

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018



The logo of the University of Maryland, featuring a circular emblem with a yellow and red checkered pattern and the text "UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND" and the year "1856".



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OUR TEAM



FACULTY

- Julie Park, PhD**
Director, Associate Professor, Sociology
- Janelle Wong, PhD**
Professor, American Studies
- Terry Park, PhD**
Lecturer
- K. Ahn Do, PhD**
Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow
- Gem Daus, MA**
Adjunct Lecturer
- Phil Tajitsu Nash, Esq**
Adjunct Lecturer
- Tuyet Duong, JD**
Adjunct Lecturer

AFFILIATE FACULTY

- Sharada Balachandran Orihuea, PhD**
Assistant Professor, English
- Feinian Chen, PhD**
Professor, Sociology
- Perla Guerrero, PhD**
Assistant Professor, American Studies
- Derek Iwamoto, PhD**
Assistant Professor, Psychology
- Esther Kim Lee, PhD**
Professor, Theatre
- Jason Kuo, PhD**
Professor, Art History

Seung-Kyung Kim, PhD

Professor Emerita, Women's Studies

Sunmin Lee, PhD

Associate Professor, Public Health

Jan Padios, PhD

Assistant Professor, American Studies

Julie J. Park, PhD

Associate Professor, Education

Joann Prosser, PhD

Director of Assessment and Research,
Residential Life

Sangeeta Ray, PhD

Professor, English and
Comparative Literature

Jon Sumida, PhD

Professor, History

Ashwini Tambe, PhD

Associate Professor, Women's Studies

Cixin Wang, PhD

Assistant Professor, School Psychology

Edlie L. Wong, PhD

Professor, English

Colleen Woods, PhD

Assistant Professor, History

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Research Assistant

DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND ILLUSTRATION BY SARA CHA

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



We are a growing and dynamic program of study that explores the histories, experiences, and positionings of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.

First established in 2000, the Asian American Studies Program offers social, political, cultural, psychological, and historical approaches to understanding our diverse and rapidly growing community. Our students learn how to navigate multiple and intersecting identities, how racial categories are continually (re)constructed with various consequences, and how representation and inclusion are vital yet often remain elusive. As the fastest growing race-ethnic group with members from many different origins, the experiences of Asian Americans also speaks to how migration and transnationalism affect identity and belonging.

Asian American Studies at the University of Maryland offers a vibrant program and support for our students with our 15-credit minor and scholarship programs. Our faculty members are excellent researchers and teachers dedicated to their students and the advancement of Asian American Studies. We also strive to be a resource for the larger community through the sharing of faculty research, talks and workshops, and other opportunities for meaningful dialogue.

It is my honor and pleasure to begin my appointment as the Asian American Studies Program Director. I first arrived at the University of Maryland in 2008 as a jointly-appointed assistant professor in Asian American Studies and Sociology. The Program has gone through many changes in the past decade and has grown due to students, faculty, and community partners who are consistently passionate about Asian American Studies. We will build on our strengths to have a greater impact for our University of Maryland students and our communities.

Julie Park, PhD
Director, Asian American Studies Program
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

ABOUT THE ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

The Asian American Studies Program (AAS) at the University of Maryland provides students with the opportunity to critically study the experiences of Asian Americans. Through an interdisciplinary academic curriculum and student-centered programming, students examine the histories, communities, and cultures of people of Asian origin in the United States. The curriculum and programs reflect historically marginalized perspectives and underscore the University's commitment to supporting the intellectual development of a diverse student population.

GROWING # OF AAST MINORS		
	Minors Enrolled	Minors Awarded
SPRING 2017	41	14
SPRING 2018	50	20

Created in 2000, AAST is the result of student engagement and activism. In 1995, UMD undergraduate students initiated a movement to create the Asian American Studies Program. Over the next three years, with the support of key staff, faculty, and community stakeholders, students continued an active campaign for a new program through teach-ins, high school visits, media outreach, protests, sit-ins, and informational sessions at Stamp. In 1998, Provost Daniel Fallon endorsed a proposal to create an Asian American Studies Program and a steering committee to develop a curriculum and identify professors. In 2000, the University Senate approved the proposal and the AAST program was launched.

