

Anthropology 350: Pacific Islands Cultures
Tues/Thurs 1:30-2:45
Kuykendall 209

Fall 2006
CRN: 70172

Professor: Geoffrey White
Anthropology Department
Saunders Hall 322
956-5601
white@hawaii.edu
Office Hrs: Tues 3 - 5 pm

TA: Patricia Fifita
Anthropology Department
Saunders Hall 318
956-7828
pfifita@hawaii.edu
Office Hrs: Thurs 10 am – 12 noon

Class website is on the WebCT server: <http://webct.hawaii.edu/>
email list: anthro350-l@hawaii.edu

Objectives

Anyone living in Hawai‘i ought to become literate with regard to the cultures and histories of Pacific Island societies. Each person living here is part of an ongoing story of movement, settlement, and adaptation to island environments that has produced remarkable histories of cultural accomplishment and political struggle. Although relatively small in population, the Pacific Islands span one-third of the globe, encompass about one fourth of the world’s languages, and include some of its most unique ecological zones. The Pacific has been an object of European interest and fantasy since the earliest days of exploration, and continues to generate all kinds of exotic images, whether of paradise, of “disappearing” cultures, or threatened ecologies. In this course we will be concerned both with the experience of indigenous communities and with representations of the Pacific generated inside and outside the region.

Pacific histories of travel begin with the far-flung voyages of Polynesian navigators and are followed by waves of European explorers, missionaries, and colonizers. These movements have produced dramatic, and often tragic, stories of cultural encounter and transformation. The experience of Pacific communities, past and present, has much to teach us about living in communities that contend with global flows of people, culture, and capital. Today island travelers continue to move through national capitals and metropolitan centers from Honolulu to Los Angeles and Auckland, fashioning new forms and identities that extend the boundaries of the Pacific.

At the end of this course, students should have acquired broader knowledge of

1. Geographic, cultural, and political ‘mapping’ of Oceania
2. Ways in which Pacific Islanders are represented in global media
3. Social dynamics of indigenous Pacific communities, rural and metropolitan
4. Histories of cultural encounter, innovation, and struggle in the island region
5. Pressures of globalization & responses of Pacific communities today

Requirements

Active student participation through contributions to class discussion is important (5%). The remaining 95 % of a student's grade will consist of a mid-term exam (20%), film essays (25%), a tourism project (10 pages) (25%) and a final exam (25%). An optional book review essay (8-10 pages) may be submitted for up to 10% extra credit

Required Readings: Books

- Weiner, Annette, *The Trobriand Islanders of Papua New Guinea*
- Hau'ofa, Epeli, *Tales of the Tikongs*
- Small, Cathy A., *Voyages: From Tongan Villages to American Suburbs*

Required Readings: Reading packet

- Assigned articles are available as a spiral bound reader, from Campus Copy for \$17.44, 2465 Campus Rd #104 (941-1098). These readings are also available on the course website and on reserve at Sinclair Library.

Maps

- A Pacific map will be handed out in class. This map and others are available online at <http://www.hawaii.edu/cpis/PacificMaps.htm>

Optional Book

- Smith, Michael French, *Village on the Edge*

Week by week outline:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Aug 22: Introduction

no reading assigned

2. Aug 24: Envisioning the Pacific

reading: Hau'ofa, "Our Sea of Islands" (2-16)

film: *Wayfinders: A Pacific Odyssey*

3. Aug 29: Migration and Settlement: Archeological and Linguistic Views

reading: Bellwood, "Settlement" and Tryon, "Language" (53-67)

4. Aug 31: Voyaging & Navigating the Pacific

reading: Finney, "The Other One-Third of the Globe" (273-297).

