## PACS 108: Pacific Worlds: An Introduction to Pacific Island Studies

**CRN:** 61166  **Online**  **3 Credits**  
**Spring 2021**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tricia Allen  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment, please email to arrange a meeting  
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### WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts & 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 the Ko‘olau region of O‘ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

### CATALOG DESCRIPTION

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

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This course is a HAP (Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific) designation course. As a HAP course two-thirds of the content of this course satisfies the University specified hallmarks showing an intersection between Hawaiian issues and Asian and/or Pacific peoples’ issues.


### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following 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 Island
COURSE CONTENT AND RESULTANT COMPETENCIES

This course is divided into six thematic units designed to give the student the following competencies.

**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.

COURSE TASKS AND GRADING

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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
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<td>Concept assessments (5 x 15 points each)</td>
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All assignments and deadlines will be explained in detail and posted in Laulima.

Participation

Our class discussions will all 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 possibly making final comments every Monday for the previous week. Check back after Monday for my comments and feedback. You can check your grade any time in Laulima Grades. 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 Sunday at midnight. All other deadlines and assignments are posted in Laulima. Remember it’s your responsibility to

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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 our Forum discussions) however, 10% 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 so that you have a back up and easy access to it when taking the exams. Yes, the exams are open-resources! You can use any resources that you would like.

**Exams:** Your quizzes, 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 you like. Test dates are posted in your Weekly 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 are posted in Laulima Resources; look for the folder marked “Extra Credit Films”.

**Facebook:** There is a Facebook page for this course with fun articles and links. You’ll find it under PACS108 Windward. It would be beneficial to follow this page, although it’s not required

**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. Please browse through our Laulima course page. You’ll find details on all of your assignments in the unit summaries in the left hand column of the Laulima homepage. Weekly assignments are due Sunday nights at 11:59PM.

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 discussions throughout the semester will take place within your 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 a week-by-week schedule of assignments are posted online and organized into six units.
**LEARNING RESOURCES**

You’ll find all of your assignments in Resources on our course website. The majority of your readings are downloadable PDF files, however there are some required readings and videos that stream online. You are not required to buy a text.

There is a detailed syllabus with your learning objectives, assignments and an overview organized week-by-week on our online course interface. I highly recommend that you spend some time browsing our course site during our first week. Familiarize yourself with the web interface and the course requirements. If you are unfamiliar with Laulima, email me and I can send you a link created by the college to introduce you to the online interface.

In addition to your required readings & videos there are many other excellent sites that you can browse to broaden your understanding of the Pacific.

*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://www.pireport.org/ Daily news stories, extensive links to other sites and resources, as well as a searchable archive.

*Radio Australia, Pacific Beat:*  
https://www.abc.net.au/radio-australia/programs/pacificbeat/ This program brings interviews with Pacific Island leaders, newsmakers and Pacific Islanders.

*Art Pacific:*  
http://www.art-pacific.com/index.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.

You are also encouraged to utilize the services offered through My Success online. This links from your Laulima home page. I may be messaging you from time to time via My Success also to keep you abreast of your progress.

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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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 details on your weekly assignments. They are organized by unit and week in the left column of our course page.

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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, Jan. 11–17: Teaiwa, The Classroom as a Metaphorical Canoe
Introductions
Video assignment: Sacred Vessels (2 parts)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7nXev2Jt7g
and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahpVuw57uwY

Week 2, Jan. 18-24: Creation and Origin Legends
Reading, Matsuda, Civilization Without a Center
Reading on Aboriginal oral Tradition: http://goo.gl/kvRErb
Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6q8E1qJqY
Reading on Fais: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fais_Island
Reading on “race”: http://www.newsweek.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123

September 1st is the last day to drop and receive a 100% Tuition Refund

Week 3, Jan. 25-31: 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, Feb. 1-7: Archaeological Evidence of Origins
Reading: Ridgell, Migration
Reading assignment: Abbott, The First Hawaiians and Their Plants, pages 1-6 only
PowerPoint Presentation in Resources – have your sound on!
Your first concept assessment (on prehistory & migration) is due!

