

April 2025

AAS
ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Annual Conference



**WESTIN BOSTON
SEAPORT DISTRICT**
425 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON,
MASSACHUSETTS, 02210

**APRIL 17 - 19,
2025**

Call For Programs

RE-ORIENTING ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES IN A TIME OF RESURGENT ETHNONATIONALISM AND FASCISM

The Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) was the first such association to commit to the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, in 2013, and it endorsed a statement of Solidarity with Palestine ten years later, in 2023. In line with this commitment, for our 2025 annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts, we invite proposals that re-orient the field of Asian American Studies: in terms of the place of South West Asian North African (SWANA), Muslim and Arab Americans in the field, in relation to the violence of the U.S. settler state, and in consideration of the geographical, temporal, and cultural margins and mainstreams of the discipline.

As many scholars in Asian American studies have aptly pointed out in the past six months, the field of Asian American Studies stands on the shoulders of Palestinian scholar Edward Said's pathbreaking work, *Orientalism*. Though early Asian American Studies scholars understood *Orientalism* through the geography of East Asia (and US imperialism) and defined themselves against the idea in order to build their cultural nationalist scholarship, Said's *Orient* was grounded in a different Asia (and European imperialism). We call for a return to *Orientalism's* original context – SWANA, and the Muslim and Arab world so often on the fringes of Asian American studies. This re-orienting is more urgent than ever, especially as we recognize the role that the US has and continues to play in shaping the “middle east” since well before the publication of Said's seminal work. Though we have never been without the threat of ethno-nationalism and fascism both at home and abroad, its accelerated resurgence in the past ten years should make us all question how we got here, and how decades of silence around Palestine have helped pave the way. How does centering Said's *Orient* enable us to explore our own complicity in state violence and the violence of the settler colonial state? How does centering a free Palestine help us to confront the attacks on ethnic studies across the nation, gun violence on our campuses, and the precarity of students who dare to boycott, protest, and challenge local, state, and federal authority? As we re-orient, we must necessarily also reorient the field to include locations, temporalities and subjects that have heretofore been “Othered” in Asian American studies.

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The Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) was the first such association to commit to the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, in 2013, and it endorsed a statement of SAs we converge on Boston in April 2025, how might we, for example, think of the eastern seaboard, and indeed the Atlantic and Caribbean world as central to the field? How might a “yellow/brown atlantic” approach shift some of our long-standing narratives and broaden our engagement with the western hemisphere and the world? How can the consideration of Asian American “others” – particularly those East of California grow our understanding of Asian American history and who is a part of it?

We invite Asian American Studies practitioners, scholars, teachers, artists, activists and beyond to engage broadly with the theme of re-orienting, from their various fields, disciplines and areas of expertise including, but not limited to:

- Transnational and Transimperial
- Militarism and the settler state
- Critical pedagogies of tourism
- Indigeneity and the nation-state
- Global indigeneity
- Kinship across borders
- Women, gender and sexuality
- Bodily autonomy
- Global studies
- Cultural studies
- Artificial Intelligence
- Trans-racial/pacific/national/etc- solidarities
- East of California
- Transnational adoption
- Islamophobia Anti-Semitism
- History and Memory
- Language politics
- Surveillance
- The Neoliberal University Divestment and boycott

Tessa Winkleman, Program Co-Chair

Andrea Louie, Program Co-Chair

Exhibitor Timeline & Information

April 16, 2025 – Exhibitors can arrange shipment of materials/books to the hotel with the following note: “Hold for: (Name of exhibitor), Association for Asian American Studies Conference, 4/16/2025-4/19/2025, Number of Boxes (# of #).” Please note that the hotel does not have an exceptional amount of storage space and can only hold materials for three (3) days before the conference. Materials can be transported to and stored in the exhibition room on Wednesday. Mailing address: The Westin Boston Seaport District -425 Summer Street, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, 02210

April 16, 2025 – Please do not have materials arrive earlier than April 16, 2025. A charge of \$25 per box per day will be assessed for arriving earlier. There is a ten-box maximum per exhibitor (\$25 per extra box). You will be contacted with detailed shipping instructions before the conference. Exhibitors must check in at the registration desk to pick up your name tag(s) and table assignment. Set up is from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday and after 8:30 am on Thursday. Do not rearrange the table assignments – some exhibitors have special needs for which prior arrangements were made.

