

**PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN LITERATURE  
FALL 2010 SYLLABUS**

**ENGL 256.50-01 / ASIAN 220.06-01**

Prof. Luis Francia  
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Classes: 214 HW HW, Tue, Fri: 9:45 a.m.-11 a.m.  
Office and Office Hours: 1034 HE / TBA

**COLLEGE POLICIES:**

• *Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The college is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Integrity Procedures.*

• *In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities (emotional, medical, physical, and/or learning). Consult the Office of Accessibility located in Rm. 1124 East to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call 212-772-4857 / TTY 212-650-3230.*

**LEARNING GOALS:**

*Because the Philippines was once a colony of the United States, from 1899 to 1946, there exists a continuum between literature in English created in the former colony and the literature written by Filipino Americans. Additionally, many contemporary Filipino-American writers were born in the Philippines. The course therefore examines fiction and poetry written in both countries. The course will enable the student to better appreciate both the historical and social contexts in which Philippine-American literature has evolved, and the diverse aesthetics and themes of individual writers, whether they developed in the Philippines or matured as writers in the United States.*

**TEXTS:**

*Brown River, White Ocean: An Anthology of Twentieth Century Philippine Literature in English*

Luis H. Francia, editor. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University press, 1993. ISBN: 0-8135-1999-3

*America Is in the Heart*, by Carlos Bulosan. Seattle & London: University of Washington Press, 2003. ISBN: 0-295-95289-X

*Flippin': Filipinos on America*. Eds. Luis H. Francia & Eric Gamalinda. New York: the Asian American Writers Workshop, 1996. ISBN: 1-889876-01-1

*Dogeaters*, by Jessica Hagedorn. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. ISBN:0-14-01494-X

ALL TEXTS CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH THE SHAKESPEARE & CO. BOOKSTORE ON LEXINGTON AVENUE, BETWEEN 68<sup>TH</sup> AND 69<sup>TH</sup> STREETS.

**CLASS POLICIES:**

• **ATTENDANCE AND CONDUCT:** Punctual attendance is expected; tardiness is disruptive and habitual tardiness will not be tolerated. Courteous behavior towards everyone in the classroom, even when expressing disagreement, is a must.

- **NOT ALLOWED** in class: the use of cell phones, I-Phones, I-Pods, Blackberry, Twitter or any other form of electronic communication or entertainment device.
- **LAPTOPS:** *Anyone using a laptop must first secure my permission.*
- **ABSENCES:** No more than three excused absences are allowed. More than three will seriously affect the student's final evaluation, and could result in a failing grade.
- **GRADING:** 40 percent of the course grade will be based on short written analytical essays; 25 percent on the Final Paper; 20 percent on class participation and discussion; and 15 percent on attendance and punctuality.

## SCHEDULE

8/27, 8/31; 9/3, 9/7; 9/14, 9/21; 9/24.

[NO CLASS 9/10 & 9/17]

### ***Brown River, White Ocean:***

Introduction

*Stories:* Paras Sulit, Arguilla, Bulosan, Santos, Hamada, Gonzalez, Joaquin, Cordero-Fernando, Dayrit

*Poems:* Garcia Villa, Bulosan, Moreno, Lacaba, Salanga, Zarco

9/28, 10/1; 10/5, 10/8; 10/12, 10/15.

### ***America Is in the Heart:***

Reading and Discussion: Life in Rural Philippines / Voyage to America and Awakening / Labor Organizing, Illness, and Writing / Reaffirmation of Faith in America as an Ideal

*Screening of The Fall of the International Hotel, 10/19.*

10/22, 10/26; 10/29, 11/2; 11/5, 11/9/ 11/12.

### ***Flippin': Filipinos on America***

*Stories:* Gonzalez, Bacho, Gamalinda, Villanueva, Apostol, Stapleton, Linmark, Sandoval

*Poems:* Salanga, Tagami, Wilson, Yuson, Torre Villas, Carino, Cortes, Gloria, Rotor, Cabico

11/16, 11/19; 11/23, 11/30; 12/3, 12/7.

[Thanksgiving Recess: 11/25-11/28]

### ***Dogeaters:***

Introduction to the historical context: the Marcoses and Martial Law.

Readings in five parts, with discussions and written critiques.

12/10: Overview & Recap of course

12/14: Reading Day

12/17: Final Paper due