



## ASAM 2110-401 (HIST 1120)

# YELLOW PERIL, RED SCARE: COLD WAR ASIA IN AMERICA

W 1:45 PM-4:44 PM

Amidst fears of "rising" China and the specter of a Russia-North Korea alliance, how does the legacy of the Cold War continue to influence American perceptions of Asian/Americans? This course explores how the Cold War in Asia has shaped dominant ideas about race, loyalty, and citizenship, with particular consequences for both Asians and Asian Americans. As decolonization movements in Asia confronted a growing US empire, Cold War paranoia became linked to longstanding tropes of Asian invasion—merging the so-called “Yellow Peril” and “Red Scare” in the American imagination. Taking a cultural history approach, students will draw on both primary sources and popular media to examine the Cold War emergence of lingering tropes such as the communist spy, the war bride, the peasant insurgent, and the model minority. Topics covered include the Korean and Vietnam Wars, McCarthyism, the Third World movement, Asian/American military service, Cold War refugee policy, anti-imperialist activism, and the legacy of Cold War geopolitics in Asia today.



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**Course Instructor:**

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