

Social and Cultural Change:

First contact and its aftermath in highland Papua New Guinea

Anthropology 423 University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Fall 2007

Date Fall 07
Time Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Location WEB 102

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Office Hours Fridays 1-3, Saunders 313

Course Overview In the late 1920s and early 1930s Australians discovered the highlands of Papua New Guinea, home to roughly one million people who had never encountered Europeans before. Highlanders experienced contact with Europeans, colonization, and decolonization, going 'from stone to steel in one generation' and dealing with the massive cultural change this entailed. At the same time, the Australians who governed highlanders projected their own fantasies of empire, development, and benevolent paternalism onto their relationships with Papua New Guineans. This course examines in detail the patrols that first entered the highlands and their aftermath in contemporary Papua New Guinea. Using a lens sharply focused on the ethnography of both highlanders and their Australian rulers, the readings will draw out the implications of first contact and its aftermath for issues such as colonization and post-coloniality, globalization, whiteness, environmentalism, and the representation of indigenous peoples in local and global arenas.

In the first section of the class, we will examine the Leahy patrol to Mount Hagen in 1933. The instructor will demonstrate how to use Google Earth to track the course of the patrol, and will model (and explain) oral presentation skills.

In the second section of the class, we will read Bill Gammage's book "Sky Travellers" about the Taylor/Black patrol of 1938-1939. This time students will themselves will form groups. They will use Google Earth to explain the track of the patrol to their classmates and we will all learn how to give and receive input to improve our oral presentation abilities. We will also begin discussion ethnography of the areas that Black and Taylor travelled in order to learn more about the people they visited. This will enable us to develop our oral skills in fostering a seminar environment.

In the third section of the class we will read ethnography of contemporary Papua New Guinea to learn about what happened to the areas that Leahy, Taylor, and Black visited. In this final section of the class we will work on developing our seminar skills.

Multimedia presentations will extremely important in this class – in addition to Google Earth, we will be watching movies on first contact, and we may also have the opportunity to talk to one of family members of Leahy or Taylor over Skype.

Course Objectives Students will gain:

* In-depth knowledge of the colonial history and ethnography of Papua New Guinea

* Working knowledge of Google Earth and Keyhole Markup Language

* Significant knowledge of current anthropological theories of social and cultural change

* Substantial oral skills including: 1) presenting spatial data 2) discussing ethnographic material in a seminar environment and 3) analyze ethnographic film in a seminar environment.

Readings Many readings will be available online on the course's WebCT site.

In addition, the book "Sky Travellers" by Bill Gammage must be purchased. The instructor will have details about this in class.

Grading and Requirements This is a small, oral-focused course on the history of Papua New Guinea and social change. Attendance and participation are crucial. There is not a lot of writing in this class so you must come and participate or else you will be very disappointed with the grade you receive.

Requirements:

You need to know how to access the WebCT site for this class

You need to have access to a computer with Google Earth and an Internet connection.

There are public labs available

Grading:

There are 300 points available in class. Grades will be given on the basis of the total number of points earned.

300-290 A+

289-280 A

279-270 A-

269-260 B+

259-250 B

249-240 B-

239-230 C+

229-200 C-

199-190 D+

189-180 D

179-170 D-

169-0 F

You will be graded on the following topics:

Oral presentations: 70 (2 presentations @ 35 points each)

An oral presentation of the course of the Taylor-Black patrol and the ethnography accompanying it.

Oral Feedback: 50 (10 @ 5)

A 1 page oral feedback sheet assessing your colleague's work

Seminar Performance: 50 (10 @ 5)

Involvement in seminars discussing books and articles

Attendance: 100 (25 @ 4)

Attendance will be taken every day after the end of the drop period. To receive credit you must come within the first 20 minutes of class. A doctor's note or other official notice must be provided as an excuse for missing class. Please do not miss class – make a special effort to come.

Map Quiz: 30 Points (1 @ 30)

This is a quiz on the geography of Papua New Guinea and your ability to use Google

Prelude: First Contact in Mt. Hagen

Week One
20-24 Aug
Introduction

Introduction to course, review syllabus.

