

MI 501: PEOPLES AND CULTURES OF MICRONESIA

Course Schedule, Fall 2013

Tuesday 5:30–8:20 PM, MARC Seminar Room

Professor Donald H. Rubinstein

Office hours (MARC 209) MW 2:00–5:00 PM

tel 735-2155(office) • 929-6260 (cell) • 472-4838 (home) • email rubinste@uquam.uog.edu

August 27: Overview of course and requirements

September 3: Defining Micronesia, constructing/deconstructing a “culture area”

Required reading:

Carucci, Laurence M., and Lin Poyer. 2002. The West Central Pacific. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 183–249, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press. [skim for now]

Hanlon, David. 1989. Micronesia: Writing and rewriting the history of a nonentity. *Pacific Studies* 12(2): 1–21, March.

Peterson, Glenn. 2009. Chap. 2. Micronesia and Micronesians. In *Traditional Micronesian societies: adaptation, integration, and political organization*, pp. 12–36. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Recommended:

Alkire, William. 1972. *An introduction to the peoples and cultures of Micronesia* (2nd ed). Menlo Park CA: Cummings Publishing Co. [skim quickly]

Clark, Geoffrey. 2003. Dumont d’Urville’s Oceania. *The Journal of Pacific History* 38(2): 155–161.

D’Arcy, Paul. 2003. Culture divisions and island environments since the time of Dumont d’Urville. *The Journal of Pacific History* 38(2): 217–235.

Kihleng, Emelihter. nd. ‘The Micronesian question’. Downloaded 8/25/2009 from <http://www.tinfishpress.com/tinfnshnet2/kihleng.html>

Kiste, Robert C. 1999. Chap. 13. A half-century in retrospect. In *American anthropology in Micronesia: an assessment*, pp. 433–467, Robert C. Kiste and Mac Marshall (eds). Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. [nb. pp. 433–442, skim rest]

Ward, R. Gerard. 1999. *Widening worlds, shrinking worlds?* Pacific Distinguished Lecture 1999. Canberra: Centre for the Contemporary Pacific, Research School of Pacific & Asian Studies, Australian National University.

September 10: Islanders in a real world. The physical environment of Micronesia

Required reading:

Fryer, Gerard J. and Patricia Fryer. 1999. Geology. In *The Pacific Islands: Environment & Society*, pp. 33–42, Moshe Rapaport (ed.). Honolulu: Bess Press.

- Lessa, William A. 1968 [1964]. The social effects of Typhoon Ophelia (1960) on Ulithi. Reprinted in *Peoples and cultures of the Pacific*, pp. 330–379. Andrew P. Vayda (ed.). Garden City, NY: Natural History Press.
- Nunn, Patrick D. 1999. Geomorphology. In *The Pacific Islands: Environment & Society*, pp. 43–55, Moshe Rapaport (ed.). Honolulu: Bess Press.
- Sturman, Andrew P. and Hamish A. McGowan. 1999. Climate. In *The Pacific Islands: Environment & Society*, pp. 3–18, Moshe Rapaport (ed.). Honolulu: Bess Press.
- Talley, Lynne D., Gerard J. Fryer, and Rick Lumpkin. 1999. Oceanography. In *The Pacific Islands: Environment & Society*, pp. 19–32, Moshe Rapaport (ed.). Honolulu: Bess Press.

Recommended:

- Mason, Leonard E. 1968 [1959]. Suprafamilial authority and economic process in Micronesian atolls. In *Peoples and cultures of the Pacific*, pp. 299–329, Andrew P. Vayda (ed.). Garden City, NY: Natural History Press.
- Rubinstein, Donald H. 2001. Climate change, and relations between local communities and larger political structures in the Federated States of Micronesia. Paper prepared for Workshop on Social Dimensions of Climate Change in the Pacific, South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme Meetings, Apia, December 4–6, 2001.

Film: *Mokil*. Filmed by Conrac Bentzen (1948, 61 min.)

Required reading (for film):

- Murphy, Raymond E. 1948. Landownership on a Micronesian atoll [Mokil]. *Geographic Review* 38(4):598–614, :

Recommended (for film):

- Oles, Bryan. 2007. Access and alienation: The promise and threat of stewardship on Mokil Atoll. *Human Organization* 66(1): 78–89.

September 17: Fishing in Micronesia — “More than a Living”

Required reading:

- Johannes, Robert. 1981. *Words of the lagoon: Fishing and marine lore in the Palau District of Micronesia*. Chapters 1, 2, 5. Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Recommended:

- Lieber, Michael D. 1994. *More than a living: Fishing and the social order on a Polynesian atoll*. Chapters 10, 11, 12: Changing contexts. Boulder CO: Westview Press.

