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COURSE: EN305, Multicultural Literature
INSTRUCTOR: Linda M. Iwamoto
TEXT: Madden and Blake. Emerging Voices. (Second Edition). Harcourt Brace
Jovanovich, 1993.
Also required: A pocket folder (8-1/2" by 11") to be used
exclusively for in and out of class journal writing.

GENERAL CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

English 305 explores issues of personal and group identity through a study of modern and contemporary fiction and non-fiction. Students will examine cultural pluralism in American society through writing, discussion, research, and reading of critically recognized works. We will examine social processes (stereotyping, prejudice, gender, age, economic, religious and ethnic diversity), individual, local and national identity, and other contemporary issues raised in the literature (e.g. immigration, racial conflict, language, universal values and culturally specific behavior).. Historical and theoretical background will also be reviewed and serve as a framework for an understanding of our own attitudes toward differences and the concept of "The Other."

We will focus not only on the dilemmas of diversity but on solutions for creating an equitable society: How do we respect differences and also recognize commonality? How do we achieve a balance between a sense of community and fragmentation? This class is interdisciplinary, and students are encouraged to make connections with their own academic and personal interests.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:

Classes will meet MWF from 1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. in Eiben 202. Regular attendance is required as well as class preparation and participation. Assignments will consist of in and out of class journal writing, a book analysis (from supplementary reading list), and one research project involving a written report and class presentation. Writing will be evaluated on both content and expression. Grades will be based on a percentage scale (100 points) tentatively weighted as follows:

- 20% journal writing (to be turned in periodically)
- 20% book analysis
- 20% research paper
- 10% research presentation
- 10% attendance (and deadlines)
- 20% take home final

OFFICE HOURS: MWF 9:00 - 9:50 a.m. and by appointment. Henry 206A.
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