PACS 108: Pacific Worlds: An Introduction to Pacific Islands Studies  
CRN: 64200  3 Credits  
Tues/Thurs, 11:30am – 12:45pm  Hale A‘o room 107

INSTRUCTOR: Tricia Allen  
OFFICE: Hale A‘o room 105  
OFFICE HOURS: Tues/Thurs 11:00 – 11:30am or by appointment  
EMAIL: AllenT@Hawaii.edu

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT  
Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

Catalog Description

This course situates introduces students to the geography, societies, histories, cultures, and arts of Oceania, including Hawai‘i. Combines lecture and discussion that emphasize Pacific Islander perspectives and experiences.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Locate and name the island groups, geographic regions, and political entities of Oceania.  
2. Describe social and cultural similarities and differences among Pacific Island societies.  
3. Identify themes in the works of Pacific Island artists and writers.  
4. Discuss contemporary social, political, economic, cultural, and environmental issues in the Pacific Islands.  
5. Explain significant themes in indigenous, colonial, and postcolonial histories of the Pacific Islands.

Content and Competencies  This course is organized in six parts:

Concepts or Topics

I. Boarding the Wa‘a: Navigating and Mapping Oceania  
II. Routes and Roots: Oceanic Origins and Traditions  
III. Waves of Power: Religion, Colonialism and Development  
IV. Countercurrents: Contemporary Pacific Cultures  
V. Niu Waves: Oceanic Arts and Literature  
VI. Pacific Worlds: Arriving on Distant Shores

Skills or Competencies

1. Identify features of the basic geography and demography of the Pacific Islands;  
2. Describe the prehistory, migration routes, and theories of settlement of the Pacific;  
3. Describe basic ecological, political, cultural, and social effects of contact on each region;  
4. Critically discuss issues about popular representations of the Pacific.  
5. Display the intellectual rigor associated with Pacific Studies through formal presentations, informal discussions, literary works, and/or artistic expressions, and discuss real life applications to Pacific Studies.  
6. Locate and utilize a range of local, regional, and international resources for research on the Pacific region.
General Notes

1. *Laulima* will be used extensively during this course. You are responsible to checking *Laulima* and your UH e-mail regularly to stay abreast of assignments, due dates and such. Our weekly schedule and a brief summary of topics and a listing of assignments week-by-week are posted below and additional course materials will be posted in *Laulima* Lessons, as well as updates and further explanation on weekly assignments. Should there be any changes in scheduling to accommodate guest speakers or for any other reason, you will be notified via your UH gmail.

2. A course reader is available at the bookstore with many of the required readings. Additional required readings and web links are posted in *Laulima*. Readings should be prepared for the day on which they are listed on the course schedule in *Laulima*. Read with a pen in hand and take notes. Take notes on films we watch as well. This will help you tremendously on your exams since some are open-book tests. Indicate points that seem important and cross-reference examples from other readings. Pose questions and make a note of them. Please come to class ready to ask questions and prepared for discussions. This is a discussion-oriented course and your questions and ideas do matter, so please be prepared to share them!

3. Community is a critical aspect of island life and we will carry this over into the classroom. You will be assigned to a wa’a or canoe within the first few weeks of class and many of the projects and assignments throughout the semester will be assigned to the wa’a. As in any successful community or canoe, all members must contribute. More on the structure, expectations and grading of wa’a assignments will be provided in a handout and will be posted in *Laulima* Resources.

Course Tasks and Grading

Grading is on a point system and based on a total of 300 points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation:</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map quiz</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading feedback /concept assessments (5 x 15 points each):</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Wa’a assignments (hypothetical assistance program):</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poster Project</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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Percentages are rounded to the next full number.

All assignments will be explained in detail on handouts and posted in *Laulima*.

Attendance and Participation

Participation is crucial to learning and attendance is crucial to participation. If you don’t show up, you can’t participate, which means we miss your ideas and insights and you’ll miss out on ours. Attending and participating in class discussions will also be to your advantage in your written assignments and exams.

Class participation also includes taking part in small group discussions and both a group (wa’a) project and presentation at the end of the semester. You will also be presenting your poster project. The group project is intended to give you an experience in working collaboratively with your peers in exploring issues and themes covered in the course. You will
On Deadlines: All deadlines and assignments will be announced in class and posted in Laulima. Remember it’s your responsibility to check the schedule on this syllabus and check both your UH email and Laulima to stay abreast of assignments. Late work will be accepted for individual assignments (no extensions on deadlines for wa’a assignments) however, a full letter grade will be deducted for each week that you are late. There will be no point deduction in the case of a documented medical or family emergency.

Exams: Both your midterm and final exam are in Laulima. They are short answer, multiple choice and image identification, perhaps with a brief essay. These are open-book (or open-resources) exams and can be done on your computer at home or at the computer labs on campus. Test dates will be announced in class and in Laulima.

