University of Hawai'i
Windward Community College
Ka Kulanui Kaiaulu o ke Ko'olau

MUS 277, Mele, Mo'olelo, and Motion

Fall 2025 | 8-week course | Jan. 12, 2026 – March 6, 2026

3 Credits (CRN 63431)

* This syllabus and/or our Course Schedule is subject to change at any time. I will notify you of any changes via Lamakū Announcements. Mahalo!

About Windward Community College

Mission Statement

'O kela ka wā kūpono e ho'omaka ai ka 'ike ma ka ho'omaopopo i ke'ano o ka hana a ke Kulanui Kaiaulu o ke Ko'olau nā pupukahi hou o nā 'ike 'oke akamai a me nā hana mo'oraro. Me ke kuleana ke ho'i e ho'oholo ke kuleana i kāko'o a e ho'olauna i ako a loiki ke kilohau i ka ho'omaka 'ike a nā kāmaka maoli. Na mākou nō e ho'oholo, kāko'o a poipoi i nā Ke'ena a lei 'O'ahu a e ma nā kuaʻāina no'eau ākea, ka ho'ona'auao 'oihana a me ka ho'omaka 'ike ma ke kaiāulu – hō'ea'ana a e ho'oulu i nā hanohano i ka pa'oiaola.

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and 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.

ʻĀina

Windward Community College is located in the ahupua'a of Kāne'ohe and He'e'ia in the moku of Ko'olaupoko on the island of O'ahu. Both ahupua'a are directly connected to the mo'o 'ōlelo of Pāpa and Wākea, who are seen as the ancestors of the Hawaiian nation. The campus sits beneath the pu'u of Keahuākolea, which is also connected to many mo'o 'ōlelo of this 'āina. Because wind names and rain names are associated with specific 'āina, the rain name of Kāne'ohe is known as the 'Apuakea and the rain name of He'e'ia is the Uluhaunui.

Instructor Information

About Your Instructor

Master Composer/Haku Mele, international performer Hula dancer, lecturer at Windward Community College.

How to Contact Your Instructor

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Kawaikapuokūnui Hewett, Kumu Hula, Lecturer

Programs: Hawaiian Studies, Hawai'ilou, and Ka'ehekani

EMAIL: kkh66@hawaii.edu - email is the fastest way to reach me; I will usually respond to emails sent Sundays through Thursdays within 24 hours, and on Mondays if the email is sent on Fridays or Saturdays.

TEXT: You may also txt me at 808 382-6043

TELEPHONE: (808)236-9286

Zoom Virtual Office: By appointment only (email me to schedule)

- https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/97633232956
- passcode: E3HUA

OPTIONAL WEEKLY MEETING TIME: Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Stop by in Zoom to talk story or ask course questions.

Course Q&A Discussion

If you have questions about our course content, would like clarification, etc., please post your mīnas on Lamakū under the Q&A Discussion. This helps ensure we can all benefit from the information, just like we would if we were in a classroom together. I will answer your questions as they come in, but also make sure to check on Wednesdays.

Please email me directly from Classlik if you have a personal matters to discuss or specific grading question about your work, per FERPA privacy requirements. Mahalo.

Tip! Subscribe to the Q&A and allow for Lamakū Notifications (desktop/laptop and Pulse app) so you can stay in the loop with course questions.

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: Alaka'i 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422

Contingency Plan

If there is an outage, weather situation, or family emergency on my end, I will do my best to find a way to communicate an update as soon as possible about my return to the course. Mahalo in advance for your understanding and I hope you will do the same.

Course Format & Structure

This course is offered in a fully online, asynchronous 8-week time frame.

This course is completely online. There are no dedicated day(s) and time(s) for class instruction. Students MUST have access to a computer, the Internet, and use their UH hawaii.edu email account to participate in this course. Students will participate by completing and submitting coursework by the stated deadlines

You'll be able to see all modules from the start of term. We do not have any required course meetings, but you are able to stop by our optional online office hours each week to interact with your coursemates and ask course questions.