Film: *Traditional Fishing on Guam*. Produced by Judy Amesbury (PBS Guam, 2011, 28:21 min)

Living off the physical environment — Agricultural systems

- Films: *Nourish the Roots, Gather the Leaves: Sustainable Taro Culture in the Pacific*. 1992 (27 min.). Produced by the College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources, University of Hawaii.

Back to the Roots (selections). Produced by Dana Naone Hall and Victoria Keith. 1994.
Honolulu: Victoria Keith Productions.

Required reading:

- Hunter-Anderson, Rosalind L. 1991. A review of traditional Micronesian high island horticulture in Belau, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae. *Micronesica* 24(1): 1–56, June.
- Barrau, Jacques. 1961. Subsistence agriculture in Polynesia and Micronesia. *Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin* 23. Honolulu: Bishop Museum. [Pages 1–34 only.]

Recommended:

- Raynor, Bill; Adelino Lorens; and Jackson Phillip. 2009. Yams and their traditional cultivation on Pohnpei. In *Ethnobotany of Pohnpei: plants, people, and island culture*, pp. 40–62, Michael J. Balick (comp., ed.). Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.
- Falanruw, Margie V. Cushing. 1994. Food production and ecosystem management on Yap. *ISLA: A Journal of Micronesian Studies* 2(1): 5–22, Rainy Season.

September 24: From whence the “Micronesians”? Evidence and arguments in Pacific prehistory.

Required reading:

- Carucci, Laurence M.; and Lin Poyer. 2002. Prehistory: introduction to the archaeology of Micronesia. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 187–193, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press.
- Denoon, Donald. 1997. Human settlement. Chapter 2 of *The Cambridge history of the Pacific Islanders*, pp. 37–69, Donald Denoon et al (eds.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kirch, Patrick V. 2000. Micronesia: In the sea of little islands. Chapter 6 of *On the road of the winds: An archaeological history of the Pacific Islands before European contact*, pp. 165–206. Berkeley, University of California Press.
- Kirch, Patrick V. 2010. Peopling the the Pacific: A holistic anthropological perspective. *Annual review of anthropology* 2010: 131-148.

Recommended:

- Bellwood, Peter. 1980. The peopling of the Pacific. *Scientific American*, Vol. 243(5): 138–146, November.
- Irwin, Geoffrey. 1992. Issues in the colonisation of Micronesia. Chapter 7 of *The prehistoric exploration and colonisation of the Pacific*, pp. 117–132. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Rainbird, Paul. 1994. Prehistory in the northwest tropical Pacific: The Caroline, Mariana, and Marshall Islands. *Journal of World Prehistory*, Vol. 8(3): 293–349.
- Terrell, John, Kevin M. Kelly, and Paul Rainbird. 2001. Foregone conclusions? In search of Papuans and Austronesians. *Current Anthropology*, Vol. 42 (February): 97–124.

October 1: * First book review essay due *****

student presentations of book reviews.

October 8: Micronesian languages — Family and historical relations

Required reading:

Bellwood, Peter. 1991. The Austronesian dispersal and the origin of languages. *Scientific American*, Vol. 265(1): 88–93.

Carucci, Laurence M.; and Lin Poyer. 2002. Linguistics. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 196–199, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Pawley, Andrew and Malcolm Ross. 1993. Austronesian historical linguistics and culture history. *Annual Reviews in Anthropology* 22: 425–459.

Recommended:

Lynch, John. 1998. *Pacific Languages*, Chapters 2 and 3, pp. 23–59. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.

Murdock, George P. 1968 [1964]. Genetic classification of the Austronesian languages: A key to Oceanic culture history. In *Peoples and cultures of the Pacific: An anthropological reader*, pp. 81–94, Andrew P. Vayda (ed.). Garden City, NY: The Natural History Press.

Rehg, Kenneth L. and Byron W. Bender. 1990. Lexical transfer from Marshallese to Mokilese: A case of intra-Micronesian borrowing. *Oceanic Linguistics* 29(1): 1–26.

Micronesian languages — Cultural and political issues

Required reading:

Besnier, Niko. 2004. Diversity, hierarchy, and modernity in Pacific Island communities. In *A companion to linguistic anthropology*, pp. 95–120, Alessandro Duranti (ed.). New York: Basil Blackwell.

Keating, Elizabeth. 2000. Moments of hierarchy: Constructing social stratification by means of language, food, space, and the body in Pohnpei, Micronesia. *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 102(2): 303–320, June.

