

Tuesday, June 28th, 2022



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER RESOURCE CENTER

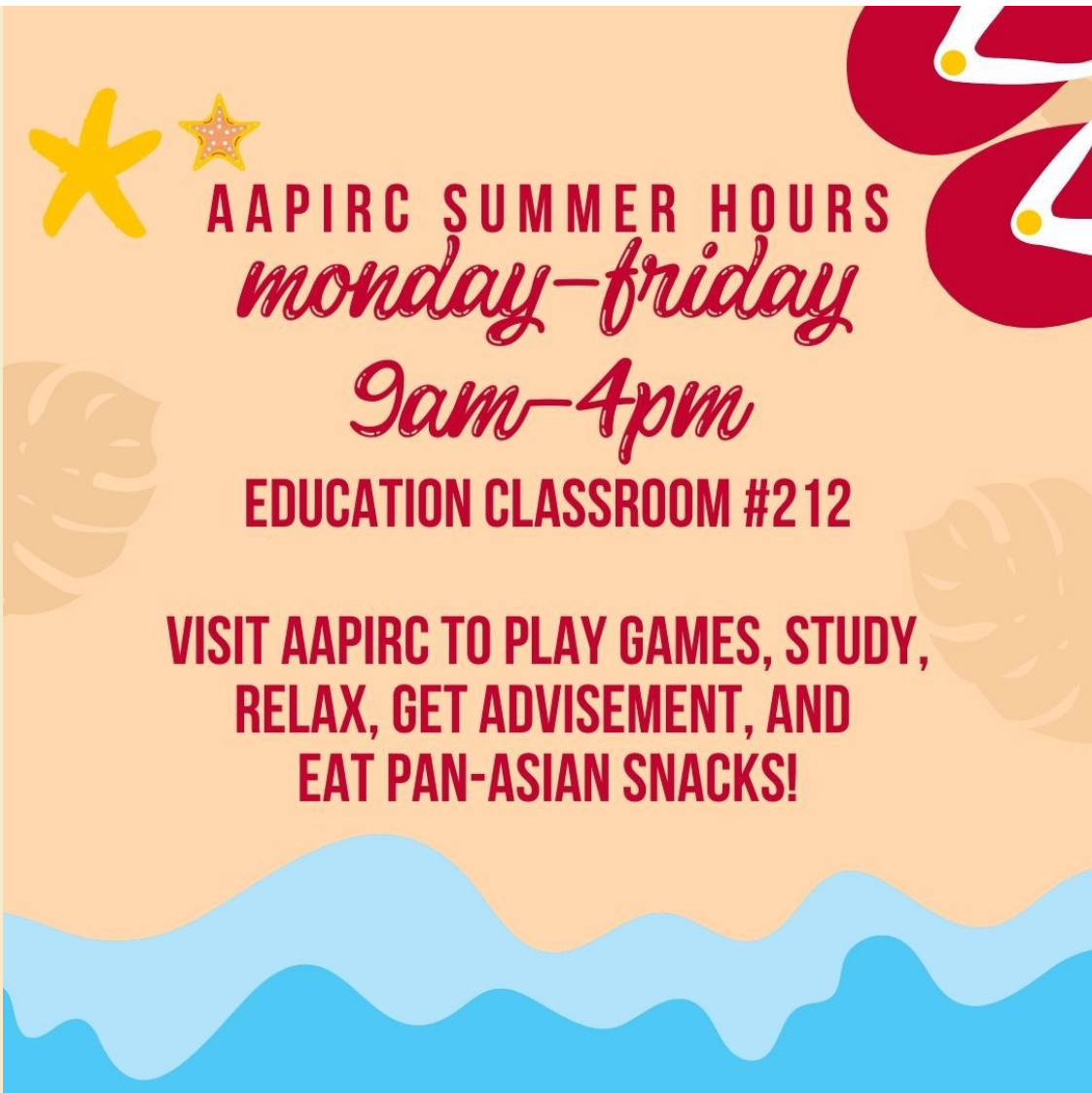
The Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC) was established during the 2021–2022 academic year as a result of a student–led initiative to create a department that supports AAPI students at UNM.

Hello everyone! We have lots of great things to cover this week so let's get right to it. First, we would like to remind you of **our first Qigong session happening tomorrow at 2pm**. Our former yoga instructor, **Dr. Hooi–Ling Lee, is returning to Malaysia this week and is leaving us with a reflection on her time at UNM.**

This will be the final newsletter that includes **the link to our Language Appreciation Circles Interest Survey**. We are very excited and grateful for the interest shown so far!

