



LTCS 119 / CGS 119

PLEASURE & PROTEST

ASIAN AMERICAN CINEMA (1980-PRESENT)

FALL 2021 – MWF 11:00-11:50AM – PROF. NGUYEN TAN HOANG

The course explores the embrace of "crazy rich Asians" and the branding of Asians as the "kung flu." We examine how Asian American filmmakers have protested toxic media representations of Asian Americans; at the same time, we look at how they have articulated the pleasure and joy of Asian American lives. We will study a range of media genres, including narrative fiction, documentary, experimental shorts, and digital media. Films may include Who Killed Vincent Chin? (1987), History and Memory (1991), Terminal USA (1993), Better Luck Tomorrow (2002), Saving Face (2004), Crazy Rich Asians (2018), and Minari (2020). Assignments may include short film analyses, a midterm, and a final video essay. The course satisfies DEI & AAPI Studies Minor requirements.