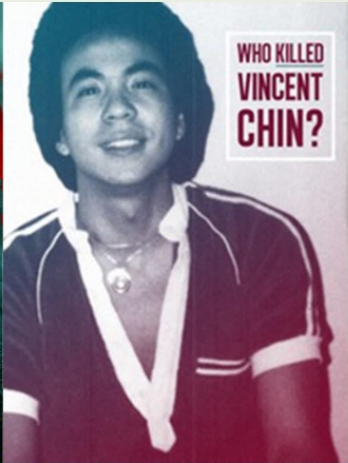
LTCS 119 / CGS 119

Asian American Film and Media:  
Transpacific Film and Media Culture

Tue Thu 5-7:50pm, HSS 1315

Summer Session I 2024

Instructor: Wentao Ma, Dept of Literature | w4ma@ucsd.edu



In this course, we investigate the significance of so-called Asian American Cinema and media by reshaping what it refers to within waves of transpacific movement in the history. We will learn the process of how AAPI community has formulated their own complex of emotion, desire, and trauma through critical analysis of selected works with a variety of genres from action film, documentary, melodrama, to stand-up comedy. We also go beyond the scope of AAPI, to find solidarity in other media phenomena that are hard to fit in any existing frameworks (for instance, Asian-Latin American cinema), as well as the popularization of culinary programs as “food porn” and K-dramas on streaming service. By analyzing these cultural artifacts, we strive to grasp the resilience, the endurance, and the societal resistance that characterize the Asian diaspora’s response to the pervasive forces of white supremacy, sexism, xenophobia, and internal hierarchies.

Our journey includes seminal works such as *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* (1983), *Forgetting Vietnam* (2015), *Havana Divas* (2018), *The Farewell* (2019), *Vai* (2019), *Pachinko* (2022), *Shogun* (2024). With a spotlight on prominent voices including *Margaret Cho*, *Lisa Ling*, *Wilfredo Lam*, *Trinh T. Minh-ha*, and *Wayne Wang*, we aim to illuminate the rich tapestry of perspectives within the transpacific landscape of artistry.

This course fulfills the course requirement for **media concentration** and the **DEI requirement**