April 17 - 19, 2025 – The exhibit area is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Be aware that the Association cannot be responsible for any possible loss of goods/books. Please visit the registration desk if you have a problem and need assistance with your display area. Coffee breaks/refreshment services will be scheduled throughout the conference to encourage participants to visit the exhibit area.

April 19, 2025 – The exhibitor must break down the exhibit. The exhibit room officially closes at 12:00 p.m. We ask that you pack your books/materials by this time. Again, the Association is not responsible for any boxes left in the exhibit area for which no shipping arrangements have been made. The Hotel has stated that any materials that remain at the hotel after ten days of the event’s conclusion will be discarded at the hotel’s discretion.

Please make sure to have your filled-out shipping labels printed. AAAS staff will drop off blank shipping labels should you require them.

Booth & Display Area Information

This year's exhibit area will be located near one of the hotel's major breakout rooms and central to all conference activities. The location will be secured during off-hours. The exhibit area will only be accessible beginning Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, and 8:30-Noon on Saturday. The tables will be assigned upon your arrival. Each draped 6' table will have two chairs and a wastebasket. Tables will be placed around the room's perimeter or adjacent to food service areas to provide high foot traffic.

Payment & Reservations

For book exhibitors/nonprofit exhibitors, the fee for each 6' table is \$400. For commercial exhibitors, the fee for each 6' table is \$450. The AAAS accepts checks, money orders, and credit card payments. Your payment should reach us by February 1, 2023, to hold your reservation. If you are certain you will be attending and wish to be listed in the official program, you need to confirm in writing by January 30, 2025 (this includes any exhibitor who will be displaying books but not physically attending). You may make a payment using our online store this December.

Your registration as an exhibitor includes ONE conference registration for admittance to the conference sessions or receptions. Any additional table representatives must be registered conference participants to gain admittance or participate as panelists. Provisions have been made for one-day registration to accommodate partial attendance during the conference. Please contact the conference staff (jdelunaaas@gmail.com) with questions.

WIFI: WIFI will not be included in your exhibitor's package. Exhibitors may purchase WIFI at an individual cost with the hotel upon arrival to the exhibit hall.

Receptions: Should your press wish to schedule a special reception during the conference, please contact Jennifer Alanis at jdelunaaas@gmail.com. As in years' past, the new book reception will be held in the exhibit area. It is up to each press if they would like to remain open during the new book reception.

Program Advertisements

Digital Program Booklet Dimensions: 5 1/2" W x 8 1/2" H

The 2025 conference program contains detailed information on sessions, workshops, and related events held during the conference. To go green, hardcopy programs will only be printed in limited quantities. Advertisements will be circulated on our Guidebook APP and our social media pages.

Closing Dates

January 30 (for insertion order and ad artwork)

Rates

Half Page \$275

Full Page \$330

Image/Resolution

Support/linked grayscale images can be no less than 300dpi (900dpi for line art)

Artwork

Uncompressed, press-ready Adobe PDF files created in Acrobat Distiller, with all fonts and high-res images embedded, are preferred. Art may be sent by email attachment to the Secretariat if the file does not exceed 10 MB. CDs formatted for PC or Macintosh, camera-ready art/veloxes are also acceptable.

Additional charges for ad preparation costs will be billed at a minimum of \$25 per change. This includes design, typesetting, and alterations.

Publication Schedule

The Annual Meeting Program is distributed electronically to all attendees two weeks before the annual meeting. All ads should be sent to jdelunaas@gmail.com by Feb. 15, 2025

Program Advertisements

Program Booklet Dimensions: 5 1/2" W x 8 1/2" H

Mechanical Specifications

Size Inches

Full page Vertical 4.75"x8"

1/2 page Vertical 4.75"x4"

Line Screen

Black and white line screen: 100dpi

Sponsorship Opportunities

The AAAS welcomes sponsors for its 2025 Annual Meeting. Many opportunities exist for publishers to highlight new releases or for universities to showcase departments in the form of coffee breaks or receptions.

For additional information, please email Jennifer Alanis at jdelunaaas@gmail.com.

Past sponsorships include:

- Coffee break/book signing in the exhibit room
- Evening reception to highlight the expansion of an Asian American Studies Program
- Joint sponsorship for the closing night Awards Reception

