UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I
WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Ke Kulanui Kaiāulu o ke Koʻolau

Hawaiian Studies 255—Intro. to the Hawaiian Kingdom (WI) (online)

Fall 2026

3 Credits | CRN 62399

Windward Community College Mission Statement

'O keia ka wā kūpono e ho'onui ai ka 'ike me ka ho'omaopopo i kō Hawai'i mau ho'oilina waiwai. Aia nō ho'i ma ke Kulanui Kaiāulu o ke Ko'olau nā papahana hou o nā 'ike 'akeakamai a me nā hana no'eau. Me ke kuleana ko'iko'i e ho'ohiki ke Kulanui e kāko'o a e ho'okumu i ala e hiki kē kōkua i ka ho'onui 'ike a nā kānaka maoli. Na mākou nō e ho'olako, kāko'o a paipai i nā Ko'olau a kō O'ahu a'e me nā hana no'eau ākea, ka ho'ona'auao 'oihana a me ka ho'onui 'ike ma ke kaiāulu — hō'a'ano a e ho'oulu i nā haumāna i ka po'okela.

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawaiʻi and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide Oʻahu's Koʻolau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence

Instructor Information

Contact Information

Dr. Keanu Sai

Email: anu@hawaii.edu

Alternate Contact Information

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alakaʻi 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422

Course Information

This course covers the origins and features of the Hawaiian state. Starting with Hawaiʻi's roots as a navigator society, this course explores the island kingdoms of Kauaʻi, Oʻahu, Maui and Hawaiʻi island. Detailed interaction between Hawaiians and navigators from other countries around the world such as Cook and Vancouver open up an investigation through the reign of Kamehameha I

and his powerful wife Kaʻahumanu. The decision to construct a constitutional monarchy, achieve state recognition and develop a modern nation-state are examined further through the eighty-eight year period of Kingdom of Hawaiʻi statecraft. Using tools from history, linguistics, social sciences and law, students will engage the transition of Hawaiian political systems as they emerged across specific periods with an eye towards developing theoretical frameworks for understanding why Hawaiian political systems progressed as they did.

Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or better in HWST 107, HIST 284 or HIST 224.

Writing Intensive Hallmarks

The hallmarks of this writing intensive course are:

1. Writing promotes learning of course content.
2. The class provides interaction between the instructor and students while students do assigned writing.
3. Writing contributes significantly to each student's course grade.
4. Students do a substantial amount of writing, a minimum of 4,000 words. Depending on the types of writing appropriate to the discipline, students may write critical essays or reviews, journal entries, lab reports, research reports or reaction papers.
5. To all for meaningful teacher-student interaction on each student's writing, the class is restricted to 20 students.

Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

1. The student will be able to identify and analyze key narratives, historical figures and events in the discovery and settlement of the Hawaiian Islands.
2. The student will be able to identify and analyze key historical figures and events in the formation and development of the Hawaiian nation and state through the 19th century.
6. The student will be able to describe and analyze the historical interaction between Hawaiian and European values, ideas and technology as they relate to political systems.

Course Expectations

Respect the class as a learning environment by:

- Positive engagement in discussions.
- Use of appropriate language.
- Respecting the opinion and experiences of others.
- Conferences with the instructor are mandatory.

Required Materials

Texts

- David Keanu Sai, "Ua Mau Ke Ea (Sovereignty Endures): An Overview of the Political and Legal History of the Hawaiian Islands," Puʻa Foundation, Honolulu, 2011. Go online at: https://www.puafoundation.org/shop/p/ua-mau-ke-ea-sovereignty-endures-the-textbook.
- David Keanu Sai (ed.), *The Royal Commission of Inquiry: Investigating War Crimes and Human Rights Violations Committed in the Hawaiian Kingdom* (2020). The book can be downloaded from the "Resources" link on Laulima.

Articles

- *Programme for Patriotic Exercises in the Public Schools*, Territory of Hawaiʻi Department of Public Instruction, 2-14 (1906), accessible on Laulima.
- "Hawaiʻi's Lesson to Headstrong California," William Inglis, Harper's Weekly, 226-228 (1907), accessible on Laulima.
- "The Color of Nationality: Continuities and Discontinuities of Citizenship in Hawaiʻi," Doctoral Dissertation, Dr. Willy Kauai (2014), accessible on Laulima.
- "Ka Hoku o Osiania: Promoting the Hawaiian Kingdom as a Model for Political Transformation in Nineteenth-Century Oceania," Dr. Lorenz Gonschor, *Agents of Transculturation* (2013), accessible on Laulima.
- "Charting a New Course for the Ship of State: Hawaiʻi Becomes a Constitutional Monarchy" in Thomas A. Woods (ed.), *Kokua Aku, Kokua Mai: Chiefs, Missionaries, and Five Transformations of the Hawaiian Kingdom*, Thomas A. Woods, M. Puakea Nogelmeier and David Keanu Sai (2018), accessible on Laulima.
- "This is not America: The Acting Government of the Hawaiian Kingdom Goes Global with Legal Challenges to End Occupation," Dennis Riches, 1 *Center for Glocal Studies* 81-130 (2015), accessible on Laulima.
- "Operational Plan for Transitioning the State of Hawaiʻi into a Military Government," Council of Regency (Aug. 14, 2023).

