

2021 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR K-14 EDUCATORS  
EAST ASIA HIGHLIGHTS: CHINA, JAPAN, KOREA

# Addressing Discrimination in the Asian Diaspora

Carol Stepanchuk, LRCCS, [cstep@umich.edu](mailto:cstep@umich.edu)

Kate Klemm-Szeto, NCKS, [klemmkat@umich.edu](mailto:klemmkat@umich.edu)

Robin Griffin, CJS, [robinegr@umich.edu](mailto:robinegr@umich.edu)

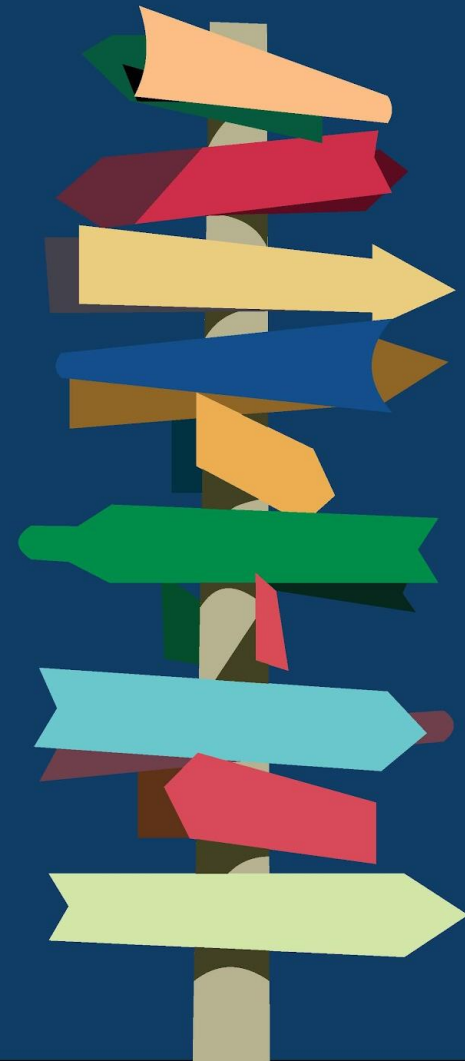
Jillian Locke, CJS, [jhlocke@umich.edu](mailto:jhlocke@umich.edu)



# Asian American

The term “Asian American” (coined in 1968) encompasses an enormous diversity of more than 20 ethnic groups and nationalities.

- Students and activists in the late sixties--inspired by Black Power, the Civil Rights Movement and opposition to the Vietnam war--connected multiple Asian-immigrant communities to a shared identity.
- Goals included efforts to alleviate poverty and to eliminate stereotypes & marginalization.
- This movement called attention to the Japanese internment, harassment driven by McCarthyism, and the discrimination that came from being seen as “not American.”



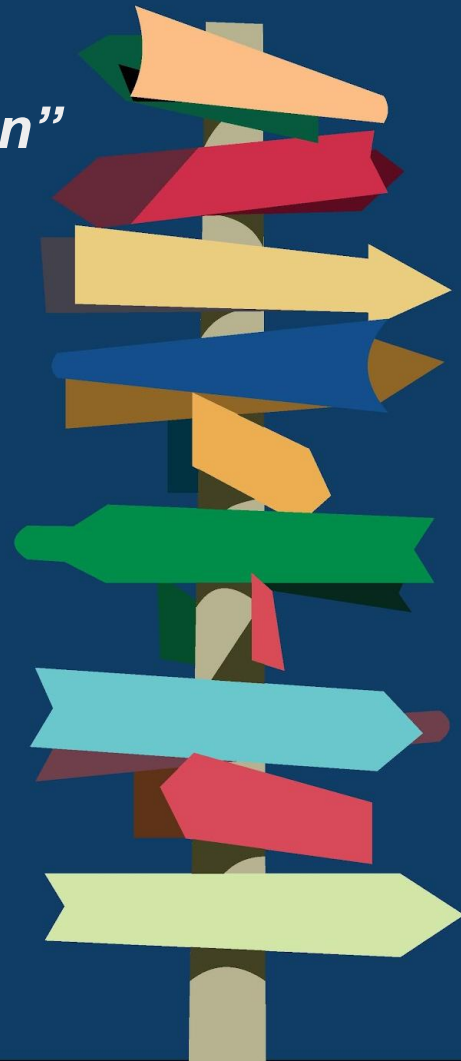
# *“Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen”*

## *by Jose Antonio Vargas*

When it came to the subject of race, my fourteen-year-old immigrant brain couldn't process it. I knew I was Filipino; that much was clear. But I didn't realize I was “Asian,” or that Chinese and Korean and Indian people were “Asian” too, and because I was Filipino, I was both “Asian” and a “Pacific Islander.”

Are people labeled “Asian” for geographic reasons, because we came from the “Asian” continent? But, if it was about geography, shouldn't “Hispanic” and “Latino” people be called “Americans”?

