Colgate University Off-Campus Study
San Francisco Study Group

Sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Asian Studies
Director—Fall 2004: Christopher Henke, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Introduction
The San Francisco Study Group is sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Program in Asian Studies. It focuses on Asian America and the Pacific Rim and has two main objectives. The first is to enhance students’ knowledge and understanding of the Asian American experience, with a special emphasis on the unique role that California has played in the exchange of communities and culture from points throughout the Pacific Rim. The second, more general objective is to enrich students’ understanding of the social processes, such as immigration and globalization, that have historically shaped American society and will continue to transform it in the new millennium.

Study Group Courses
Students will enroll in two courses related to the themes of the study group at San Francisco State University. SFSU’s departments of Asian American Studies, Anthropology, Raza (Latin American) Studies, and Sociology offer a very rich selection of course offerings on issues related to Asian America and the Pacific Rim. In addition to students’ courses at SFSU, students will take two courses from the Director of the Study Group. The first course, “Working in California,” will explore the history and contemporary social issues facing workers of all kinds in California. Because many Asian/Pacific Rim immigrants to California came specifically to find work—and have had a tremendous impact on the practice and culture of work in our society—this course will link well to students’ other courses at SFSU. The second course will be an experiential-based independent study, where students will devote roughly 10 hours per week of fieldwork or community service to one or another Asian American/Pacific Rim community group, such as a medical or legal clinic, an outreach organization, or an historical society that serves the Asian American/Pacific Rim community. This will enable students to gain first-hand knowledge and experience of the unique issues facing Asian American/Pacific Rim communities in the area and provide valuable services to them.

Prerequisites
Prerequisites include at least one course in Sociology and Anthropology and at least one course in Asian Studies (cross-listed Core Cultures courses dealing with Asia are acceptable). Students will also be required to do a small amount of summer reading before the study group begins.

Calendar
Classes will begin around the last week of August and end in early December, 2004.
Library and Research Facilities
Students will have full access to the extensive libraries and research and computing facilities of SFSU. They will also have access to the archives and related resources of other relevant institutions in the area, such as the California Historical Society and the Chinese Historical Society of America.

Class-Related Activities and Field Trips
Class-related activities will include lectures and other presentations by local scholars, artists, public health professionals, and community activists. Students will also join the Study Group Director for meals, plays, and other cultural events related to the theme of the Study Group. Field trips in and near the San Francisco area will include visits to local religious institutions (including Buddhist temples); Angel Island (“the West Coast’s Ellis Island”); Asian Art Museum San Francisco; the Salinas Valley (home the National Steinbeck Center and a site of intense agricultural production); and Muir Woods/Mount Tam (home of giant redwoods and the birthplace of mountain biking).

Student Living Arrangements
Students will live in furnished, two-bedroom apartment units (4 students per apartment) located in very close proximity to the SFSU campus. The apartments will be rented through SFSU’s Office of Housing and Residential Services. Students will have the choice of whether or not to participate in one of SFSU’s prepaid meal plans.

Costs to Students
In addition to Colgate tuition, students who participate in the Study Group will be required to pay for apartment rentals and certain utilities (telephone, internet, etc.), as well as SFSU meal plans (if they choose to participate in one) and other dining expenses. Students will also need money for travel and incidentals. There are no additional matriculation costs.

Application Procedure
Applicants must submit a 2-3 page essay describing their general interest in the Study Group, their specific reasons for wanting to participate in the Study Group, how they expect the Study Group experience to build on their previous course work and interests, and how the Group might contribute to their future course work and longer-term educational and professional objectives. Interviews of applicants will take place during the period December 5-12. Applicants will be notified of the decision made on their application by January 19, 2004.

Applications are available in the Office of Off-Campus Study and from the Study Group Director. Applications should be submitted to Professor Christopher Henke (Alumni Hall 409) by December 1.

Students who are interested in obtaining additional information about the Study Group should contact the Director, Professor Christopher Henke (409 Alumni Hall; phone: 228-7076; email: chenke@mail.colgate.edu).