AAS offers a 15-credit minor program for students who wish to develop a specialization in Asian American Studies alongside their degree pursuits. It also offers robust academic and student-centered programming that highlights key themes in Asian American Studies, including literature and the arts, demographic change, race and politics, and leadership development.



ASIAN AMERICANS MAKE UP AN INCREASING PORTION OF UMD UNDERGRADUATES.

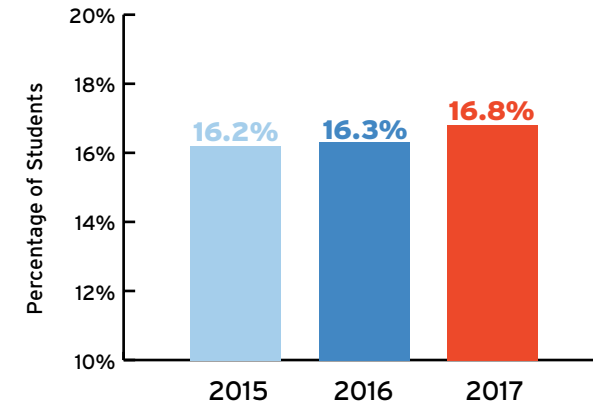
536 STUDENTS

Took Asian American Studies courses in AY 2017-2018.

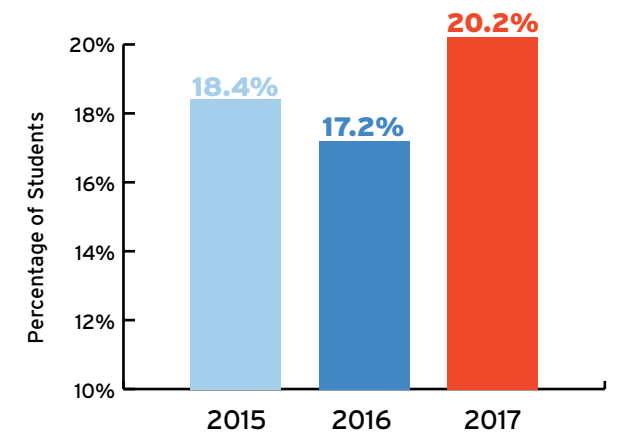
50 STUDENTS

Were enrolled in the Asian American Studies minor in Spring 2018

% OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS ASIAN AMERICAN



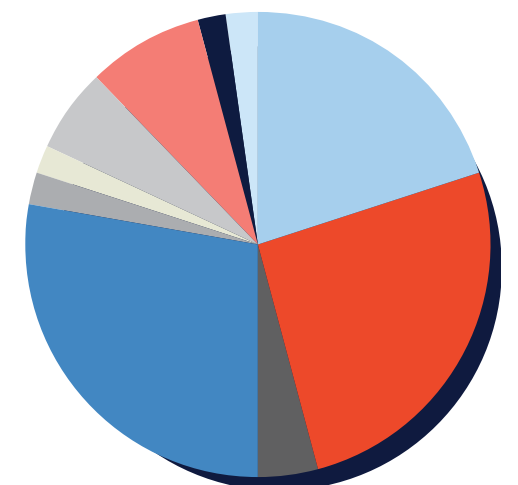
% OF NEW FIRST-TIME STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS ASIAN AMERICAN



Asian American Studies minors represent majors in every school and college on campus.