Recommended:

Keating, Elizabeth. 1997. Honorific possession: Power and language in Pohnpei, Micronesia. *Language in Society*, Vol. 26(2): 247–268.

Shimizu, Akitoshi. 1985. Politics of encounter: A semantic analysis of guest receiving behavior on Ponape, the Eastern Carolines. *The 1983–'84 cultural anthropological expedition to Micronesia: An interim report*, pp. 39–63. Tokyo: Tokyo Metropolitan University.

October 15: The visual art of Micronesia — slide presentation

Required reading:

Feldman, Jerome, and Donald H. Rubinstein. 1986. *The art of Micronesia*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Art Gallery.

Rubinstein, Donald H. 1993. The social fabric: Micronesian textile patterns and social order. In *Art in small-scale societies: Contemporary readings*, pp. 70–83, Richard L. Anderson and Karen L. Field (eds.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Recommended:

D'Alleva, Anne. 1998. Micronesia: The path of the house. Chapter 4 in *Arts of the Pacific Islands*, pp. 127–147. New York: Perspectives / Harry N. Abrams.

Mason, Leonard. 1964. Micronesia: Micronesian cultures. In *Encyclopedia of world art*, Vol. 9, pp. 918–930. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Rubinstein, Donald H., and Sophiano Limol. 2007. Reviving the sacred *machi*: A chiefly weaving from Fais Island, Micronesia. In *Material choices: Refashioning bast and leaf fibers in Asia and the Pacific*, pp. 155–165, Roy W. Hamilton and B. Lynn Milgram (eds.). Los Angeles: Fowler Museum at UCLA.

October 22: Performance art of Micronesia

Film: *Songs of Polowat* (Stonewolf and Todo Mauleg Productions, 1994, 30 min.)

Required reading:

Nero, Karen L. 1999. Missed opportunities: American anthropological studies of Micronesian arts. In *American anthropology in Micronesia: an assessment*, pp. 255–299, Robert C. Kiste and Mac Marshall (eds.). Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Petersen, Glenn. 1992. Dancing defiance: The politics of Pohnpeian dance performances. *Pacific Studies* 115(4): 13–28.

Throop, C. Jason. 2009. ‘Becoming beautiful in the dance’: On the formation of ethical modalities of being in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia. *Oceania* 79: 179–201.

Indigenous navigation

Film: *Sacred Vessels* (Vicente Diaz and Christina DeLisle, 1997, 30 min.)

Required reading:

Davenport, William. 1960. Marshall Islands navigational charts. *Imago Mundi* 15: 19–26.

Goodenough, Ward H. and Stephen D. Thomas. 1987. Traditional navigation in the Western Pacific: A search for pattern. Preprint from *Expedition*, Vol. 30:1–15.

Lewis, David. 1994. Rediscovery of a vanishing art. Chapter 1 of *We, the navigators: The ancient art of landfinding in the Pacific* (2nd ed.), pp. 3–18. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Recommended:

Lewis, David. 1980 [1977]. Mau Piailug’s navigation of Hokule‘a from Hawaii to Tahiti. In *Research in culture learning: Language and conceptual studies*, pp. 3–25, M.P. Hamnett and R.W. Brislin (eds.). Honolulu: East-West Center.

Thomas, Stephen D. 1987. Chapter 9 of *The last navigator* (pp. 96–107). New York: Henry Holt and Company.

October 29: Micronesian navigation and spirituality

Film: *Spirits of the Voyage* (Eric Metzgar, Triton Films, 1996, 88 min.)

Religion in Micronesia

Film: *When Spirits Roamed* (Micronesian Seminar Productions, 2012, 60 min.)

Required reading:

Carucci, Laurence M., and Lin Poyer. 2002. Religious change through history and revitalization. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 220–230, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Dobbin, Jay. 2011. Overview of the Micronesian religions. In *Summoning the powers beyond: Traditional religions in Micronesia*, pp. 14–21. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Goodenough, Ward H. 2002. *Under heaven’s brow: Pre-Christian religious thought in Chuuk*. Chap. 1 “Theoretical Perspective” (pp. 1–16) and Chap. 23 “Overview” (pp. 329–337). Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society.

Recommended:

Dernbach, Katherine Boris. 2005. Spirits of the hereafter: Death, funerary possession, and the afterlife in Chuuk, Micronesia. *Ethnology* 44(2): 99–123.

Peter, Joakim Manniwel. 1996. Eram's church(bell): local appropriations of Catholicism on Ettal. *ISLA: A Journal of Micronesian Studies*, Vol. 4(2): 267–287.