We explore AAPI history as we acknowledge the **40 year anniversary of Vincent Chin's death** and celebrate new moves in the AAPI community. The next **Visibility Blog post has been written by our newest student employee, Jacob Olaguir!** Find it below and on our website.

Finally, we have some exciting news for the Fall semester. **First, graduate student, Mohammed Rawwas, will start leading an Asian/Middle–Eastern centered reading group.** Second, we have **an exciting new addition to our center thanks to CLCC and ASUNM.** Lastly, check out some **AAPI focused courses available for the Fall 2022 semester.** As always, thank you for your support!



Make an Advisement Appointment Today!



AAPIRC **ADVISEMENT**

AAPIRC is now offering culturally-sensitive advisement with our Associate Director, Farah Nousheen. If you identify as AAPI, we highly recommend you schedule an appointment with Farah at LoboAchieve.unm.edu. Services include financial, academic, and career advisement specifically tailored to meet AAPI students' needs. Even if you don't need these services, we would love to get to know you and hear your ideas for the center!



Upcoming Qigong Session



Unwind this summer semester with...

Yoga & Qigong at AAPIRC!

Wednesdays @ 2pm



*These sessions are open to all
students, staff, and faculty!
Bring your own mat or use
one of AAPIRC's*



ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER
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For all UNM students, staff, instructors, and community members: AAPIRC will be offering an hour of mindfulness, yoga and qigong **every Wednesday at 2pm during the summer semester**. No experience necessary! You can bring your own mat, or use one that is available here.

This week, **we will be welcoming a guest instructor, Pamela Hong!** Pam has been studying and practicing various styles of yoga since 1993, and teaching since 2002. Her flow-based classes are infused with imaginative sequencing, blending fluid movement with precise postural alignment and spacious breathing. **Pam teaches in the Ashtanga, Vinyasa and Qi Gong traditions** at yoga studios, health clubs and corporate venues in the ABQ area.

Join us tomorrow (Wednesday) at 2pm



to practice Qi Gong with Pamela! Thank you to Yoga for People of Color for sponsoring this week's session and providing mats for AAPIRC! Be sure to check out their [Facebook](#) and [website](#).

A Word from Dr. Hooi-Ling Lee



A Malaysian in Albuquerque
Hooi-Ling Lee, PhD

Hello! I am Hooi-Ling Lee, a Fulbright Visiting Scholar from Malaysia. Malaysia is a multiracial country consisting of Malay, Chinese, Indian, and other native ethnicities. As such, speaking different languages and dialects is very common in Malaysia. Though I often travel to foreign countries, I never feel lonely as I will always meet Asians through my daily life activities or interactions. **Hence, I have an impression that Asians are everywhere in the world.**

Since being an academician, I have been to the US a couple of times for my business trips. Therefore, I thought it would be easy for me to adapt to my newly adopted city, Albuquerque. **I still remember vividly when I walked leisurely to ABQ Downtown on my first weekend, I wondered why there were not many Asians strolling on the pathway or road.** With my mask on, I still stood out as an Asian or a “newcomer” during that time. (*To be honest, ABQ is a warm-hearted city. People here are very friendly and helpful*).

When I was in UNM, I was looking for an interfaith center because, during my Ph.D. study in Dublin, Ireland, the university has an interfaith center where students from different countries regardless of ethnicities or religions can gather for socializing or praying. **Unfortunately, there was no such “space” in UNM at that time.** Despite this circumstance I discovered a yoga studio nearby my UNM Lobo Rainforest, where I could spend my time almost every evening in some Yin or Yang Yoga. Being a yoga practitioner for more than 15 years, yoga has been a pillar of my strength and support at the beginning of my stay here.

In late April, I heard of the ribbon-cutting ceremony of UNM Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC) through UNM emails. I was very delighted to hear of this center and attended its opening ceremony. Finally, I feel I have a “space” that is very much connected to my identity. I participated in most of the AAPIRC events including the graduation ceremony. When an advertisement of yoga and qi gong activities for students during the final examination was announced, I reached out to AAPIRC and offered to volunteer my service as a guest yoga instructor. During that period, a few activities had already been planned and a yoga slot was not able to fit in. **Instead, I was invited to assist during the summer semester in June. That marks the beginning of Mindful Yoga in AAPIRC.** Even though my time with AAPIRC was short (*Yup..my 4-month attachment is ending*), I have made friends with some frequent yoga practitioners. I will miss AAPIRC when I am back in Malaysia. **I am glad AAPIRC is born at UNM** (*Congrats, UNM for your progressive move & those behind the scenes who made this happen*) and I have a chance to witness this moment. **I believe AAPIRC will grow and benefits many people from diverse ethnicity. Thanks to AAPIRC for giving me the opportunity to be part of you.** I will sign off by wishing you “Till we meet again!” (*It’s not goodbye*) 😊

AAPIRC Language Appreciation Circles

Do you want to expand your proficiency in your heritage language?