AAS MINORS REPRESENTATION IN UMD SCHOOLS/COLLEGES

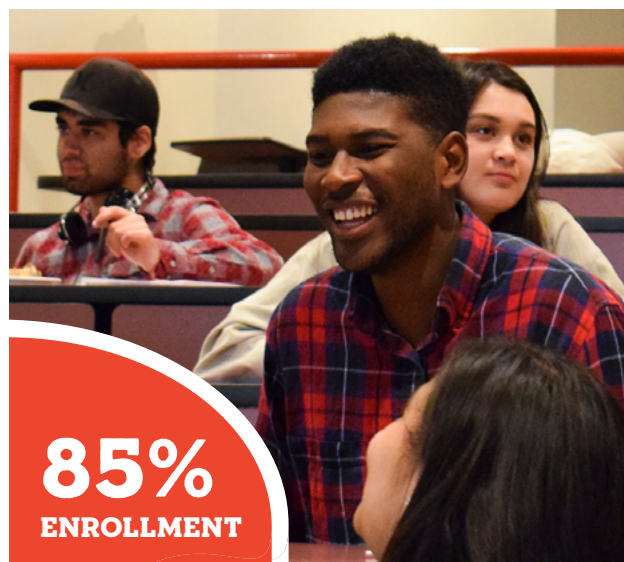
- College of Arts and Humanities 10
- College of Behavioral and Social Sciences 13
- Robert H. Smith School of Business 2
- College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences 14
- A. James Clark School of Engineering 1
- Philip Merrill College of Journalism 1
- College of Information Studies 3
- School of Public Health 4
- School of Public Policy 1
- Undecided/Undeclared Letters & Science 1



COURSE OFFERINGS & ENROLLMENT

In FY18, AAST offered 26 multidisciplinary classes and filled more than 530 seats. It is worth noting that over the course of the past five years, AAST has more than doubled the number of minors enrolled in the program. In FY13, just 22 students were enrolled as AAST minors. In FY17, 41 students were enrolled and 14 students graduated with an AAST minor. In FY18, 50 students were enrolled and 20 students graduated with an AAST minor.

FALL 2017 COURSE	Seats Issued	Seats Offered
AAST200/AMST298C	39	40
AAST201	30	30
AAST222	37	40
AAST298A/AMST298I	7	10
AAST378	3	2
AAST388	7	5
AAST398B/PLCY359A	24	25
AAST398D/AMST328J	18	35
AAST398E/AMST328V	29	30
*AAST398F/AMST328L	25	25
AAST398L	29	20
AAST443	26	40
*AAST498D/THET498D	21	20
*AAST498I/HESI418A	3	20
AAST498J/AMST498Q/PSYC489Z	19	25
AAST498M	19	20
Fall 2017 Semester Totals	336	397



SPRING 2018 COURSE	Seats Issued	Seats Offered
AAST200/AMST298C	40	40
AAST201	28	30
AAST298J	16	20
AAST378	8	6
AAST388	3	10
*AAST398J/ENGL349J	23	25
AAST398M	29	30
*AAST398R/HIST428F	23	30
AAST498B/SOCY498G	20	20
*AAST498Z/ENGL479Z	10	20
Spring 2018 Semester Totals	200	231

SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECIPIENTS

MAJOR GENERAL ANTONIO TAGUBA PROFILES IN COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship recognizes undergraduates who demonstrate scholarship and outstanding leadership.

Asma Shah is a Junior Criminology and Criminal Justice major with Computer Science & Creative Writing minors. She is an Honors Intern at the US Department of Justice, where she does counter-terrorism research focused on extremist ideology and motivations. After graduation, Asma plans to continue a career in law enforcement doing counter-terrorism work.



Daoyou Zhou is a Sophomore Criminology and Criminal Justice major with Chinese Language and Global Terrorism minors. As a Cadet in the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, he has chosen to study criminology, global terrorism, and the Chinese language so that he can best serve his country. He hopes to live up to the example General Taguba has set up for Asian-Americans and all Americans in the Armed Forces.

This scholarship encourages undergraduates who demonstrate strength in academics and leadership, especially where such achievement leads to improvement in the lives of Asian Americans.

