ASA 150: Filipin@ American Experience
Spring 2015 M/W 2:10-4pm
Professor Robyn Rodriguez

What to expect in this class:

To cultivate critical understandings of:

· What it means to be “Filipin@-American”
· U.S.-Philippine relations
· Why Filipin@s have immigrated to United States/emigrated from the Philippines
· Filipin@s’ experiences working and living in the U.S. and beyond

To offer perspectives on:

· The ways Filipin@s have asserted their/our collective needs historically and in the present

This course helps you to situate the Filipina and Filipino experience in the United States within a historical and structural context. Years ago, I attended a Pilipino Youth Coalition conference in San Jose, CA themed “Know History, Know Self.” It’s a perspective that I found really productive at the time and it is a theme I adopt in this course. To “know self” by “knowing history” is to recognize that despite the diversity of Filipin@/Pin@y/Filipin@-American individual experiences in this country we (because I share this experience) are connected to each other because of our collective historical roots in the Philippines and our displacement from the Philippines to the U.S.

You don’t have to be Filipin@ or Pin@y to benefit from this course. Ultimately, to study the experiences of a specific ethnic/racial immigrant group in the United States is vital to understanding this country from a critical perspective.

Questions? Email Prof. Rodriguez at rrodriguez@ucdavis.edu.