PACS 108: Pacific Worlds: An Introduction to Pacific Islands Studies
CRN: 64431 Online 3 Credits
Spring 2017

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OFFICE HOURS: Tues/Thurs 11:00 - 11:30am or by appointment
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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:

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<th>Concepts or Topics</th>
<th>Skills or Competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>I. Boarding the Wa‘a: Navigating and Mapping Oceania</td>
<td>1. Identify features of the basic geography and demography of the Pacific Islands;</td>
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<td>II. Routes and Roots: Oceanic Origins and Traditions</td>
<td>2. Describe the prehistory, migration routes, and theories of settlement of the Pacific;</td>
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<td>III. Waves of Power: Religion, Colonialism and Development</td>
<td>3. Describe basic ecological, political, cultural, and social effects of contact on each region;</td>
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<td>IV. Countercurrents: Contemporary Pacific Cultures</td>
<td>4. Critically discuss issues about popular representations of the Pacific;</td>
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<td>V. Niu Waves: Oceanic Arts and Literature</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>VI. Pacific Worlds: Arriving on Distant Shores</td>
<td>6. Locate and utilize a range of local, regional, and international resources for research on the Pacific region.</td>
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General Notes

1. Online courses require a fair amount of computer competency as well as self-motivation. You should be familiar with the UH Laulima interface as well as Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. If you are not terribly competent on a computer, this course probably isn’t for you. Consider taking this course face-to-face instead.

2. You are responsible to checking this syllabus, Laulima and your UH e-mail to stay abreast of assignments, due dates and such. Our weekly schedule and a brief summary of topics and a listing of assignments and additional course materials are posted in Laulima Resources. Should there be any changes in scheduling to accommodate guest speakers or for any other reason, you will be notified via email to your UH address.

3. Community is a critical aspect of island life and we will carry this over into our course. You will be assigned to a wa’a or canoe by week 5. 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. Online discussions are mandatory and will occur in Laulima Forums. Specific topics and our week by week schedule of assignments are posted in Laulima organized into 6 units.

Course Tasks and Grading

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<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<td>Forum discussions</td>
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<td>Map quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept assessments (5 x 15 points each)</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>Poster</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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All assignments and deadlines will be explained in detail and posted in Laulima.

Participation

All our class discussions will take place in Laulima Forums, which you will find in the left-hand column once you select the PACS108 tab in Laulima. If you are new to Laulima, you’ll find instructions on how to post by clicking on Unit 1 Week by week lessons. Your entries and comments for each week are due by midnight on Sunday. I’ll be doing the grading and making final comments every Monday for the previous week. Check back after Monday for my comments and feedback. You can check your grade in Laulima Gradebook. There are no extensions on deadlines for class/group discussions, however you are encouraged to continue conversations if you desire to do so.

Deadlines: As stated above, the deadline for all Forum discussions is Monday midnight. All other deadlines and assignments are posted in Laulima. Remember it’s your responsibility to 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 Forum discussions) however, a full letter grade will be deducted for each week that you are late. In the case of a documented medical or family emergency, email me and we will handle it on a case-by-case basis.
Concept Assessments: These are assignments with a set group of questions on various topics. You will find the assignments in Laulima Resources. Due dates are posted in your week by week lessons. You will be submitting them in Laulima Assignments. Please create your document in a word processing program, ideally Microsoft Word, then cut & paste into the dialog box in Laulima. Save your document on your computer as well so that you have a back up and easy access to it when taking the exams. Yes, the exams are open-resources.

Poster Project: This is a fun project that you’ll be working on throughout the semester. It allows you to research a topic that is of personal interest to you. Detailed instructions are provided in Laulima as well as samples of previous student projects.

Exams: Both your midterm and final exam are in Laulima. They are short answer, multiple choice and true/false questions. These are open-book (or note) exams and can be done on your computer at home or at the computer labs on campus. You can use any resources that you like. Test dates are posted in your week by week lessons 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 posted in Laulima Assignments.

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

Course Resources

You will find all of your assignments in Laulima Resources filed by week. Reading assignments, web links and video links can be found there. There are also a limited number of copies of a Course Reader prepared for my face-to-face section of this course that you have the option of purchasing at the WCC Bookstore. It is approximately $3.00. During week 8 there is also a $4.99 rental fee for a mandatory streaming video.

In addition, 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 searchable archive.

