



Course Code: WW44

Room: ILLC Room 226 (International Room)

Course Description

This course will present the historical and political background and conditions that led to the war in Asia, as well as the significant events, the atrocities, the aftermath, and the stages of peace and reconciliation. Forgotten voices of World War II in Asia will be examined from four critical dimensions: socio-political, ethical, social activism, and leadership. Through these four aspects, the course hopes to engage participants in thoughtful discussion and questions that connect WW II in Asia to contemporary issues of war, justice, reconciliation, and peace.

Course Format Lecture (25-30 minutes) + 15-20 minutes discussion

Instructor: Carolina S. Ruiz, Research and Resource Development Associate

LECTURE NO. 1

An Overview of the Asia-Pacific War

Recommended Background Reading/s

A History of the Asia-Pacific War, An Overview, Chapter 1 of ALPHA Education Resource Book

Chapter 1 and Chapter 11 of "War without Mercy: Race & Power in the Pacific War" by John W. Dower

On Asian Wars, Reparations and Reconciliation by Mark Selden, Commentary (Economic and Political Weekly), 2001

LECTURE NO. 2

Military Sexual Slavery during WWII and the Politics of Denial

Recommended Viewing: The Apology (Excerpts)

Recommended Readings:

The Japanese Imperial System and the Korean "Comfort Women" of World War II by Bonnie B.C. Oh from Legacies of the Comfort Women of WWII, Margaret Stetz and Bonnie B.C. Oh (Eds), p. 3-21

The "Comfort Women" by George Hicks, Chapter 10 from The Japanese Wartime Empire, 1931-1945, Peter Duus et. al. (Eds), p.305-323.

Operations of Memory: "Comfort Women" and the World by Carol Gluck from Ruptured Histories War, Memory and the Post-Cold War in Asia, Shiela Miyoshi Jagger and Rana Mitter, p. 47-77

LECTURE NO. 3

Human Experimentation and Biological & Chemical Warfare during WWII and the Post-War Cover-up

Recommended Viewing: U731 Documentary

Recommended Readings:

Death Factories by Sheldon Harris, Chapter I from his book, Factories of Death, Japanese Biological Warfare, 1932-45, and the American Cover-up, p. 3-12

Ping Fan's version of Hell, Chapter 5 of Factories of Death, Japanese Biological Warfare, 1932-45, and the American Cover-up, p. 41-56

Data Generated in Japan's Bio warfare Experiments on Human Victims in China and the Ethics of using them by Till Bärninghausen, Chapter 4 from Japan's Wartime Medical Atrocities: Comparative Inquiries in Science, history and ethics, Nie, Guo, Selden, Kleinman (Eds), p. 81-106

The Legacies of the Tokyo Trials (IMTFE), Revisiting the Promise of Human Rights

Recommended Viewing: The Tokyo Trial (on Netflix), a 4-part mini-series (Episodes are approx. 48 minutes each so you may want to view them in advance)

Recommended Readings:

The Origins of International Criminal Justice by Andrew Novak from his book, The International Criminal Court: An Introduction, p. 7-20 (emphasis on pages 7-11 regarding the Tokyo Trial and Nuremberg)