Do you want a community of peers to speak your heritage language with?

Do you want to learn a heritage language that may have been lost between generations?

AAPIRC is creating a program to provide language appreciation circles for Asian languages not offered at UNM. Our primary purposes are to help AAPI students develop an appreciation of their native/heritage language(s) and culture, expand their language proficiency, and have support and belonging through building a community of a shared language. We need your help to create the best program we can.

Whether you are a native speaker or know none of you heritage language, we urge you to fill out this [Microsoft Form Survey](#), which is open to all UNM students, staff, and faculty and all other community members. This form will close on July 4th, 2022 so make sure to fill it out today!

Do You Know Who Vincent Chin Is?



"Chin's story became a source of inspiration for artists, writers, and activists."

"The case also made Asian American lives accessible to other communities."

Vincent Jen Chin was a Chinese American draftsman who was killed in a racially motivated assault by two white men on June 19th, 1982. We acknowledge the 40-year anniversary of his murder. Read more about his story and how his legacy has lived on at [The New Yorker](#).

The Visibility Blog:

About the Blog: The Visibility Blog will be included in future newsletters and housed on our website. This blog will feature reviews and creations of AAPI literature, art, and podcasts from the employees of AAPIRC. The aim of this blog is to provide visibility to the otherwise invisibilized contributions and peoples of the UNM/New Mexico AAPI community. Once the blog gets going, we will open it for Lobo and community submissions!



Cover Art for Joji's Song "Glimpse of Us"

Joji Returns with "A Glimpse of Us"

Hello everyone, my name is Jacob Olaguir and I recently started working for AAPIRC this summer. For this week's Visibility Blog, I wanted to talk about the newest song by Japanese singer Joji. This is one of my favorite Asian artists and I have followed his career since I was in high school. It is amazing to see a Japanese artist make it into the mainstream of western culture. If you visit AAPIRC this week you might see a vinyl hanging on the wall of Joji's freshman album "BALLADS 1" which was released October 26, 2018. It has been almost 2 years since Joji released his Sophomore album titled "Nectar" which came out September 25, 2020. Joji fans have been wondering if he was done with music after a prolonged absence from social media and lack of physical appearances. June 10th, 2022 is when Joji released "A Glimpse of Us" a song that runs for 3 minutes and 54 seconds. The song tells the story of a failing relationship between two individuals because of one's feelings for their former lover (Source: Genius.com). This is evident from the Chorus: "Cause' sometimes I look in her eyes, and that's where I find a glimpse of us". Joji has said in interviews that the music that he writes is not autobiographical but just what he is feeling at the time. The song is an excellent example of perspective storytelling accompanied with beautiful production done by Connor McDonough which entails a lot of piano and somber melodies. Joji is a really talented artist that is set to go on tour later this year and I hope to attend one of his concerts. I would definitely recommend everyone check out this song. As of June 24, 2022 it has accumulated 110 million streams on Spotify and continues to get millions of streams as the days go by.

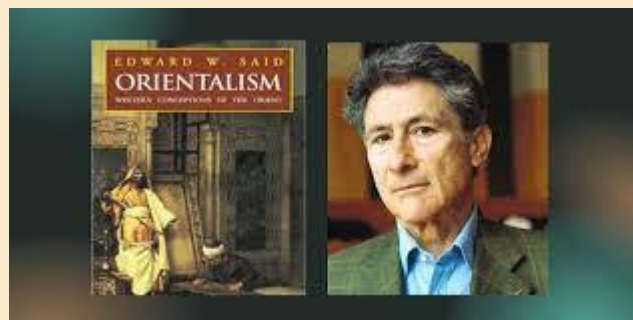
One of my favorite classes I have ever taken at UNM was "The Perception of Blackness" with Professor Finnie Coleman. If you ever get a chance to take a class with him, you will not regret it. He is one of the most intelligent and articulate professors I have ever taken a class with and I really learned a lot. I wanted to bring that class up because although the class was about how Black people are viewed in society. I remember a section of the class that talked about music being one of the tools that the Black community used to liberate themselves. I remember writing a response to this concept with the idea that the same tools used to liberate the Black community can be emulated by other ethnic minority groups to change the public's perception of that ethnic group. Joji was a case

study for my response because I wanted to highlight an immigrant's story of being proud of his heritage and partnering with 88Rising to headline one of the biggest Asian music and arts festivals in the United States called "Head in the Clouds". The significance of this to me shows that your culture or your heritage is nothing to be ashamed of but is something that if you honor success will come your way.