TIMOTHY J NG SCHOLARSHIP IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES



Diksha Patel is a Biology major on the pre-med track. Her extracurricular involvement revolves around activism and the empowerment of student voices. The Asian American Studies Program has helped her develop a sense of belonging outside her science and pre-med classes, allowing her to simultaneously pursue her passions in biology and activism.

Heather Kim is a Sophomore Broadcast Journalism major and an Asian American Studies minor. She has an academic interest in visual journalism, Asian American Studies, and subjects that help her better understand her own identity as well as the intersections of other people's identities. She wants to pursue a career in photography and work with marginalized communities, highlighting their stories in an appropriate and accurate light.



LINH-THONG HUU NGUYEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This memorial scholarship was established in 2008 by Linh-Thong Huu Nguyen's brother and fellow Terp, Tuan Nguyen, to support undergraduates who are enrolled in the Asian American Studies Minor and demonstrate consistent academic achievement in their studies.



Danielle Ocampo is a Junior Psychology major with Asian American Studies and Human Development minors. She has served with the Asian American Student Union since her freshman year, and values the opportunity to lead within the community. Danielle hopes to pursue counseling psychology with a focus on aiding children and families in marginalized communities. AAST has helped her discover a deep compassion for others, teaching her how to use her voice to stand against societal injustices.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAMMING

Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism

This year AAST invited Darakshan Raja, founder and co-director of Justice for Muslims Collective, to be the inaugural speaker for the Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism. As part of the annual speaker event, Reg Ledesma was awarded the Student Impact Award. More than 60 students, staff, and faculty attended this event.



10th Anniversary of FAST at UMD

AAST celebrated the 10th anniversary of Filipino American Studies at UMD. Gem Daus started teaching Filipino American History and Biography in Fall 2007. Letters from former students were collected by Professor Janelle Wong to create a book to thank Gem Daus.



Chinese American WWII Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Project

AAST facilitated and hosted an on-campus internship project, "Chinese American WWII Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Project," led by Samantha Cheng, involving 8 undergraduate students and an off-campus internship at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

REPEAT? Japanese Americans (1942) & Muslim Americans (2017)

A panel discussion organized by Phil Nash, a long-time AAST adjunct faculty member, featured Zahra Haider, international development professional and Lakshmi Sridaran, Director of National Policy and Advocacy at South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT).



Other co-curricular programming this year focused on deepening the undergraduate experience through Asian American Studies. In Fall 2017, we hosted a screening of *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs* with MICA, and co-sponsored the *No Muslim Ban Ever: History and Solidarity* screening and dialogue about the parallels of Japanese internment during World War II and the recent Muslim Ban.



We also co-sponsored the "Census 2020: Race and Whose Story Counts" conference with the Center for Global Migration Studies.

AAPI Advocates

In partnership with the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) coordinator within the Office of Multicultural Involvement and Community Advocacy (MICA), 8 students served as AAPI advocates who focused on various Asian American issues (e.g. mental health, masculinity, transgender/queer identity, mixed race identity).

Bao Phi Book Reading

In Spring 2018, we hosted Bao Phi, a Vietnamese-American spoken word poet, to read from his latest poetry book and award-winning children's book (attended by 50 students, staff and faculty).



End-of-the-Year Banquet

We celebrated graduating minors and the completion of another successful academic year. Students shared their research, oral history narrators were honored, scholarship recipients were recognized, and Professor Janelle Wong received recognition and appreciation for her 5 years of service as the AAST Director. Over 120 students, staff, community members, and faculty attended.



PERSONNEL

In FY18, AAST underwent several personnel changes.

Dr. Julie Park transitioned in as the new AAST Director. She is a jointly-appointed Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian American Studies. Dr. Park taught "Immigration and Ethnicity in America" and a newly-developed course, "Urban Demography and Community."



Dr. Terry Park, a full-time professional track faculty member, joined the AAST core faculty in Fall 2017 to strengthen its offerings in the Arts and Humanities. Among many of his innovative co-curricular programming activities, Dr. Park developed an interactive, multimedia exhibit, "Memories of Militarism and War: Asian American Oral Histories From the DMV," to be displayed in Hornbake Plaza.