Pacific Collection: http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/pacific/ The Pacific Collection website at the University of Hawaii 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/nugineq/mapmelon.htm This is a site that was created and is maintained by private collectors with a genuine interest in the cultures of Melanesia.
Unit I: Boarding the Waka – Navigating and Mapping Oceania

Discussion of 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, Jan 09-16: Introduction to the Pacific
Reading: Tealwa, The Classroom as a Metaphorical Canoe
Video assignment: Sacred Vessels [2 parts] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7nXev2j7g and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpYw57uwY

Week 2, Jan 17-23: Creation and Origin Legends
Reading: Matsuoka, Civilization Without a Center
Reading on Aboriginal oral Tradition: http://goo.gl/kv9Etb
Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E11aQiY
Reading on "race": http://www.newswise.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123

Week 3, Jan 24-30: Mapping and Naming the Pacific
Reading assignment: d’Urville, Islands of the Great Ocean
Reading assignment: Hau’ofa, E. Our Sea of Islands
Reading assignment: Intro. to Geology of the Pacific
PowerPoint Presentation in Resources

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, Jan 31-Feb 6: Archaeological Evidence of Origins
Reading: Ridge, Migration
Reading assignment: Finney, The Pacific Basin: An Introduction
PowerPoint Presentation in Resources – have your sound on!
Your summary of your proposed poster project is due! This is brief, 2-3 sentences
Your first concept assessment (on prehistory & migration) is due!

Week 5, Feb 7-13: DNA studies of Pacific Prehistory
Video assignment with Dr. Lum, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPn-qyI8
Video assignment: Made in Taiwan, see instructions in Laulima Weekly Lessons
Your second concept assessment (on Dr. Lum’s talk) is due!
Study for your map quiz, there are fun tools & map games in Resources

Week 6, Feb 14-20: Indigenous Views and Experience of Voyaging
Online reading assignment: Andrade: http://www.pacificworlds.com/homepage/education/essays/essay1.cfm
and chose ONE article from this website: http://pvs.xcc.hawaii.edu/
A draft of your annotated bibliography is due!
Take your Map Quiz by Sunday midnight!
Unit III: Waves of Power – Christianity, Colonialism & Development

*Explains 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, Feb 21-27: The Arrival of the Newcomers.
- Reading assignment: *Daws, Looking at Islanders*
- Reading assignment: *Campbell, Polynesia, the Age of European Discovery*
- Reading assignment: *Fais: [link](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fais_Island)*
- *Revised draft of your annotated bibliography is due!*

Week 8, Feb 28-Mar 6: The 19th Century, Blackbirders
- Reading assignments on *Blackbirding*
- Reading assignment: *Campbell, After a Century of Contact*
- *Your 3rd concept assessment (on Blackbirding) is due! Complete your MIDTERM EXAM by Sunday night!*

Week 9, Mar 7-13: Wartime and the Nuclear Pacific
- Reading assignment: *Starfish Prime*
- Video Assignment: *Nuclear Savage, $4.99 download, REQUIRED!*
- Video Assignment: *Wartime on Guam, Chamorro interviews*
- *Your concept assessment (#4) on the Nuclear Pacific is due!*

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, Mar 14-20 Mining in the Pacific
- Reading assignment, chose either mine and read ALL the links on your chosen mine
- *Your 5th concept assessment (on mining) is due! Rough draft of the written portion of your poster project due! Use the Writing Center FIRST!*

Week 11, Mar 21-27: Assistance Programs and Intervention, Globalization
- Video assignment: *Samoa disaster relief*
- Reading assignment: *Globalization, read highlighted areas only*
- Hypothetical assistance program, due next week

**SPRING BREAK March 27-31, Watch some of our great films for extra credit if you want to improve your grade!**

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, Apr 3-10: Tourist Art & Markets, Arts Festivals
- Reading assignment: *Mallon, Tourist Art and Its Markets*
- Hypothetical Assistance program assignment due

Week 13, Apr 11-17: Contemporary Pacific Arts
- Reading assignments: *Semu and Kihara*
- Final poster projects due
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, Apr 18-24: Identity and Representation
Reading assignment: *Hau’ofa, The Ocean in Us*
Read & discuss your classmates poster projects!

Week 15, Apr 25-May 1: Pacific Islanders Today, the Spoken Word
Video assignments in Laulima

Remember to take your final exam before Wednesday May 10th midnight!

Also it’s greatly appreciated if you complete a course evaluation in eCafe. Please see https://windward.hawaii.edu/ecafe/

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.