

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

Undergraduate Council  
 New Course  Course Change  
 Core Category: \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Fall 2006

or

Graduate/Professional Studies Council  
 New Course  Course Change  
 Effective Fall \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED JAN 25 2006

- Department: Asian American Studies Center College: EDUC
- Person Submitting Form: Dr. Yali Zou Telephone: 713-743-4982
- Course Information on New/Revised course:
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:  
CUST / 4321 / Vietnamese American Community and Its Culture
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)  
CUST / 4321 / VIET/AM/COM & CULTURE VIET AMER COMMON + CULTURE
  - SCH: 3.00 Level: SR CIP Code: 0502060001 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0
- Justification for adding/changing course: Successfully taught as a selected topics course
- Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, please complete:
  - Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:  
CUST / 4397 / Vietnamese American Community & Its Culture
  - Content ID: 296163 Start Date (yyyy3): 20053
- Is this course offered for undergraduate credit only?  Yes  No
- Authorized Degree Program(s): MINOR in Asian American Studies
  - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department?  Yes  No
  - Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments?  Yes  No
  - Are special fees attached to this course?  Yes  No
  - Can the course be repeated for credit?  Yes  No
- Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture
- If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title  
CUST / 4397 / Vietnamese American Community & Its Culture
  - Start Date (yyyy3): 20053 Content I.D.: 296163
- Proposed Catalog Description: ENGL 1304  
 Cr: (3.0) Prerequisites: NONE Description (30 words max.): CUST 4321: Vietnamese American Community & Its Culture. Cr. 3 (3.0) An interdisciplinary approach analyzing Vietnam culture, thought and religion, and their implications on the building and empowerment of the Vietnamese American Community in the United States.

RECEIVED OCT 04 2005

11. Dean's Signature: Robert H. McPherson Date: 9/28/05

Print/Type Name: Dr. Robert H. McPherson

## VIETNAMESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND ITS CULTURE

CUST 4397, SECTION 0108, ROOM 336 FH

**Instructor:** Dr. Long S. Le     **E-mail:** longle\_us@yahoo.com

**Office & Office Hours:** TBA     **Phone:** TBA

**For Updates, Please Visit:** [www.uh.edu/~lsle4397syllabus.html](http://www.uh.edu/~lsle4397syllabus.html)

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**Course Goals and Description.** This course is designed for study of Vietnamese American community and its culture in the United States. Topics will include Vietnam history and culture, Vietnamese thought and religion, settlement and community capacity, and community issues, including, but limited to, economic empowerment, homeland politics, and social capital. This course offers opportunity for students to compare and analyze the above topics in the context of contemporary Asian American as well as to other overseas Vietnamese in Australia, France, and Germany. This course will also provide opportunity for students to link personal experiences to the larger collective facts of "Vietnamese America."

Videos and readings in literature, history, politics, psychology, sociology, and cultural studies will be assigned. Two exams, a web/research project, and some interviewing or fieldwork will be required.

### **Required Text Books:**

- *Understanding Vietnam* [Culture] by Neil L. Jamieson
- *From Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia: A Refugee Experience in the United States* by Hein, Jeremy
- A Course Reader compiled by Long Le.

*The assigned readings are to be completed prior to attending class lectures. Assigned reading materials should be brought to class.*

**Course Learning Objectives:** With completion of the course, students will have a basic knowledge of scholarly work written by and about Vietnamese Americans; of the multi-faceted nature of Vietnamese culture and community development in the U.S.; but also on the conflicting and simultaneous trends in "Vietnamese America."

The primary assessment of students' accomplishment of the course learning objectives is based on performance on essay exams. See Course Requirements.

To further facilitate the course learning objectives, the concept of critical thinking and active learning are introduced to provide the tools necessary for students to do well in the course and beyond.

1. **Critical Thinking** entails effective communication and problem solving abilities. In a paper, a class activity, a reading assignment, etc, students are encouraged to ask what is the purpose, what is the relevant information, what are the inferences and conclusions, what I am taking for granted, and what are the implications and consequences. See: [www.criticalthinking.org](http://www.criticalthinking.org).

2. "Learning is not a spectator sport." Active Learning is learning by doing. Students learn better when they are involved with their learning. The course's work assignments and activities are designed to acknowledge that students learn in different ways.  
See: [http://cte.umdnj.edu/active\\_learning/active\\_general.cfm](http://cte.umdnj.edu/active_learning/active_general.cfm)

**Course Instructional Objectives:** With completion of the course, students will have a basic knowledge in doing "good analysis" and community learning service on topics related to Vietnamese culture and community development. See Course Requirements.

The primary assessment of students' accomplishment of the course instructional objectives is based on performance on a web/research projects.