Week 5, Feb. 8-14: DNA studies of Pacific Prehistory
Video assignment with Dr. Lum, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWFzPh-gvI8
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. 15-21: 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/
Take your Map Quiz by Sunday midnight!

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

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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. 22-28: The Arrival of the Newcomers.  
Reading assignment: Daws, Looking at Islanders  
Reading assignment: Campbell, The Age of European Discovery  
Optional: Complete the sample quiz by the 28th for extra credit points!

Week 8.  
Mar 1-7:  Online reading assignments on Blackbirding  
Reading assignment: Campbell, Polynesia: Trade and Social Change  
Your 3rd concept assessment (on Blackbirding) is due!  
Complete your MIDTERM EXAM by Sunday night!

Week 9.  
Mar 8-14: Wartime and the Nuclear Pacific  
Reading assignment, Starfish Prime  
Video Assignment: Nuclear Savage, see Laulima Weekly Lessons or Resources for link  
EXTRA CREDIT Video Assignments: Guam, the Marshall Islands  
Your concept assessment (#4) on the Nuclear Pacific is due!

Mar. 15-21: SPRING BREAK! Watch some extra credit films!

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. 22-28: Mining in the Pacific  
Reading assignment, chose either mine and read ALL the links on your chosen mine  
Wa’a projects, hypothetical relief projects, start discussions.  
Your 5th concept assessment (on mining) is due

Monday Mar. 29th is the last day to withdraw from a course.

Week 11.  
Mar, 29-Apr.4: Assistance Programs and Intervention, Globalization  
Video: Samoa disaster relief  
Reading assignment, Globalization, read highlighted areas only  
Hypothetical assistance program, begin discussions. Decide on a project.

BOOST YOUR GRADE! DO SOME EXTRA CREDIT! All extra credit is due by May 1st.

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. 5-11: Tourist Art & Markets, Arts Festivals  
Reading assignment: Mallon, Tourist Art and its Markets  
Reading assignment: Decolonizing Tourism

Week 13.  
Apr. 12-18: Contemporary Pacific Arts  
Reading assignments: Semu and Kihara  
Hypothetical Assistance program assignment due, post your finalized plan.
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. 19-25: Hau’ofa, The Ocean in Us
Participate in Forums discussions
Write 2 test questions, submit in Assignments for to up 5 points extra credit.

Week 15, Apr. 26-May 2: Video assignments in Laulima

Wed, May 5th: Final day of instruction, REVIEW!

Remember to take your final exam before Wednesday, May 12th at midnight!

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Plagiarism is copying another’s ideas, word-for-word or paraphrased, without giving the originator credit. Asking another individual to write an assignment is another form of plagiarism. Using an assignment that you’ve done for another class is also unethical. Using essays (or portions of essays) from the internet without proper documentation is also plagiarism. In deliberate or aggravated cases, the student will fail the course. Repeated offenses or an entirely plagiarized essay will result in referral to the administration, which may lead to expulsion from WCC.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

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 ‘Ākoakoa 213 for more information.

TITLE IX

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. Specifically, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination; sexual and gender-based harassment, including harassment based on actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; sexual assault; exploitation; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking. For more information on your rights under Title IX visit: https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/.

Windward Community College is committed to the pursuit of equal education. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination or gender-based violence, WCC has resources to support you. To speak with someone confidentially, contact the Mental Health & Wellness Office at 808-235-7393 or Kaahu Alo, Designated Confidential Advocate for Students, at 808-235-7354 or kaahualo@hawaii.edu. To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Karla K. Silva-Park, at 808-235-7468 or karlas@hawaii.edu.

ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact me via email AllenT@Hawaii.edu or if have questions that I cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:
Location: Alakai 121. Phone: 808-235-7422, Email: wccaa@hawaii.edu