



EAST - WEST CENTER

EDUCATION PROGRAM

East-West Center Wednesday Evening Seminar

Keoni Auditorium
Hawai'i Imin International Conference Center
September 9– November 18 2009
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Syllabus: Fall 2009
**Current Challenges and Empowering Voices in the United States,
Asia and the Pacific**

INTRODUCTION

The Fall 2009 Wednesday Evening Seminar series will focus on two major themes. Half of the presentations for this semester will help us understand how certain groups deal with past and/or present disadvantages in order to strengthen their positions for the future. The other topics pertain to specific current affairs within the United States and Asia-Pacific region, with the goal of helping us understand and dialogue on these major events.

We will begin the series with a presentation by Dr. Vernadette Gonzalez who will speak about the relationship between tourism and militarism in the United States. Ms. Amanda Ellis, lead specialist of gender and development programs at the World Bank, will then present on women entrepreneurs and institutional gender barriers in the Asia-Pacific. Other speakers respectively include Dr. Elizabeth Wichmann-Walczak (Peking Opera and Cultural Appropriation), Dr. Sonia Amin (Women's Emancipation in 19th and 20th Century Bengal), co-founder of the Malaysian organization Sisters of Islam Ms. Zainah Anwar (women's rights in Islam), and senior fellow at the East-West Center Dr. Denny Roy (North Korea crisis).

OVERVIEW OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

The Wednesday Evening Seminar (WES) is a weekly gathering of Center participants in their first fall and spring semester. WES brings together fellows from diverse academic disciplines, geographic areas, life experiences, and East-West Center programs to learn and dialogue on issues of common concern that impact the U.S. and Asia Pacific region.

While the graduate student experience tends to focus attention on highly specialized fields of study at the University, the Wednesday Evening Seminar challenges EWC fellows to explore regional issues that may extend beyond their range of expertise or comfort zones. Issues are explored through invited speakers, films and facilitated small group discussions. Through this process EWC fellows forge bonds among themselves that ultimately strengthen the Center's diverse, global community.

Past Wednesday Evening Seminar themes:

- Towards a Regional Literacy of the Asia-Pacific and the United States
- The Politics of Globalization and Social Networks in the Asia-Pacific
- Creating Futures for Asia and the Pacific: Choices and Behaviors
- Risk and Security in Asia and the Pacific

HISTORY OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

As with many innovative activities at the East-West Center, this seminar series emerged from student recommendations and student-led action. Degree fellows perceived the need for a unifying intellectual experience in an increasingly diversified student program. The Wednesday Evening Seminar began as a series of Center-wide discussions to explore the concept, and emerged as a student leadership project that developed into a distinctive, on-going feature of the student program.

Currently, the seminar is planned and organized by EWC degree-fellow interns, with the support of the Center's Education and Research programs staff.

The Seminar is required for degree fellows during their first fall and spring semesters, and fall semester for APLP fellows. Continuing fellows are welcome to attend and often continue to participate in the seminar series.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the East-West Center is to contribute to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia-Pacific community, thus serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education, and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia-Pacific region and the United States. To reach this goal, facilitating understanding among the students of the United States, Asia and the Pacific who study together at the East-West Center is one of the Wednesday Evening Seminar's most important endeavors. Thus, discussion of the empowerment in Asia and the Pacific can lead to shared knowledge of common concerns that affect our collective futures.

Within this context, specific objectives will aid with communication and enhance the learning process. Nine objectives are listed in the schedule to clarify the educational process of the Wednesday Evening Seminar.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation: Students must attend all course meetings and participate in group discussions. If you are unable to attend a session, please contact Mendl Djunaidy (e-mail provided below). Coming to the Wednesday Evening Seminar should be an engaging and fun way to learn about the Asia-Pacific region!

Readings: Some of the speakers may have articles or other materials for students. These documents may be sent over the East-West Center e-mail list. Thus, it is always wise to check the e-mail list for announcements.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions concerning attendance, please contact Mendl Djunaidy, Associate Dean of the Education Program at DjunaidM@EastWestCenter.org.

Other questions or concerns about the course can be directed to the following:

Blain Keller, Planning Intern: blain@hawaii.edu

Jiwnath Ghimire, Facilitators/Communications Intern: ghimirejiban@gmail.com

Pei-Luen Lu, Technical/Administration Intern: peiluenlu@gmail.com

Hui-Lin Lee, Food Coordinator Intern: twsa@hawaii.edu

Terry Bigalke, Director Education Program, bigalket@EastWestCenter.org

Mary Hammond, Dean, Education Program, hammondm@EastWestCenter.org

WEBSITE

The syllabus, weekly announcements, presentations and other reading materials are also posted on the East West Center website's section for the seminar:

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/education/student-programs/wednesday-evening-seminar/>

PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS: Fall 2009

DATE	PRESENTER	TOPIC	FORMAT
Week #1 9/9/09	<i>New Group Introductions/Activities</i> (No Speaker)	**Get to Know Each Other**	Small Group Discussion
Week #2 9/16/09	Dr. Vernadette Gonzalez Assistant Professor Department of American Studies University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Email: vvg@hawaii.edu	"Tourism and Militarism in the United States"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #3 9/23/09	Ms. Amanda Ellis Lead Specialist Gender and Development World Bank Email: aellis@worldbank.org	"Women Entrepreneurs and Institutional Gender Barriers in the Asia-Pacific"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #4 9/30/09	Dr. Elizabeth Wichmann-Walczak Professor and Director Department of Asian Theater University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Email: ewichman@hawaii.edu	"Jingju (Peking Opera) and Cultural Appropriation"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #5 10/7/09	Dr. Sonia Amin Professor Department of History University of Dhaka Arthur Lynn Andrews Chair Department of South Asian Studies University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Email: samin@hawaii.edu	"Tracing the History of Women's Emancipation in Bengal Through the 19 th and 20 th Centuries: The Discourse on Education"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
No WES 10/14 and 10/21			
Week #6 10/28/09	Ms. Zainah Anwar Co-Founder Sisters of Islam E-mail: msia@hawaii.edu *Co-sponsored with Muslim Societies in Asia	"Women's Rights in Islam"	Lecture and Q & A
Week #7 11/4/09	Dr. Denny Roy Senior Fellow and Supervisor POSCO Fellowship Program East-West Center E-mail: royd@eastwestcenter.org	"The North Korea Crisis"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Veterans Day (No WES) 11/11			
Week #8 11/18/09	<i>End of the Term Party (No Speaker)</i>	**Final WES Evaluations**	Small Group Discussion