Regular Substantive Interaction (RSI)

Online courses at Windward Community College follow the college's RSI Definition for ensuring quality instruction. You can expect me to communicate with you frequently (and in a timely fashion) about our coursework in the following ways during our 8 week course.

All course activity due dates are listed in Lamakū on the Calendar. Please check your UH email often and set your Lamakū Notifications (both email and D2L Brightspace Pulse App) to receive course notices, such as grading updates, announcements, and activity reminders. I will keep our Lamakū course Grades as current as possible.

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). Effective Fall 2021, 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.

* For MUS 277, please be sure to make your Aloha introduction posting during the first week of the class.

Course Information

Catalog Description

This is a music class that focuses on Hawaiian songs, the stories that accompany those songs, and how the motions of the hula interact with both the lyrics and the stories. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

At Windward, MUS 277 is part of the Academic Subject Certificate in Hawaiian Music, the Ka'ehekani program.

Diversification: Humanities
Recommended Preparation: MUS 177

Student Learning Outcomes

Students can expect to attain the following outcomes as a result of taking this course:

1. Explain the connection between Hawaiian music lyrics, the stories and the hula motions.
2. Discuss on the meanings of Hawaiian lyrics and poetry.
3. Demonstrate motions and steps that would appropriate the chosen mele.
4. Demonstrate the correct pronunciation of Hawai'ian music lyrics

Course Materials

Required

We do not have a course textbook. All materials will be posted in the Lamakū learning management system.

- Regular access to a computer with internet (desktop or laptop).
  - Windward has computers, WiFi hotspots, software, and discounts available to students; see Ka Piko Student Tech Support for information.
  - UH Online provides an online learning Readiness Activity, and an Orientation to Online Learning that Windward CC students may take to see if online learning is a good fit.

Recommended

- D2L Brightspace Pulse App (free download from app stores)

Lamakū Learning Management System

URL: https://lamaku.hawaii.edu/d2lhome

- UHCC Lamakū Student Resources (how-to videos)
  - Contact UH HS for 24/7 Lamakū assistance.
- Keeping Accessibility and UDL in Mind
  - If you find any course content that needs remediation and/or updating, please kindly share and I will immediately work to make the content accessible.
- Lamakū courses will appear 5 days before the first day for the academic term and will become inactive (no longer be available to access) 3 weeks after the end of the term. Be sure to save any coursework you may need from Lamakū *during* the term.
- Lamakū automatically logs you out *if it does not detect activity for three hours*. A warning message will appear, notifying you of the lack of activity. Activity is defined as clicking a button in Lamakū, such as "Save Draft" or "Next" (in a test), clicking on a course tab, or taking an action that sends information to the server.

Other Technology

D2L Brightspace, the parent company of Lamakū, recommends users choose the latest versions of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, or Apple Safari as their internet browser.

We recommend that students update their internet browser at the start of each term, search how to allow pop-up windows, adjust their cookies, and clear device history. Also, fully restart your computer and/or device from time to time to optimize performance.

Review the privacy/security policies before using the technologies we will be using in this class. Contact me if you would like to discuss the use of alternate options or technologies.

- Google Drive is UH-provided cloud storage (accessibility statement, privacy policy)
- Google Docs is used to create documents (accessibility statement, privacy policy)
- Zoom is used for the Synchronous Sessions and virtual office (accessibility statement, privacy policy)

Grading Policy

If there are any challenges with late assignments, please feel free to contact me. Late assignments after 11:00 p.m. Friday December 10, 2025 will be hand delivered to instructor or mailed in. Please include on all assignments, your name, the assignment name and the assignment number. Please also include the course CRN number.

Rubrics and/or exemplary work examples will be provided for each course activity in Lamakū.

