

PACS 108: Pacific Worlds: An Introduction to Pacific Islands Studies

CRN: 63129 Online 3 Credits

Fall 2016

INSTRUCTOR: Tricia Allen

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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 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. *Online sections will be utilizing Laulima extensively.*

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. Although this is an online course, there is a mandatory one-session meeting. Dates/times will be announced via your UH Gmail. This will be beneficial on a number of levels: it will familiarize you with the Laulima course interface and the class requirements, and you will have some personal face-to-face connection with both myself and your classmates which will better facilitate online community discussions.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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

Forum discussions:	150 points (40%)
Map quiz:	15 points (5%)
Concept assessments (5 x 15 points each):	75 points (20%)
Poster:	40 points (11%)
Midterm:	40 points (11%)
Final exam:	50 points (13%)

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 Monday. I'll be doing the grading and making final comments every Tuesday for the previous week. Check back after Tuesday 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 must submit them in Laulima Dropbox. When saving your assignment, title your actual document with your name and the assignment before uploading them into Dropbox, For example, I would save my document for the first concept assessment (CA) with the label "T.Allen,CA1,Migration". Improperly titled assignments will be docked 2 points!

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. Keep abreast of the deadlines posted in the Weekly Lessons for each portion of this project!

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. 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 10 extra credit points for completing a written assignment. Details will be posted in Laulima.

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 unit and by week. Reading assignments, web links and video links can all be found there.

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 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.

Course Schedule

This course is divided into 6 units

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.**

Unit 1: 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, Aug 22-29: Introduction to the Pacific

Reading: **Teaiwa, The Classroom as a Metaphorical Canoe**

Video assignment: Sacred Vessels (2 parts) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7nXev2Jt7g>
and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpVuw57uwY>

Week 2, Aug 30-Sept 5: Creation and Origin Legends

Reading, **Matsuoka, Civilization Without a Center**

Reading on "race": <http://www.newsweek.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123>

Reading on Aboriginal oral Tradition: <http://goo.gl/kvRErb>

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E1IaQjY>

Week 3, Sept 6-12: 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**

Watch the PowerPoint Presentation in Resources with your SOUND turned ON!

Unit 2: 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, Sept 13-19: Archaeological Evidence of Origins

Reading: **Ridgell, Migration**

Reading assignment: **Finney, The Pacific Basin: An Introduction**

Watch the PowerPoint Presentation in Resources with sound!

Your summary of your proposed poster project is due in FORUMS! This is brief, 2-3 sentences

Your first concept assessment (on prehistory & migration) **is due!**

Week 5, Sept 20-26: DNA studies of Pacific Prehistory

Video assignment with Dr. Lum, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPh-qvI8>

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 in Resources

Week 6, Sept 27-Oct 3: 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.kcc.hawaii.edu/>

A draft of your annotated bibliography is due in FORUMS!

Take your Map Quiz is due my Monday midnight!

Unit 3: 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, Samoa, Rapa Nui and Hawai'i.

Week 7, Oct 4-10: The Arrival of the Newcomers.

Reading assignment: **Daws, Looking at Islanders**

Reading assignment: **Campbell, The Age of European Discovery**

Reading assignment: **Fais:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fais_Island.

Revised draft of your annotated bibliography is due! Continue revising your draft in Forums.

Week 8, Oct 11-17: The 19th Century. Blackbirders

Reading assignments on **Blackbirding**

Reading assignment: **Campbell, Polynesia: Trade and Social Change**

Your third concept assessment (on Blackbirding) is due!

Complete your MIDTERM EXAM by Monday night!

Week 9, Oct 18-24: Wartime and the Nuclear Pacific

Reading assignment, **Starfish Prime**

Video Assignment: **Nuclear Savage**, see Laulima Weekly Lessons or Resources for link

Case studies: Guam, the Marshall Islands

Draft of proposed poster project due! Upload in Dropbox with your document properly labeled.

Unit 4: 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, Oct 25-31 Mining in the Pacific

Reading assignment, chose either mine and read ALL the links on your chosen mine

Wa'a projects and presentations

Your fourth concept assessment (on mining) is due!

Week 11, Nov 1-7: Assistance Programs and Intervention, Globalization

Video: Samoa disaster relief

Reading assignment, Globalization, read highlighted areas only

Hypothetical assistance program

Unit 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, Nov 8-14: Tourist Art & Markets, Arts Festivals

Reading assignment: **Mallon, Tourist Art and its Markets**

Your 5th & final concept assessment (on Globalization) is due!

Week 13, Nov 15-21: Contemporary Pacific Arts

Reading assignments: **Semu** and **Kihara**

Your final poster projects are due!

Happy Thanksgiving, Watch some of our great films for extra credit if you want to improve your grade!

Unit 6: 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, Nov 22-28: Identity and Representation

Reading assignment: **Hau'ofa, The Ocean in Us**
Read & discuss your classmates poster projects!

Week 15, Nov 29-Dec 5: Pacific Islanders Today, the Spoken Word

Video assignments in Laulima

Officially Dec. 8th is the last day of instruction. Use these 3 days to catch up on your courses and prepare for the upcoming final!

Remember to take your final exam before the posted deadline!

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.