Dorney, “ Long Taim Bipo – the Past”
Nelson, “ Gold!” and “Moneymakers and Misfits” in Taim Bilong Masta (TBM)
MOVIE: First Contact

Week Two
27 Aug -31 Aug
Theories of Culture Change, Mapping First Contact

Rumsey, “The White Man as Cannibal in the New Guinea Highlands”
Strathern, “The Decomposition of an Event”
discussion of movie

Clinic on oral presentation and Google Earth
sign up for group reports

Clifford “Indigenous Articulations”
Sahlins, “Structural Work”
Clinic on seminarss

Week Three
3 Sep – 7 Sep
Patrol Officers and Police Men

Nelson, “God's Shadow on Earth” and “Policemen at Work”
MOVIE: My Father, My Country

Gammage ch. 1-4
Map quiz

The Hagen-Sepik Patrol

Week Four
10 Sep – 14 Sep
Hagen Sepik Patrol: Enga and Tari

Gammage ch. 5 and 6 – GROUP 1
Kyakas and Wiessener, “Pigs, Gardens, and Work” and “Tee”

MOVIE: Ongka's Big Moka
instructor absent

Week Five
17 Sep – 21 Sep
Hagen Sepik Patrol: The Strickland and Telefomin

Gammage ch. 7 – GROUP 2
Ballard, “The Center Cannot Hold”

	Gammage 8-9 – GROUP 3 Poole, “Symbols of Substance”
Week Six 24 Sep – 28 Sep	Hagen Sepik Patrol: Porgera and the Sepik Gammage 10 – GROUP 4 Brumbaugh, “Afek Sang” Gammage 11 Porgera and Kopiago – GROUP 5 Readings TBA
Week Seven 1 Oct – 5 Oct	Hagen-Sepik Patrol: Wabag and Telefomin Gammage 12 The Sepik Fall – Mianmin and Sepik – GROUP 1 Don Gardener, “Spirits and Conceptions of Agency” Gammage 13 Wabag, Gammage 14 The Om/Baibnip – GROUP 2 Stoler, “Making Empire Respectable”
Week Eight 8 Oct – 12 Oct	Hagen-Sepik Patrol: Ending the patrol Gammage 15 Gold, Women, and Fighting (Hewa) – GROUP 3 Steadman, “Cannibals as Witches” Gammage 16 Finish – GROUP 4 Readings TBA
Week Nine 15 Oct - 19 Oct	The End of the Patrol and New Guinea Today: Sky Travellers? Gammage 17 and 18 – GROUP 5 Readings TBA Dorney, “Fleeting Glimpses” Gammage, “Comment: Sorcery in New Guinea, 1938 and 1988” Bashkow, “Whitemen' Are Good To Think With” Midterm stock-taking Rewalking the patrol
Week Ten 22 Oct – 26 Oct	Hagen Today Readings TBA MOVIE: Joe Leahy's Neighbors Rumsey, “The Articulation of Indigenous and Exogenous Orders” discussion of movie
Week Eleven 29 Oct – 12 Nov	Enga Dorney “Provincial Government: Secession's First Solution” Gordon and Meggitt “Decline of The Kiaps” MOVIE: Tainim

	<p>Derkley, "Enga Province, 1978-1991: The Transformation of the Tee" Wiessner, "From Spears to M-16s" discussion of movie</p>
<p>Week Twelve 12- 16 Nov</p>	<p>Porgera</p> <p>MOVIE: People of Porgera</p> <p>Golub, "Original Affluent Society" discussion of movie</p>
<p>Week Thirteen 19-23 Nov</p>	<p>Tari</p> <p>Ballard, "The Fire Next Time"</p> <p>22 Nov – no class. Thanksgiving.</p>
<p>Week Fourteen 26-30 Nov</p>	<p>Telefomin</p> <p>Jorgensen, "Who and what is a landowner"</p> <p>Joel Robbins "When Do You Think The World Is Going To End?"</p>
<p>Week Week Fifteen 3-7 Dec</p>	<p>Wrap up</p> <p>Readings TBA</p> <p>Wrap up</p>