Book Review

- Book Review of "The Royal Commission of Inquiry: Investigating War Crimes and Human Rights Violations Committed in the Hawaiian Kingdom," by Anita Budziszewska, *Polish Journal of Political Science*, vol. 8, issue no. 1 (2022).

Course Format

Methodology

- Students will be expected to complete the required readings and submit three writing assignments as noted in the course schedule and your final paper. Grading is based on (20%) class participation and attendance, (30%) review and comment papers, and (50%) final paper. The class will be conducted in a seminar format and participation is required.

Conference

Students will meet with the instructor at least once (1) throughout the semester. The student may schedule additional conferences should they feel the need to meet with the instructor. For students off island conference can be made by phone.

Writing Assignments

Writing assignments must be 4 pages in length and double-spaced with Chicago Style footnotes. Final papers will be 8 pages and double-spaced with Chicago Style footnotes. The total numbers of pages for the semester are 20 pages.

The Final paper should include:

1. Introduction. In the introduction you will provide some basic background on the topic you chose to write about and why it is important and interesting to you.
2. Thesis Statement. You'll need to provide a claim or argument that you want to assert as well as a basic outline of your paper. Example: "In this article, I will elaborate on the Larsen case and the actions taken by the parties since the Arbitral Award. I will then expound on the status of Hawai`i as a legal person and subject of international law, which firmly rests upon four fundamental elements: first, recognition of Hawai`i as an independent State; second, U.S. violation of Hawaiian State sovereignty on January 16, 1893; third, U.S. violation of Hawaiian neutrality during the Spanish-American War, 1898; and, fourth, U.S. violation of the International Law of Occupation to date. All four elements attribute to the continuity of the Hawaiian Kingdom as an independent State and provides the basis for the present legal dispute with the United States of America concerning the rights of Larsen––a Hawaiian national."
3. Evidence & Discussion. Provide a logical and coherent discussion of your topic and cite sources.
4. Conclusion. Reiterate the significance of your argument and explain the relevancy of your argument in contemporary Hawai'i.

Regular Substantive Interaction

Online courses at Windward Community College follow these guidelines for ensuring quality instruction: RSI Definition-WCC.

Participation Verification

Campuses are required by federal regulations to verify the participation of students in their classes. In accordance with Executive Policy 7.209, all students in the University of Hawai'i system are required to establish "participation" to ensure that they are not dropped from their class(es). Students who fail to participate by the late registration period for a class will be administratively dropped from that class. Students may also be dropped from dependent prerequisite and/or corequisite classes if both courses do not establish participation.

Weekly Assignments

Week	Date	Topic	Due Dates
1	10/19/26	Native Hawaiians are not an Indigenous People • READ: "Setting the Record Straight on Hawaiian Indigeneity," Sai, (2021). • WATCH: "Dr. Sai's presentation on the importance of terminology" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYtX4zheGMI Post Comment on discussion board	
2	10/26/26	*Evolution of Absolute Authority (Part I)* • READ: Pages 9-37, UA MAU KE EA: Sovereignty Endures (2011) • Post Comment on discussion board	Nov. 2—First written assignment due
3	11/2/26	*Government Reform (Part II)* • READ: Pages 45-65, UA MAU KE EA: Sovereignty Endures, (2011) • Post Comment on discussion board	
4	11/9/26	*United States Seizure of the Hawaiian Islands (Part III)* • READ: Pages 73-95, UA MAU KE EA: Sovereignty Endures, Dr. Keanu Sai (2011) • Post Comment on discussion board	Nov. 16—Second written assignment due
5	11/16/26	*Occupation of the Hawaiian Kingdom (Part IV)*	

Week	Date	Topic	Due Dates
		• READ: Pages 103-127, UA MAU KE EA: Sovereignty Endures, Dr. Keanu Sai (2011); Territory of Hawai'i Department of Public Instruction, *Programme for Patriotic Exercises in the Public Schools*, 2-14 (1906); "Hawai'i's Lesson to Headstrong California," William Inglis, Harper's Weekly, 226-228 (1907) • Post Comment on discussion board	
6	11/23/26	*Acting Government Established by Doctrine of Necessity* • READ: "Book Review of the Royal Commission of Inquiry," Budziszewska (2022); pages 12-23, "The Royal Commission of Inquiry," Sai (2020); and "Legal Opinion Affirms Authority of the Council of Regency Under International Law," Lenzerini (2021). • WATCH: "Documentary on the Hawaiian Council of Regency" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CF6CaLAMh98 • Post Comment on discussion board	Nov. 30—Third written assignment due
7	11/30/26	*International Proceedings at the Permanent Court of Arbitration* • READ: Pages 24-52, "The Royal Commission of Inquiry," Sai (2020) • WATCH: "Documentary of *Larsen v. Hawaiian Kingdom*, Permanent Court of Arbitration" (2000)	

