

East to America: Chinese Experiences of Manifest Destiny

An Online Professional Development Webinar with Professor Madeline Hsu for K-12 Teachers

October 14, 2026 at 7pm ET

Through the experiences of Joseph Pierce (1842-1916), a Chinese immigrant who fought in the Civil War, this webinar explores how and why Chinese migration to California increased and became systematic as US westward expansion led to the rapid economic development of its Pacific coast. Topics include the decline of the Qing Empire, the coerced integration of China into Western-dominated political and economic systems following the Opium Wars, and the economic prospects drawing Chinese to migrate to America. Participants will explore migration patterns and systems, Chinese experiences of the US's developing western frontier, and the racialized development of immigration regulations aimed at quelling their quests for fortunes and opportunities.



Register Online:
[tinyurl.com/
TEAcourseregistration](https://tinyurl.com/TEAcourseregistration)



Madeline Y. Hsu is a Professor of History at UMD College Park, where she is Director of the Center for Global Migration Studies and Affiliate Faculty with the Asian American Studies Program. Her first monograph, *Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home: Transnationalism and Migration Between the United States and South China, 1882-1943*, received the 2002 Association for Asian American Studies History Book Award. Her second monograph, *The Good Immigrants: How the Yellow Peril Became the Model Minority*, won the 2016 Robert H. Ferrell Book Prize; the 2015 Theodore J. Saloutos Book Award; the 2014-2015 Asian Pacific American Librarians Association Adult Non-Fiction Honor Book; the 2015 Chinese American Librarians Association Award for non-fiction; and the 2017 Association for Asian American Studies History Book Award.

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