Class website: madap.tome.press

Mapping Asian/Americas Art
Latin American and Iberian Cultures
Graduate Seminar
Columbia University
Professor Ana Paulina Lee
Email: apl2147@columbia.edu
Spring 2017

*Please note: This course requires willingness to work collectively and collaboratively. In addition to learning about Asian diasporic history and critical race theory, you will master basic spatial mapping techniques through online tutorials and in consultation with the spatial data librarian at Butler. The course is likely to involve a significant time commitment.*

**Course Description**

This course's line of inquiry will combine critical race theory with digital mapping technology. In this practice-driven seminar, graduate students will conduct research on Asian diasporic artistic practice through tracking cultural production and circulation in the hemispheric Americas. Through using Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping software, students will explore what constitutes the material, sensorial and imagined borders of Asian/Americas Art through the practice of mapping and creating data sets.

Course readings, discussions, and research projects will examine questions as, how do we map the contours of Asian diasporic artistic practice?  By bringing together studies about race and ethnicity with mapping theory about borders and spatial divides, we will explore the following questions: What constitutes an Asian diasporic artistic practice? How do we define ethnic borders? What are the networks of Asian diasporic spaces? What does population density or physical borders teach us about the intersection of nation, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and gender? How do we visualize the density of social relations that cannot be limited to identity? How can we map histories of racialization and racial formation? What are the limits of using data visualization for tracking diasporic artistic production? How does mapping technology create new archives about the body? How does the transnational circulation and commodification of ethnicity through terms like diasporic art, music, and performance disrupt or reinforce these borders? With the interdisciplinary aim of bringing together mapping software, art history, architecture and urban studies, literary and cultural studies, this course will be a mixture of hands-on mapping labs, research working groups, and seminar-style discussion.

**Course Expectations**

Each course will spend the first half on discussions from the reading, and then we will break into a workshop or studio lab for the remainder of the course. We will also be finding, making and collecting data sources to create a final class ebook titled *Mapping Asian Diasporic Artistic Practice* (MADAP). Throughout the semester, we will question what is applicable to making and collecting data, and what might not be directly related but could give us context.

For labs: Come with computers and QGIS installed.  What are you working through? What have you tested? The labs are an opportunity to discuss what you and your group are finding. What questions are arising? How do your analyses relate to readings? What are patterns that are becoming apparent in the data sets and maps you are constructing?

1. **Spatial mapping exercises** (2) **group work**: 30%

Class website: madap.tome.press

2. **Discussion posts and Class Participation** (20%): Over the course of the semester each student will post at least ten (10) critical responses (one to two paragraphs) on the week's assigned readings to CourseWorks by 6:00 PM Wednesdays. The weekly critical response should include comments on issues raised by one or more of the assigned readings as well as questions you want to raise in class. You are strongly encouraged to read the responses of your colleagues prior to class. You are also encouraged to post media, images, or links, etc. that relate to themes from that days readings or previous discussions.

3. **Facilitation** (20%) Each student will present for 10 minutes on a reading in our syllabus. The presenter will also facilitate the first 20 minutes of discussion on the day of the scheduled presentation.

4. **Final Project or Paper** (30%) You will work in small groups throughout the course. You will work through basic tutorials that will enable you to complete a set of spatial mapping exercises in a collaborative context, and then complete a final project for the course that will be developed in consultation with me.

**Due Dates for Spatial Mapping Assignments at a Glance**
(See **Appendix** at the end of the syllabus for details of each assignment, resources available to guide you, etc.)

**Friday, January 27**
a) First QGIS tutorial to be completed. No submission required.
b) Submit 2 examples of good spatial mapping projects that you have found online to to the class. (Not syllabi, or courses, but completed projects). Due by 9PM Sunday, January 29

**Friday, February 10:**
Geo-referencing assignment due. Submit to class as PDFs.

**\*\*\*Final project due Friday, May 12, 2017\*\*\***

January 18: Introduction

Todd Presner, *Thick Mapping in the Digital Humanities*

http://www.hypercities.com

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtGdfiwrJSQ

**Introductory QGIS Workshop**

January 25

Syllabus developed as part of *Mapping for the Urban Humanities* course, Summer 2016
Center for Spatial Research, Columbia University

Class website: madap.tome.press

Henri Lefebvre, *The Production of Space* (Introduction; Chapter 2, "Social Space"; Chapter 4 "From Absolute Space to Abstract Space) (electronic book on CLIO)

February 1

Margo Machida, Unsettled Visions: Contemporary Asian American Artists and the Social Imaginary (Introduction, Chapter1)

February 8

Margo Machida, Unsettled Visions: Contemporary Asian American Artists and the Social Imaginary (Chapters 2 and 3)

February 15
Margo Machida, Unsettled Visions: Contemporary Asian American Artists and the Social Imaginary (Chapter 4)

Jenny Wills, "Paradoxical Essentialism" (CLIO)

February 22

Su Zheng, *Claiming Diaspora: Music, Transnationalism, and Cultural Politics in Asian/Chinese America* (Introduction and Chapter 1)

March 1

Su Zheng, *Claiming Diaspora: Music, Transnationalism, and Cultural Politics in Asian/Chinese America* (Chapter 4 "Music Here and Now: A Diasporic Soundscape in a Global City" and Chapter 5: " Mapping the Local Geocultural Processes of Music Production, Consumption, and (Re) Presentations

March 8

Jeffrey Lesser, "Japanese, Brazilians, Nikkei: A Short History of Identity Building and Homemaking" *Searching for Home Abroad*

Daniel Linger, "Do Japanese Brazilians Exist?" *Searching for Home Abroad*

March 15

Spring Break

March 22

Ien Ang "No Longer Chinese? Residual Chinesenss after the Rise of China" In *Contemporary Chinese Studies Reader* (Electronic book on CLIO)

Syllabus developed as part of *Mapping for the Urban Humanities* course, Summer 2016
Center for Spatial Research, Columbia University

Class website: madap.tome.press

Sau-Ling C. Wong, "Dancing in the Diaspora: Cultural Long-Distance Nationalism" and the Staging of Chineseness by San Francisco Chinese Folk Dance Association" (In *Contemporary Chinese Studies Reader* (Electronic book on CLIO)

March 29

David Eng, *The Feeling of Kinship: Queer Liberalism and the Racialization of Intimacy*. (Introduction and Chapter 5 "The Feeling of Kinship: Affect and Language"

April 5

Performance: LIGHT (TBD)

April 12

Denise Uyehara, *Maps of City & Body*

April 19

Karen Tei Yamashita, *Circle K Cycles*

April 26

Final presentations

**APPENDIX: DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS**

Resources for Help with QGIS
1) Eric Glass (Lehman Library)

2) Dare Ann Brawley (CSR)

**Task:**
Students will download QGIS, and complete Tutorials 00 and 01

**Instructions for how to download QGIS:**
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Resources/DownloadingQGIS.md

**Getting familiar with the QGIS interface:**
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Resources/QGIS_InterfaceDescription.md

**Mapping Data 00**
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/01_MappingData00.md

Syllabus developed as part of *Mapping for the Urban Humanities* course, Summer 2016
Center for Spatial Research, Columbia University

Class website: madap.tome.press

**Mapping Data 01**
https://github.com/CenterForSpatialResearch/MappingForTheUrbanHumanities/blob/master/Tutorials/02_MappingData01.md

** In general students should look around the github page from the bootcamp especially in the resources folder.

** CSRs website also has a library of tutorials that students might find useful especially for their final projects: http://c4sr.columbia.edu/tutorials