Extra Credit: Several optional extra credit assignments will be given throughout the semester and are listed in your weekly lessons in Laulima. In addition, there are several films you can watch on your own and get up to 5 extra credit points for completing a written assignment. Details will be announced and posted in Laulima Assignments.

Facebook: I set up a Facebook page for each of my courses. It is under PACS108 Windward. It might be fun for you to follow this page, although it is not required.

Course Resources

Most of the required reading for the course is in a photocopied course reader available at the bookstore, although there are additional required readings posted in Laulima Resources. You will also find the readings from the photocopied course reader in Laulima Resources. Remember it is your responsibility to check Laulima regularly to keep on top of the course requirements. Please check a few days prior to each class so that you have time to complete the readings before our class meetings.

Additional Resources: There are many other excellent sites that you can browse to broaden your understanding of the Pacific. These may also be utilized for extra credit assignments.

Sheppard Software Learning Games: http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/Oceania_Geography.htm Here is an easy, fun way to familiarize yourself with the geography of the Pacific. The interactive Oceania map will also serve as an excellent study tool for our map quiz.

The Pacific Islands Report: http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport Daily news stories, extensive links to other sites and resources, as well as a searchable archive.

Radio Australia, Pacific Beat: http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/international/radio/programsaz This program brings interviews with Pacific Island leaders, newsmakers and Pacific Islanders.

Pacific Collection: http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/pacific/ The Pacific Collection website at the University of Hawai’i library has a variety of resources that will be useful for this class, especially the “Links to Pacific-related websites” (in particular the news & statistical source links), and the Digital Collections links.

Art Pacific: http://www.art-pacific.com/artifacts/nuguinea/mapmelan.htm This is a site that was created and is maintained by private collectors with a genuine interest in the cultures of Melanesia.

Easter Island Foundation: http://islandheritage.org/wordpress/ The EIF (Easter Island Foundation) is a great resource not only on Rapa Nui (Easter Island) but also on greater Pacific.
This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes in topics and assignments will be posted and updated in Laulima. Please check Laulima on a regular basis. Laulima can be easily updated and allows for a more in-depth summary of your assignments. Please rely on Laulima for your weekly assignments.

Key: CR (course Reader) and LR (Laulima Resources)

**Unit I: Boarding the Waka – Navigating and Mapping Oceania**

Discusses how the Pacific was named, mapped, and constructed by the West. Explores the ways in which modern studies have characterized the region. The discussion here will engage both pre-contact and contemporary cultural worldviews and practices, emphasizing the continuity of culture.

**Week 1, 1/10, 1/12:** Introduction: Course structure, Wa’a and group assignment

- **Reading assignment:** Teiwa, *The Classroom as a Metaphorical Canoe* CR, LR
- **Video assignment:** Sacred Vessels (2 parts) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7nXev2J7g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7nXev2J7g) LR and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpYuw57uwY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpYuw57uwY) LR

**Week 2, 1/17, 1/19:** Creation and origin legends, approaches to origins

- **Reading assignment:** Matsuoka, *Civilization Without a Center*, CR, LR
- **Online reading on “race”:** [http://www.newsweek.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123](http://www.newsweek.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123) LR
- **Online reading on Aboriginal oral Tradition:** [http://goo.gl/kvRErb](http://goo.gl/kvRErb) LR
- **In-class video:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E1laQjY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E1laQjY) LR

**Week 3, 1/24, 1/26:** Mapping and naming the Pacific

- **Reading assignment:** D’Urville, *Islands of the Great Ocean*, CR, LR
- **Reading assignment:** Hau’ofa, *Our Sea of Islands*, CR, LR
- **Reading assignment:** Geology, *The Pacific Ocean* CR, LR
- In-class discussion of geologic classifications and natural boundaries

**Unit II: Routes & Roots – Oceanic Origins and Traditions**

Explores the various migration theories and discusses the archaeological evidence which points to the origins and initial migrations of Pacific islanders. Scientifically, we can explain the origins of islands in terms of volcanism, plate tectonics, reef building, and other physical forces. Similarly, we can trace the estimated migrations and arrivals of Pacific Islanders using archaeological and linguistic evidence. While these approaches to knowledge are valid and important, they tell us little about how cultures understand themselves, and cultural self-definition are rooted in the most primal of stories: those concerning the birth of the islands and the origins of their peoples.