And whenever I read anything about race, why are “Asian” and “Hispanic” capitalized while “black” and “white” are not? Where do you go if you are multiracial and multiethnic?



# Diaspora and Migration

**Diaspora** refers to a population that shares a common heritage and is scattered in different parts of the world.

<https://theasiandiaspora.com/>

**Migration** refers to groups of people moving to different areas in search of a settlement.

The **key difference** between **diaspora** and **migration** is that in **diaspora** the people maintain a very strong tie to their homeland, their roots, and their origin, unlike in migration which is a reflection of economic, social, and environmental change



## The Asian Diaspora

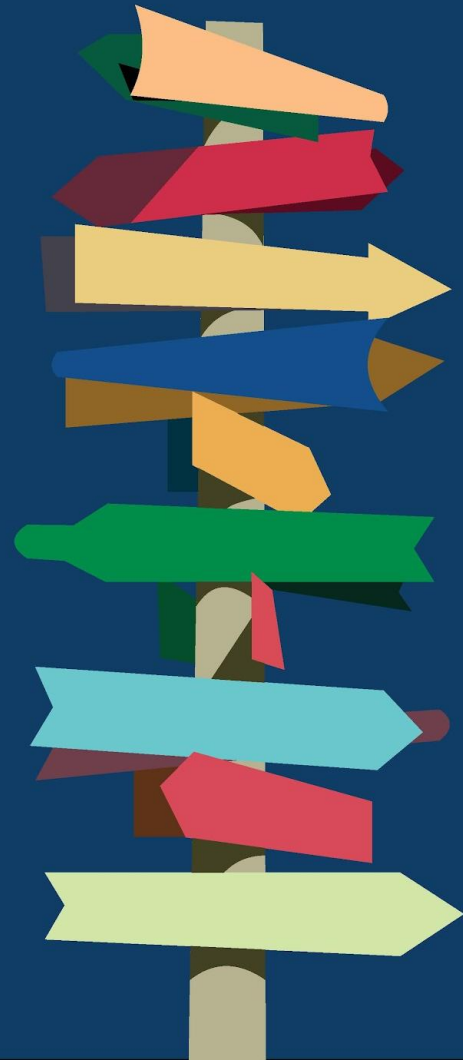
*A storytelling project*

We are not a monolith. Our stories, histories and ancestry come from across the Asian continent. But our experiences with racism come from a common place: ignorance and hate. These are our testimonies.

# Race and Ethnicity

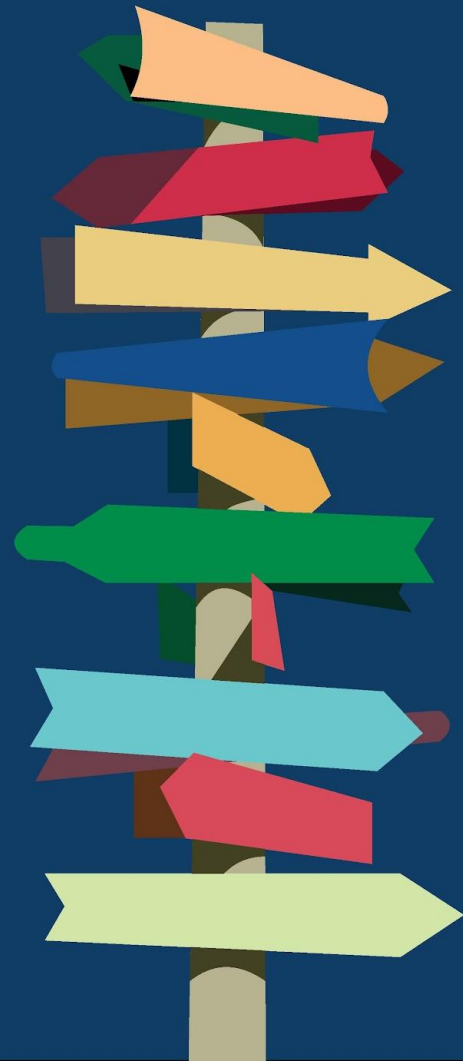
In the United States, **race** is commonly defined and practiced as a category based on visible phenotypes, whereas **ethnicity** is based on distinguishable cultural traits.

**Race and ethnicity** are malleable categories across time and space; they are subject to change depending on local and global conditions.



# In the Classroom

1. Hopes & Fears Activity
2. NameCoach [cloud.name-coach.com/](https://cloud.name-coach.com/)



# What can we do to have real world impact?

(from Professor Melissa Borja, U-M American Culture)

1. Develop Skills
  - a. [Bystander Training](#); DEI Training
2. Develop Knowledge
  - a. Workshops like these!
  - b. Learning Resources
3. Report
  - a. To your local & state governments and Universities
  - b. U-M [Discrimination, Discriminatory Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form](#)
4. Join Community Organizations
5. Don't just react, ACT!