Anne Bautista also joined in Fall 2017 as AAST's new program coordinator and academic advisor. Ms. Bautista has a Master of Education in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs from the University of Southern California. She previously worked as a Student Affairs Officer in the Asian American Studies Department at the University of California, Los Angeles.



Dr. K Anh Do, the inaugural Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow (2016-18), completed her second year with the program and was very active in the program in terms of research, teaching and community engagement. Along with AAST affiliate faculty member Dr. Cixin Wang and AAST core faculty member Dr. Janelle Wong, Dr. Do co-founded Connect!, a newsletter for Asian-American parents and children. Dr. Do has accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore in the Department of Human Ecology.



PROGRAM SUPPORT

Thank you to our donors!

AAST would like to thank our generous donors. The program received more than **\$21,000** in external donations in the past year. The programs also thanks the donors for the Calvin J. Li Fellowship in Asian American Studies, the Linh-Thong Huu Nguyen Endowed Scholarship, the Guerzon Tablang-Jimenez Family TerpStart Endowed Scholarship in Asian American Studies, and the Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism and Impact Award.

Dr. Terry Park also garnered private gifts to fully fund a trip for 40 students (in the Introduction to Asian American Studies course) to attend a showing of **M. Butterfly** at the Everyman Theater in Baltimore.



RECOGNITION



Donna B. Hamilton Teaching Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Through student nominations, Dr. Julie Park was awarded the *The Donna B. Hamilton Teaching Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching - Office of Undergraduate Studies Program Teaching Award*. The award recognized the impact of Dr. Park's newly developed course, "Urban Demography and Community."



PCEMI - Minority Achievement Award

AAST was awarded the 2018 President's Commission on Ethnic Minority Issues (PCEMI) Instructional Unit- Minority Achievement Award. This award recognizes the program's accomplishments and contributions to advancing the University's teaching, research, and service to ethnic minorities, noting the scope and content of its courses, the number and range of students reached through its courses, and the programs provided to the community.

PUBLICATIONS

AAST faculty continue to raise the national profile of AAST.

Dr. Janelle Wong's book, *Immigrants, Evangelicals and Politics in an Era of Demographic Change*, was published in May 2018. Dr. Wong also published articles in *The Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, and *Politics, Groups, and Identities*. Her research and commentary were featured in major news outlets, including the Washington Post, Boston Globe, Bloomberg, and Huffington Post.

AAST Director Julie Park published articles in *Ethnic and Racial Studies* and *International Migration Review*. Dr. Park's commentary was featured in the Washington Post.

Conor Huynh
Kevin Feng
Zaid Khalid
Ryan Mavilla
Katherine Medina
Long Nguyen
Angela Wu



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
KATHERINE MEDINA

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
RYAN MAVILLA

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
INGRID LIM

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
GABRIEL VALLANGCA

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
NANDINI CHOUDHARY

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
ANGELA WU

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
LAUN GU

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
JAKERA WEBB

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
TIHERNA PAKAG

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
KATHY CHEN

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
KRITIKA MAHAJAN

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
MENG CHEN

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
DANIELLE OCAMPO

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
CONOR HUYNH

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
2018
Minor in Asian American Studies
awarded to
CONOR HUYNH



GET INVOLVED

AAST

5 REASONS TO MINOR WITH AAST

- 1 Show potential employers and grad schools you know how to navigate diversity
- 2 Learn about Asian Americans, and also globalization and migration
- 3 Enhance your savvy around race, identity, and culture
- 4 Get to know professors who understand Asian American issues
- 5 Make connections and join a meaningful community of students, faculty, and staff

BE IN THE KNOW

Email aast@umd.edu
to join our email list

Enhance student learning experiences through AAST programming, make a donation at <http://ter.ps/give2aast>