ASC 101-3 Introduction to Asia-Canada Studies I

Semester: Spring 2016 (1161)  J100  Harbour Centre
Instructor: Dr. Simon Nantais  snantais@sfu.ca

COURSE CONTENT In this course, students will learn the history of Canada-Asia relations in the 19th and 20th centuries, with a special emphasis on Canada and East Asia. This course will aid in gaining a deeper understanding of present and historical issues related to Canada and the Transpacific, such as trade, immigration, and the environment. A book review of Muriel Kitagawa’s This Is My Own will allow students to read a first-person account of life as a Japanese-Canadian during and after the Second World War. It is expected there will be a field trip consisting of a guided tour of Chinatown, the old Japantown, and the sites of the 1907 anti-Asian riots.

A key focus of the course will be to examine the nature of Canada’s relations over the 20th century, first from its colonial status in the British Empire, then its pro-West position under the American nuclear umbrella during the Cold War, and finally searching for a new identity in the post-Cold War world. What trends and continuities can be observed in this relationship? How have domestic attitudes towards Asia and Asian immigration shaped Canadian policy?

REQUIRED TEXTS

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Field Trip Report  10%
Book Review: This Is My Own: Letters to Wes and Other Writings on Japanese Canadians, 1941-1948  30%
Midterm Test  30%
Final examination  30%

***This is a required course for the Asia-Canada Minor and Extended Minor programs.

This course is designated B-HUM and meets the Breadth-Humanities undergraduate degree requirements.