Thompson, Laura. 1947. Gods and ghosts. The Gospel in Guam. Chapters 10 and 11 of *Guam and its people*, pp. 169–193. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

November 5: Second book review essay due ***

Student presentations of book reviews

November 12: Micronesian kinship and social organization: overview

Required reading:

Marshall, Mac. 1999. “Partial connections”: Kinship and social organization in Micronesia. In *American anthropology in Micronesia: an assessment*, pp. 107–143, Robert C. Kiste and Mac Marshall (eds.). Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Matrilineal kinship: The view from Chuuk

Required reading:

Marshall, Mac. 1981. Sibling sets as building blocks in Greater Trukese Society. In *Siblingship in Oceania: Studies in the meaning of kin relations*, pp. 201–224, Mac Marshall (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 8. Lanham MD: University Press of America.

Schneider, David M. 1961. Truk. In *Matrilineal kinship*, pp. 202–233, David M. Schneider and Kathleen Gough (eds.). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Recommended:

Schneider, David M. 1961. The distinctive features of matrilineal descent groups. In *Matrilineal kinship*, pp. 1–29, David M. Schneider and Kathleen Gough (eds.). Berkeley: University of California Press.

review relevant sections on social organization in Alkire: *An introduction to the peoples and cultures of Micronesia*

November 19: Constructed kinship: Child adoption in Micronesia

Required reading:

Fischer, Jack L. 1970. Adoption on Ponape. In *Adoption in Eastern Oceania*, pp. 292–313, Vern Carroll (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 1. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Goodenough, Ruth G. 1970. Adoption on Romonum, Truk. In *Adoption in Eastern Oceania*, pp. 314–340, Vern Carroll (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 1. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Marshall, Mac. 1976. Solidarity or sterility? Adoption and fosterage on Namoluk Atoll. In *Transactions in kinship: Adoption and fosterage in Oceania*, pp. 28–50, Ivan Brady (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 4. Honolulu: The University Press of Hawaii.

Recommended:

Rynkiewich, Michael A. 1976. Adoption and land tenure among Arno Marshallese. In *Transactions in kinship: Adoption and fosterage in Oceania*, pp. 93–119, Ivan Brady (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 4. Honolulu: The University Press of Hawaii

Smith, J. Jerome. 1976. Rotanese fosterage. In *Transactions in kinship: Adoption and fosterage in Oceania*, pp. 247–270, Ivan Brady (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 4. Honolulu: The University Press of Hawaii.

Wilson, Walter Scott. 1976. Household, land, and adoption on Kusaie. In *Transactions in kinship: Adoption and fosterage in Oceania*, pp. 81–92, Ivan Brady (ed.). ASAO Monograph No. 4. Honolulu: The University Press of Hawaii.

Inter-island exchanges and relationships

Required reading:

Alkire, William H. 1981. Traditional exchange systems and modern political developments in the Yap District of Micronesia. In *Persistence and exchange: Papers from a symposium on ecological problems of traditional societies of the Pacific region*, pp. 15–23, Roland W. Force and Brenda Bishop (eds.). Honolulu: Pacific Science Association.

Carucci, Laurence M., and Lin Poyer. 2002. Exchange and Inter-Island Contacts. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 195–196, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Hunter-Anderson, Rosalind, and Yigal Zan. 1996. Demystifying the sawei, a traditional interisland exchange system. *ISLA: A Journal of Micronesian Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 1–45.

Lessa, William A. 1950. Ulithi and the outer native world. *Am. Anthropologist* 52(1): 27–52.

Recommended:

Alkire, William H. 1980. Technical knowledge and the evolution of political systems in the Central and Western Caroline Islands of Micronesia. *Canadian Journal of Anthropology* 1(2): 229–237.

Black, Peter. 1982. The in-charge complex and Tobian political culture. *Pacific Studies* 6(1): 52–70.

D’Arcy, Paul. 2001. Connected by the sea: towards a regional history of the Western Caroline Islands. *The Journal of Pacific History*, Vol. 36, No. 2, pp. 163–182.

November 26 Gender roles in Micronesia

Film: *The Silent Keepers* (Sincro Productions, 1994, 55 min.)

Required reading:

Alkire, William H. 1968. Porpoises and Taro. *Ethnology* 7(3):280–289.

Moral, Beatriz. 1998. The Chuukese women’s status: traditional and modern elements. In *Common worlds and single lives: Constituting knowledge in Pacific societies*, pp. 273–284, Verena Keck (ed.). NY: Berg.

