

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

CRN: 61410 3 Credits

Tues/Thurs, 11:30am – 12:45pm Hale A'o room107

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 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 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 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

Attendance and participation:	60 points
Map quiz:	30 points
Reading feedback /concept assessments (5 x 10 points each):	50 points
Wa'a assignments (hypothetical assistance program):	10 points
Poster Project:	40 points
Midterm:	40 points
Final exam:	50 points

*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 be required to meet in class as well as outside of the classroom to work on your projects.

On Deadlines: All deadlines and assignments will be 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. In the case of a documented medical or family emergency, for each week a paper is late, 1/2 letter grade will be deducted.

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 note) exams and can be done on your computer at home or at the computer labs on campus. Test dates will be announced 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 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*. 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.

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.**

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, 1/12, 1/14: Introduction: Course structure, Wa'a and group assignment

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

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

and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpVuw57uwY>

Week 2, 1/19, 1/21: Creation and origin legends, approaches to origins

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

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

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

In-class video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E1laQjY>

Week 3, 1/26, 1/28: Mapping and naming the Pacific

Reading assignment: **D'Urville, Islands of the Great Ocean**, CR, LR

Reading assignment: **Hau'ofa, E. Our Sea of Islands**, CR, LR

Reading assignment: **Intro. to Geology** (LR only! This is NOT in your course reader)

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, 2/2, 2/4: Archaeological evidence of origins

Reading: **Ridgell, Migration**, CR, LR

Discussion of settlement patterns, cultural continuity and divergence

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

Your summary of your proposed poster project is due this Tuesday!

Your first Concept Assessment on prehistory is due next week Tuesday!

Week 5, 2/9, 2/11: DNA studies of Pacific Prehistory

Watch the video with Dr. Lum, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPh-qvl8>

In-class video: Made in Taiwan,

Review of prehistory & migration theory

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

The map quiz in Thursday in class! Study!

Week 6, 2/16, 2/18: 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/>

Your second concept assessment (on Dr. Lum's talk) is due Tuesday!

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, 2/23, 2/25: The arrival of the newcomers—explorers, colonial powers, missionaries and traders.

Reading assignment: **Ridgell, Foreigners in the Pacific** CR only

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

In-class reading/discussion on **Fais**: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fais_Island.

Your Annotated bibliography for your poster project is due on Tuesday!

Week 8, 3/1, 3/3: The 19th century. Blackbirders

Reading assignments on **Blackbirding**, web links in LR

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

Your third concept assessment (on Blackbirding) **is due**

Your quiz or midterm is this week. You must complete it by Sunday, Mar 6, 11:59pm

MIDTERM EXAM : The exam is online in Laulima, You must complete it by Sunday, 4/06 11:59pm.

Week 9, 3/8, 3/10: Wartime & the Nuclear Pacific

Online reading assignment, links in Laulima, LR

Video Assignment: Nuclear Savage, see

Case studies: Guam, the Marshall Islands

Draft of the written portion of your poster project 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, 3/15, 3/17: Mining in the Pacific

Online reading assignments, links in Laulima, LR

Concept assessment assignment #4, wa'a group presentations.

Last possible date to submit your written draft of the poster project.

SPRING BREAK- 3/22, 3/24

Week 11, 3/29, 3/31: Globalization and Assistance Programs

Video assignment: Samoa disaster relief, LR

Online reading assignment: Globalization (2 articles, read highlighted sections) LR

Concept assessment (#5 on Globalization) is due NEXT week Tuesday

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, 4/5, 4/7: Arts and Material Culture of the Pacific

Reading assignment: **Waite**, Art, CR

In class video

Group presentations, student poster presentations

Concept assessment (#5 on Globalization) is due

Week 13, 4/12, 4/14: Tourism and the Arts

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

Online reading assignment, LR

Student poster presentations

Week 14, 4/19, 4/21: Recent movements in Pacific art

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 15, 4/26, 4/28: Identity and Representation

Reading assignment: **Herman, "Race," Identity and Representation**, CR

Reading assignment: **Hau'ofa, The Ocean in Us**, CR, LR

Final class date 5/3: Review

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.