



Engl 3780
Literatures of Global Asias
David S. Roh, PhD

Course Description

If the nineteenth century was marked by a cultural and political focus on the United Kingdom, and the twentieth century by the United States, then what does the twenty-first bring? In the fall of 2011, the Obama administration introduced a new direction in foreign policy—the “pivot” toward the Pacific as the United States shifted its gaze to the Asia Pacific. The administration’s declaration was the culmination of a series of maneuvers that long preceded it, but it would mark the beginning of the twenty-first century’s focus on the rise of global Asias. However, there are nuances that can only be captured through a cultural and literary lens; the Asia Pacific is not a monolith, but many different countries with a wide array of cultures and histories. This course focuses on Asian and Asian American literatures that are global in scope, scale, and imagination; it interrogates the transnational flow of Asian and Asian American labor, capital, bodies, and culture.

Reading Materials

Primary Texts	Hagedorn, Jessica. <i>Dogeaters</i> .
	Hwang, David Henry. <i>M. Butterfly</i> .
	Lee, Chang-rae. <i>A Gesture Life</i> .
	Nguyen, Viet Thanh. <i>The Sympathizer</i> .
	Murakami, Haruki. <i>Dance Dance Dance</i> .
	Lahiri, Jhumpa. <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> .
	Kim, Young-ha. <i>Your Republic is Calling You</i> .
	Lin, Tao. <i>Taipei</i> .
	Miyuki, Miyabe. <i>All She Was Worth</i> .

Requirements

1. Attendance and participation (30%).
2. Midterm Exam I (10%).
3. Midterm Exam II (10%).
4. Final Exam (cumulative; 15%).
5. Essay I (3-4 pgs.; 15%).
6. Essay II (6-7 pgs.; 20%).