Music 177: Introduction to Hawaiian Music  
3 Units  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, Hale A‘o 102

INSTRUCTOR: Ka‘ala Carmack  
OFFICE: Pālanakila 130  
OFFICE HOURS: M/W 11:30 to 12:30; T/R 9:30 to 10:30, or by appointment  
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EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall, 2014

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A survey of Hawaiian music from Polynesian origins and pre-contact forms to acculturated and contemporary forms and expressions, including vocal, instrumental and dance music in their social, cultural and religious contexts. (3 hours lecture)

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Students will be required to do library research, reading and/or writing assignments, personal interviews, attendance at cultural events field trips and listening assignments and reaction papers. On Thursdays, students are encouraged to bring their instruments to class when we will do more singing, which will leave Tuesdays when we will have lectures and group discussions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

• Identify and define the basic concepts, terminology and distinguishing features of Western European and Hawaiian music.
• Identify (a) the distinguishing features of indigenous Hawaiian music, (b) the musical instruments indigenous to Hawai‘i, (c) acculturated Hawaiian music, and (d) acculturated musical instruments.
• Explain or discuss the functions of music in pre-contact Hawaiian society
• Discuss the interplay of Hawaiian music and Hawaiian dance performance.
• Identify and discuss important events and personalities in the evolution of Hawaiian music.
• Discuss the composition, recording, production, and commercialization of Hawaiian music.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**Concepts or Topics:**

- Indigenity
- Indigenous knowledge
- Pre-contact music, “kahiko”
- Post-colonial music
- Acculturated music
- Popular music
- Reggae/Jawaiian music
- Classic Hawaiian music

**Skills or Competencies:**

1. Song understanding & recognition
2. Basic music knowledge & competency
3. Knowledge of at least 5 Hawaiian mele
4. Function of Hawaiian Music
5. Value of Hawaiian Music
6. A general sense of the Living Tradition of Hawaiian Music (past, present & future)

**COURSE TASKS**

The student must first and foremost show up to class, on time, and be ready to work. If you cannot make it to class for whatever reason, it is YOUR responsibility to communicate with me. Do NOT count of your friend, relative or anyone else to call or e-mail me. A communication from you personally is the only way I will accept notice that you will be absent. Unexcused absences will significantly lower your grade; excused absences will lower your grade significantly less. Best thing is to come to class, because much of what takes place in class requires that each student attend each meeting. It is very likely that we will have a number of Hawaiian music practitioners and kūpuna who will come and share their knowledge and expertise with our class, and this “ike” (Hawaiian knowledge & expertise) cannot be found in a text book, hence the necessity of showing up to every class. There will be reaction paper(s), research paper(s), opportunities to kani-ka-pila (“jam”), possible field trip(s), a mid-term exam, and a final project. Much of what we will cover will come from the first 20 pages of our “text”: Nā Mele o Hawai‘i Nei: 101 Hawaiian Songs (see below). Students may be involved in a group composition project during the semester. Students should purchase and use a spiral notebook to be used as a journal for notetaking all the material covered in class. Your journal will count toward your grade.

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

Students will be graded on how well they execute the projects and assignments, exams, and also on their overall attitude in class and outside of class on field trips, etc. Each student will be graded cumulatively on work performed in the following matter:
90 – 100% = A
80 – 89% = B
70 – 79% = C
60 – 69% = D
59% and below = F

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

*Nā Mele o Hawai‘i Nei: 101 Hawaiian Songs*, Elbert & Mahoe (it exists on ukulau, no need to purchase it); *He Aloha Mele* (several copies of this book are in my office to be used for in class work, if necessary, it can be purchased on line or at Sam’s Club), Hawaiian Library in the 3rd floor of WCC Library.

**Additional Information**

This syllabus is subject to change.

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

*If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale ‘Akoakoa 213 for more information.*

Revised May 25, 2011