Food and feasts in Micronesia — The symbolism and politics of eating

Required reading:

Akimichi, Tomoya. 1987. Classification and contexts: Food categories on Satawalese culture. In *Cultural uniformity and diversity in Micronesia*, Senri Ethnological Studies, no. 21, pp. 255–277, Iwao Ushijima and Ken-Ichi Sudo (eds.). Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology.

Pollock, Nancy. 1992. *These roots remain: Food habits in islands of the Central and Eastern Pacific since Western contact*. (read only Chapter 2, Food classification, pp. 22-42; Chapter 6, Feasts and ceremonial presentations, pp. 105-127.) Laie, HI: The Institute for Polynesian Studies

Recommended:

Black, Peter W. 1981. Fishing for taro on Tobi. In *Persistence and exchange: Papers from a Symposium on Ecological Problems of the Traditional Societies of the Pacific Region*, pp. 25–36. XIV Pacific Science Congress, Khabarovsk, USSR, August–September, 1979, Roland W. Force and Brenda Bishop (eds.). Honolulu: Pacific Science Association.

Crumrine, N. Ross. 1982. Praying and feasting: Modern Guamanian fiestas. *Anthropos: International Review of Ethnology and Linguistics* 77(1&2): 89–112.

Fischer, John L. 1981. The persistence of traditional feasts in Pohnpei, Caroline Islands. In *Persistence and exchange, Papers from a Symposium on Ecological Problems of the Traditional Societies of the Pacific Region*, pp. 69–75. XIV Pacific Science Congress, Khabarovsk, USSR, August–September, 1979, Roland W. Force and Brenda Bishop (eds.). Honolulu: Pacific Science Association.

Goodenough, Ward H. 2002. Chap. 18. “Saying things with food.” In *Under heaven’s brow: Pre-Christian religious thought in Chuuk*, pp. 261–266. Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society.

O'Sonis, Elvis. 1987. Mwem: First fruits in Truk. In *Pacific rituals: Living or dying?*, pp. 96–102. Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific; Pacific Theological College.

Shimizu, Akitoshi. 1987. Feasting as socio-political process of chieftainship on Ponape, Eastern Carolines. In *Cultural uniformity and diversity in Micronesia*. Senri Ethnological Studies, no. 21, pp. 129–176. Edited by Iwao Ushijima and Ken-Ichi Sudo. Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology.

December 3: Indigenous political systems and island chiefs

Required reading:

Carucci, Laurence M., and Lin Poyer. 2002. Micronesia's complex chiefdoms. In *Oceania: An introduction to the cultures and identities of Pacific Islanders*, pp. 193–195, Andrew Strathern et al. Durham NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Carucci, Laurence Marshall. 1988. Small fish in a big sea: Geographical dispersion and sociopolitical centralization in the Marshall Islands. In *State and society: The emergence and development of social hierarchy and political centralization*, pp. 33–42, John Gledhill, Barbara Bender, and Mogens Trolle Larsen (eds.). London: Unwin Hyman.

Peoples, James G. 1993. Political evolution in Micronesia. *Ethnology* 32(1): 1–17.

Petersen, Glenn. 1989. Ponapean chieftainship in the era of the nation-state. In *Outwitting the state. Political anthropology, Vol. 7*, pp. 23–39, Peter Skalník (ed.). New Brunswick NJ: Transaction Publishers.

Recommended:

Gladwin, Thomas. 1960. Petrus Mailo, Chief of Moen. In *In the company of man: Twenty portraits by anthropologists*, pp. 42–62, Joseph B. Casagrande (ed.). New York, Harper Brothers.

re-read relevant sections of Alkire: *Peoples and cultures of Micronesia*

Chiefs today: Role of traditional leaders in modern island democracies

Required reading:

Petersen, Glenn. 1997. A Micronesian chamber of chiefs: The 1990 Federated States of Micronesia constitutional convention. In *Chiefs today: Traditional Pacific leadership and the postcolonial state*, pp. 183–196, Geoffrey M. White and Lamont Lindstrom (eds.). Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Pinsker, Eve. 1997. Traditional leaders today in the Federated States of Micronesia. In *Chiefs today: Traditional Pacific leadership and the postcolonial state*, pp. 150–182, Geoffrey M. White and Lamont Lindstrom (eds.). Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Recommended:

Carucci, Laurence M. 1997. *Irooj Ro Ad*: Measures of chiefly ideology and practice in the Marshall Islands. In *Chiefs today: Traditional Pacific leadership and the postcolonial state*, pp. 197–210, Geoffrey M. White and Lamont Lindstrom (eds.). Stanford: Stanford University Press.

December 10: *** **Third book review essay due** ***
student presentations of book reviews and course wrap-up