***Orientalism* Reading Group**



Hello, my name is Mohammed Yahya Rawwas, and I am a Philosophy Master's student here at UNM. As part Lebanese-Syrian, I am interested in the legacy of French and British colonialism in the Middle East and North Africa. I developed the idea of starting a reading group through AAPIRC that would explore the issue of Asian identity through a historical and theoretical lens. Ever since I began frequenting AAPIRC, I've seen it develop a clearer mission, and I believe this reading group fits well with its previous and upcoming slate of programming. I also have previous experience helping to run reading groups centered around Marxist or feminist texts. More information on the text we will be reading this Fall semester is below.



Professor Edward Said's 1978 book *Orientalism* is one of the founding texts of postcolonialism, a theoretical tradition which seeks to forward a critique of colonial ideology and its afterlives. Edward Said (November 1, 1935 – September 25, 2003) was born in Mandatory Palestine and grew up in Egypt before moving to the United States. He was a scholar focusing on literary theory and the legacy of colonialism, particularly in the Middle East. *Orientalism* tackles how this

colonial history shapes Western conceptions of this region to this day. I also believe that parallels can be drawn between the specific histories examined in *Orientalism* and the effects of colonialism on other parts of Asia as well, and I hope to cultivate a productive dialogue along these lines. **This reading group will tentatively being on September 7th, 2022 and will plan on covering one chapter per week, to be discussed at Wednesday meetings, through the fall semester.** We will move at the pace of the group and meet weekly to discuss the assigned reading. **The group is open to all interested participants in all areas of disciplines.** All graduate students are most welcome!
If you are interested in this program, please fill out [this interest survey](#).

Mahjong at AAPIRC

We are excited to announce that the Chinese Culture and Language Club (CLCC) is housing their **automatic mahjong table in AAPIRC!** This table will automatically handle tile shuffling and wall building. Thank you to ASUNM and CLCC for this great addition to our resource center.

Are you interested in playing or learning mahjong? Make sure to come to our **Welcome Back Boba Tea Social on Wednesday, August 24th from 4pm–6pm.** We will have **teaching sessions and more information on the history of the game.**

AAPIRC INVITES YOU TO OUR

Welcome Back Boba Tea Social

Wednesday, August 24th | 4pm-6pm
Education Classrooms #212 (AAPIRC)

Looking for a Fall 2022 Course?



India as a Global History

HIST 300-008

Ray | MWF 12p-12:50p | CRN 71824

This course is designed to introduce students with major themes, concepts, and events in South Asia, with a greater emphasis on the history of India, from c. 5000 BCE – 1658 . Over the course of the semester, students will be introduced to a 'new way' of approaching the field of Global History from non-European locations and what such locations may do for our ways of thinking today. Beginning with the dawn of civilization on the banks of the River Indus [in modern day Pakistan], we will explore how the spread of subcontinental mythologies, Buddhism, commodities shaped long-distance networks across the Middle East, East Africa, Southeast Asia and East Asia as well as distant cultures in Europe. The course will dwell on histories of ecology, religion, and culture in the



Environments and Diseases

HIST 300-004

Ray | MW 2p-3:15p | CRN 71766

The global spread of Covid-19 and its crippling impact on our daily lives leaves us even more acutely aware of the entangled lives that we lead. Using the present conjuncture as its point of departure, this course explores how people have developed their ideas about nature in the last 300 years and what has been the impact of this way of viewing environment in the lived realities of different societies. A second component of this course is familiarizing students with contemporary social movements and philosophical trends attached to environmental conservation and their relationship with non-human actors. Relying on broader theoretical approaches to the subject of environment sciences & philosophy and case-studies from specific countries, this course unpacks the way in which we see our environment. Instances will include spread of disease, infrastructures of

Indian Subcontinent as alternative sites of knowledge-formation.

development AND conservation, role of animal, plants and insects in shaping colonialism and prominent trends in thinking about society and nature. Using historical documents, visual representations, and cultural artefact, the course also tries to develop a model of thinking about environmental co-habitation in vulnerable, local ecologies of New Mexico itself has made.

We Want YOU To Decorate AAPIRC



AAPIRC has always been student-focused. Now that our space is set up, we want to cover our walls in student art! We are looking for pieces of any media that focus on the AAPI experience. We will be circulating a survey for artists in a future newsletter. For now, start brainstorming and get those creative juices flowing!

If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletters, please email us at aapirc@unm.edu and let us know.

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