Week	Date	Topic	Due Dates
		https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmpXy2okJIg&t=648s • Post Comment on discussion board	
8	12/7/26	Military Government • READ: "Operational Plan for Transitioning the State of Hawai'i into a Military Government (Aug. 14, 2023) • WATCH: Presentation to the DRIP Committee Maui County Council (March 6, 2024) https://hawaiiankingdom.org/blog/dr-keanu-sais-presentation-to-the-maui-county-councils-drip-committee-on-march-6-2024/ • Post Comment on discussion board	Dec. 11—Final written assignment due

Academic Integrity

Work submitted by a student must be the student's own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as through the use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

In this class, students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s):

Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments.

All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

Windward CC Student Conduct Information

UH System Student Conduct Policy EO 7.208

Include an AI Statement (is it ok in your class? if so, when/how?) Here are some UH Guidelines and AI Recommendations. Instructors should refrain from sharing or inputting student work into online AI tools, including AI detection tools, without obtaining student consent. Uploading student work has potential FERPA implications as well as potential copyright concerns. Additionally, the uploaded content could be used as data for training of the AI, without the student's consent.

Student Responsibilities

- Expectations
- Additional policies (e.g., cell phones in the classroom, late work, attendance, missed work, extra credit, participation, netiquette)
- Any information you feel the student needs to know
- Students may check the Student Notifications page on the website for canceled classes

How to Seek Academic or Technical Support

Academic Support

- Windward Community College Library
- Library eResources
- Ka Piko Writing Lab
- Ka Piko Speech Lab
- Ka Piko Math Lab
- Evening and Online Learning at Windward Community College
- STAR Balance

Technical Support

- UH ITS Help Desk – email help@hawaii.edu or call 956-8883 (or 1-800-558-2669) for Laulima and most technology support. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays.
- Student Tech Support - email winhelp@hawaii.edu, call 808-235-7437, or stop by in person at Hale La'akea 228. Available Monday–Friday from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.
- Laulima – Click on the Request Assistance link at the bottom of any Laulima Page to fill out and submit a question and get your answer via email.
- Information Security for Students

College Policies & Support Services

Disabilities Accommodations Statement

The Windward Community College's Disability Student Services Office (WCC-DSSO) is committed to providing equal access to qualified students with disabilities.

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to participate fully in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor, Roy Inouye, to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this

class. The Disabilities Counselor can be reached at 808-235-7448, wccdsso@hawaii.edu, or stop by the office (Hale Kakoʻo 105) for more information.

Basic Needs

Basic needs include food and housing, childcare, mental health, financial resources, and transportation. Student basic needs security is critical for ensuring strong academic performance, persistence and graduation, and overall student well-being. If you or someone you know is experiencing basic needs insecurity, please see the UH System Basic Needs website.

Mental Health Counseling

Mental Health and Wellness at Windward Community College counseling services and activities on campus to support students' life goals as well as their academic goals. Information about services can be found at the WCC Mental Health & Wellness website.

UH Alerts

The UH Alert emergency notification system alerts the university community in the event of a natural, health or civil emergency. The information you provide will only be used in the event of an emergency that impacts the health and safety of the UH community or the closure of whole campuses. It will not be shared with others or used for routine UH communications or announcements. To sign up, visit UH Alerts website for more information.

Financial Aid

If you are receiving financial aid and are contemplating not completing the course, BEFORE you withdraw, it is highly recommended that you contact the Financial Aid Office at 808-934-2712 or email them at wccfao@hawaii.edu to discuss the impact this decision may have on your financial aid eligibility.

Student Conduct Code

Windward Community College follows the University of Hawaiʻi Code of Student Conduct which defines expected conduct for students and specifies those acts subject to University sanctions. Students should familiarize themselves with the Code of Student Conduct since, upon enrollment at Windward Community College, the student has placed herself/himself under the policies and regulations of the University and its duly constituted bodies. The disciplinary authority is exercised through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Copies of the Student Conduct Code are available at the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or online.

Title IX - Sex Discrimination And Gender-Based Violence Resources

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Leslie Cabingabang, UH System Confidential Advocate
Phone/Text: (808) 348-0432 or (808) 341-4952
Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kākoʻo 107 (Wednesdays)

Mykie E. Menor Ozoa-Aglugub, J.D., Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7468
Email: mozoa@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kākoʻo 109

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
Phone: (808) 235-7393
Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kākoʻo 101

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale ʻAlakaʻi 120

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources, and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to https://www.hawaii.edu/titleix/