**Week 4, 1/31, 2/2:** Archaeological evidence of origins

- **Reading assignment:** Ridgell, *Migration*, CR, LR
- Discussion of settlement patterns, cultural continuity and divergence
- **Your summary of your proposed poster project is due Thursday.**
- **Your first Concept Assessment on prehistory (CA#1) is due Thursday.**

**Week 5, 2/2, 2/9:** DNA studies of Pacific Prehistory

- **Video assignment** (watch BEFORE Tues) Dr Lum, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPh-qvl8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPh-qvl8)
- **In-class video:** Made in Taiwan,
- **Review of prehistory & migration theory**
- **Your concept assessment on Dr Lum’s talk (CA#2) is due Thursday.**
- **The map quiz in Thursday in class! Study!**

**Week 6, 2/14, 2/16:** Indigenous views and experience of voyaging

- **Online reading assignment:** Andrade: [http://www.pacificworlds.com/homepage/education/essays/essay1.cfm](http://www.pacificworlds.com/homepage/education/essays/essay1.cfm)
- and chose ONE article from this website: [http://pvs.kcc.hawaii.edu/](http://pvs.kcc.hawaii.edu/)
- **Start your annotated bibliography! It is due next week.**
- **Possible library class meeting, TBA**
Unit III: Waves of Power – Christianity, Colonialism & Development
Explores the early contact period, usually up through the end of the 19th century. Describes the violence of colonialism. Explores the cultural, political, and discursive domination of colonialism in the Pacific. Discusses how colonialism has impacted issues of class, race, and gender in the Pacific and examines the impetus for and history of decolonization in the Pacific. While it is not feasible to adequately cover every island nation, we will include discussions of Guam, the Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Fiji, Rapa Nui and Hawai'i.

Week 7, 2/21, 2/23: The arrival of the newcomers—explorers, colonial powers, missionaries and traders.
Reading assignment: Campbell, Polynesia, the Age of European Discovery CR, LR
Reading assignment: Daws, Looking at Islanders CR, LR
Online reading assignment on Fais: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fais_Island.
Your Annotated bibliography for your poster project is due on Tuesday!

Week 8, 2/28, 3/2: The 19th century. Blackbirders
Online readings on Blackbirding, web links are on your Concept Assessment form and LR
Reading assignment: Campbell, After a Century of Contact, CR, LR
Your third concept assessment (CA#3 on Blackbirding) is due Thursday
Your midterm is this week.

MIDTERM EXAM: The exam in online in Laulima, You can access it as of Thurs. Mar. 2nd at 10pm and you must complete it by Sat. Mar. 4th at 10pm.

Week 9, 3/7, 3/9: Wartime & the Nuclear Pacific
Online reading assignments, links in Laulima, LR
Video Assignment: Nuclear Savage, $4.99 download REQUIRED
Video Assignment: Wartime on Guam, Chamorro interviews
Rough draft of the written portion of your poster project due
Optional Concept Assessment on the nuclear Pacific for EXTRA CREDIT (up to 10 points)

Unit IV: Countercurrents—Contemporary Pacific Cultures
This section brings us to the present and future and describes the fluidity of Oceanic cultural identities. We explore the internal and external forces calling for development in Oceania including migration and globalization and considers the questions: What are the positive and negative social, cultural, and environmental impacts of development in the Pacific? What does “globalization” mean in the Pacific region?

Week 10, 3/14, 3/16: Mining in the Pacific
Online reading assignments, links in Laulima, LR
Concept assessment assignment #4 on mining is due Thursday.

Week 11, 3/21, 3/23: Globalization and Assistance Programs
Video assignment: Samoa disaster relief, LR
Reading assignments: Globalization (2 articles, read highlighted sections) CR, LR
Concept assessment #5 on Globalization is due Thursday.
Your final draft of the written portion of the poster project is due.

SPRING BREAK- 3/28, 3/30 Take advantage! Do some extra credit!

PART V: Niu Waves – Oceanic Art & Literature
This Unit looks at the relatively recent development of Pacific Arts and Literature. What are some of the ways in which Pacific Islanders express themselves today? We will consider how Pacific music and dance has been transformed by tourism, by the stage, and in the diaspora. We also consider how Pacific Islanders have been represented in film and art, and how this contrasts with the ways in which island artists represent themselves. This voyage into Pacific expression asks how tradition is being extended creatively in visual art form and literary content today.

Week 12, 4/4, 4/6: Introduction to visual arts, Tourism and the Arts
Reading assignment: Mallon, Tourist Art and its Markets. CR, LR
Wa’a group presentations, student poster presentations
Week 13, 4/11, 4/13: Recent movements in Pacific art
   Online reading assignments: Semu and Kihara, LR
   Student poster presentations

PART VI: Pacific Worlds – Arriving on Distant Shores
   We conclude the semester with a celebration of indigenous writings, arts, and education. Islanders today are steering their own canoe and once again at the helm.

Week 14, 4/18, 4/20: The indigenous voice
   Reading assignment: Hau’ofa, The Ocean in Us, CR, LR
   Written assignment due Thursday, TBA in class
   Student poster presentations

Week 15, 4/25, 4/27: Identity and Representation, concluding remarks
   Videos, NZ youth, LR
   Student poster presentations

Final class date 5/3: Review

   YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR FINAL EXAM BEFORE 1:30PM ON THURSDAY MAY 11th.

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.