1. Good Analysis requires the student to ask the "right" questions and then creatively but logically go about in answering them. See: Weimer & Vining's *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice* (Prentice Hall, 2005).
2. Community Learning Service are encourage to promote civic participation, build community capacity, and enhance the educational process. See: <http://www.umich.edu/~mserve/>

### **Course Requirements:**

2 ESSAY EXAMS: 50 percent of the final grade.

First: 25 %

Second: 25 %

A WEB/RESEARCH PROJECT: 30 percent of the final grade. You will develop a web/research project relating to a cultural production or a community issue in the Vietnamese American community. The objective: to obtain an analytical/critical understanding of a specific course topic/issue that will be included on the course's webpage, so as to inform your peers and the general public about this issue. \* *Students are highly encouraged to discuss and get advice for their web/research project with the instructor before the noted deadlines.*

An Outline of the Web/Research Project: 10 percent and due anytime before Week 9.

A final Web/Research Project: 20 percent and due anytime before Week 16.

HOMEWORK: 20 percent of the final grade. Throughout the course, homework will be assigned to reinforce and assess the course's learning objectives.

EXTRA CREDIT: Up to 4 points added to the final grade. Throughout the course, extra credit will be assigned to further assess and reinforce the course's learning objectives and instructional objectives. These extra assignments must be done in a timely manner, as specified by me. Please take advantage of this opportunity. Other requests to do extra work to improve your grade will be denied, please do not ask.

## **SPRING 2005 GENERAL CALENDAR: VIETNAMESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY & CULTURE**

WEEK 1 Introduction

Vietnamese History

WEEK 2 Vietnamese Culture on Thought and Religion, Modernity, Family, Gender, and Youth

WEEK 3	Vietnamese Culture on the World and Politics
WEEK 4	Western Influences on Vietnamese Culture
WEEK 5	Initial Community Settlement
WEEK 6	Making Place & the Significance of Context
WEEK 7	Dealing with Psychological Traumas & the Significant of Support
WEEK 8	Legal Adaptation
	<b>Review and Exam I</b>
WEEK 9	The Significance of Social Capital on Community Capacity & Building
	<b>Outline for Web/Research Project Due</b>
WEEK 10	Community Building: Economic Empowerment & Class Relations
WEEK 11	Community Building: Leaders, Politics, and Political Incorporation
WEEK 12-13	Community Building: Social, Political, Cultural Productions
WEEK 14	Community Issues
WEEK 15	Homeland Politics & Longing for “Home”
WEEK 16	<b>Review and Exam II</b>
	<b>FinalWeb/Research Project Due on</b>

### WEEK 1-8 READING CALENDAR: VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN HISTORY

WEEK 1	Jan. 18: Introduction Jan 20: In The Reader/Week 1-4: Salemink’s One Country.
WEEK 2	Jan 25: In the Reader/Week 1-4: Marr’s A Passion for Modernity; McLeod & Nguyen’s Thought and Religion. Jan 27: In the Reader/Week 1-4: McLeod & Nguyen’s Family, Gender, and Youth Culture; Jamieson’s required text chap. 1
WEEK 3	Feb 1: Jamieson’s required text chap. 2 Feb 3: Jamieson’s required text chap. 4
WEEK 4	Feb 8 Jamieson’ required text chap. 5 Feb.10 Jamieson’s required text chap. 6
WEEK 5	Feb.15 In the Reader/Week 5-8: Zhou & Bankston’s Displacement; Zhou & Bankston’s Resettlement. Feb.17 In Reader/Week 5-8: Rutledge’s Initial Resettlement; Wood’s Vietnamese American Place Making.
WEEK 6	Feb.22 Hein’s required text chap. 4 Feb.24Hein’s required text chap 5
WEEK 7	3/1 In Reader/Week 5-8: Starr & Roberts’ Community Structure 3/3 In Reader/Week 5-8: Tran and et al.’sPsychological Traumas; Tran&Wright’s Social Support
WEEK 8	3/8 Review of Exam I <b>3/10Exam I</b>
WEEK 9	3/22 In Reader/Week 9-11: Zhou & Bankston’s Social Capital Formation; Goyette’s Family and Non-Family Roots of Social Capital 3/24 In Reader/Week 9-11: Zhou & Bankston’s Social Capital and the Adaptation of the Second Generation
	<b>Outline for Web/Research Project Due</b>
WEEK 10	3/29 In Reader/Week 9-11: Yamane’s The Labor Market Status of Foreign Born Vietnamese Americans;
WEEK 11	4/5 Hein’s required text chap. 8 4/7 In Reader/Week 9-11: Leon’s Class Relations in the Viet Community