Grading Scale

Course Activity	*Points/Percentage of Final Grade*
(Aloha introduction)	–
Course Reflections	30%
Video Assignment	30%
Written Reflection Assignments	30%

Assessment, Tasks, and Grading

* Remember to make your required Aloha introduction post during the first week of class to meet your classmates and to fulfill the UH Participation Verification.

The assignments that you are given to complete outside of class are given to support you within the class. You should keep up with the weekly assignments. The assignments are critical to the overall understanding that you will gain from the class. The assignments are designed to give you a holistic understanding of Hawaiian music focusing on poetry and their stories and reflections.

- **Written Reflection Assignments** – a reflection paper will be submitted for each lecture presentation. The reflection paper is a written assignment that will be posted and submitted to the Lamakū Program. You required to write a minimum of 20 sentences of more.
- **Video Assignments -** The video assignment is key to the understanding of how words of a mele connect to the motions of the hula. These video will be posted to the Lamakū Program.
- **Course Reflection** – 1. A course questionnaire at the beginning of the course 2. A video submission update after the 7th assignment of the course. 3. A written submission of course gains. i will be able to interact with students after each submission on the Lamakū System.

Course Schedule

Students may check the Windward Student Notifications page on the website for canceled classes and/or school closures.

- Course begins: Monday January 12, 2026
- All assignments due: Wednesday March 4, 2026
- Course ends: Friday March 6, 2026
- Grades due: Sunday March 8, 2026

Academic Integrity

All generated work is not accepted in our course. 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

Student Kuleana

- Please review our Hawai'i Style Netiquette, which blends the values of ALOHA with approaches to how we treat each other online.
- Windward CC has Grievance Procedures in place, but I encourage us to try to work together first to see if we can work through any troubles. Mahalo!

Academic and Technical Support

Academic Support

- Windward Community College Library
- Library eResources
- Library Research Units (LRUs)
- Ka Piko Writing Lab
- Ka Piko Speech Lab
- Ka Piko Math Lab
- Online Learning at Windward Community College
- STAR Balance

Technical Support

- UH ITS Help Desk: email help@hawaii.edu or call (808) 956-8883 (or 1 800-558-2669) for Lamakū and most technology support. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays.
- Student Tech Support: email windwhelp@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.
- Lamakū: Click on the Lamakū Help link in the menu bar at the top of the Lamakū homepage to fill out and submit a question and get your answer via email.
- Information Security for Students

College Policies & Support Services

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.

Disabilities Accommodations Statement

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 Iseyu, 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 Kuko'o 106) for more information.

Financial Aid

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

LGBTQ+

The University of Hawai'i system and Windward Community College are committed to building an inclusive community that supports and advocates for all students, staff, and faculty. We welcome all members of our campus community to our campuses: transgender, intersex, and people of all gender identities. All members of our campus community deserve a work and educational environment free from harassment or bullying based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression. For more information, see the University of Hawai'i Commission on LGBTQ+ Equality. Windward Community College Counselor: Scott Sutherland, scottks@hawaii.edu

Mental Health Counseling

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

Student Conduct Code

Windward Community College follows the University of Hawai'i Code of Student Conduct which defines expected conduct for students and specifies these acts subject to University sanctions. Students should familiarize themselves with the Code of Student Conduct since, upon enrollment at Windward Community College, they have placed themselves under the policies and regulations of the University and its duly committed 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.

TRiO Program

The Federal TRiO Programs are educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRiO includes six outreach and support programs targeted to serve and assist low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities in progressing through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs. Information about services can be found at Windward CC TRiO.

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 misconduct, 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:

Devon Kehaly, UH System Confidential Advocate
Phone: (808) 215-7393
Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kuko'o 101

Devine Kehaly, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
Phone: (808) 235-7393
Email: dkehaly@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kuko'o 101

Mykie E. Menor Oreta-Agliguib, J.D., Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: menor@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kuko'o 109

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale 'Alaka'i 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, refer to the University's Title IX resources, and the University's Policy, EP 1.204.

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 for more information.

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