II. INDIGENOUS WORLDS

5. Sept 5: The Famous Trobriand Islands

reading: Weiner, "Introduction" (1-15) and Ch 1 (17-31)

film: *The Trobriand Islanders*

6. Sept 7: Making Identities: Ancestors and Descent

reading: Weiner, Ch 2 "Death ..." (33-50); Ch 3 "Fathers and Matrilineality" (51-64)

7. Sept 12: Marriage and Exchange

reading: Weiner Ch 4 "Youth and sexuality" (65-79); Ch 5 "Marriage ..." (81-96)

film: *Trobriand Cricket*

8. Sept 14: Politics: Chiefs, Feasts, and Power

reading: Weiner Ch 6, "Chiefs ..." (97-110); Ch 7 "Men Working for Women" (111-123)

9. Sept 19: Identity, Power, and Ritual Exchange

reading: Weiner Ch 8, "... Matrilineality" (125-138); Ch 9, "Kula ..." (139-157)

film: *Kula: Ring of Power*

10. Sept 21: REVIEW SESSION

reading: Weiner Ch 10, "Conclusion" (159-167)

III. COLONIZATION & MILITARIZATION

11. Sept 26: MIDTERM EXAM

12. Sept 28: Colonization and Christianity

reading: White, "Crisis and Christianity" (81-102)

film: *The Transformed Isles*

13. Oct 3: The Pacific War

reading: Lindstrom & White, "War Stories" (3-40)

film: *Angels of War*

14. Oct 5: Nuclear Pacific

reading: Alcalay, "Maelstrom in the Marshall Islands" (25-36)

guest facilitator: TBA

film: *Radio Bikini*

IV. “DEVELOPMENT” AND GLOBALIZATION

15. Oct 10: Ironies of “Development”

reading: Hau’ofa, *Tales of the Tikongs*, 1-56

guest speaker: TBA

16. Oct 12: “The Pacific Way”: Pacific Parody

reading: Hau’ofa, *Tales of the Tikongs*, 57-93

17. Oct 17: Crises of Globalization: Forestry and the Land (Solomon Islands)

reading: Macintyre and Foale, “Global Imperatives and Local Desires” (149-150, 160-64)

Roughan, Review of *Since the Company Came* (612-613)

film: *Since the Company Came*

18. Oct 19: Crises of Globalization: Mining and the Land (Bougainville)

reading: Regan, “The Bougainville Conflict and Peace Process, 1988-1998” (261-263)

Spriggs, “Chronology of a Crisis” (263-265)

guest speaker: Eugene Ogan, Professor of Anthropology, Univ of Minnesota (retired)

V. POLITICS OF NATION-MAKING

19. Oct 24: Politics of Nation-Making: Fiji

reading: Kaplan, “Fiji’s Coups” (72-85)

film: *Race for Rights*

20. Oct 26: Politics of Nation-making: Solomon Islands

reading: White, “Natives and Nations” (139-166)

guest speaker: Dr. Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, East-West Center

film: *For Guns and Money* (excerpts)

21. Oct 31: Nation & Gender: Hawai‘i

reading: Tengan, “(En)Gendering Colonialism” (239-256)

guest speaker: Prof. Ty Kawika Tengan, UH Depts. of Anthropology and Ethnic Studies

VI. TOURISM: IMAGINING OCEANIA

22. Nov 2: Tourism and the Politics of Culture

reading: Helu-Thaman, “Beyond Hula, Hotels and Handicrafts” (104-111)

Trask, “Lovely Hula Hands” (179-196)

Film: *Rap’s Hawai‘i*, excerpt

website: *Historic Waikiki*: <http://www.downwindproductions.com/>

23. Nov 7: NO CLASS (ELECTION DAY) [work on tourism projects]

24. Nov 9: Tourism: Consuming Others

reading: Jolly, "Kastom as Commodity" (131-146)

film: *Cannibal Tours*

25. Nov 14: In-class discussion of projects [TURN IN PROJECT DRAFT/OUTLINE]

reading: O'Rourke, "On the Making of *Cannibal Tours*" (1-9)

26. Nov 16: [TOURISM PROJECT DUE]

no assigned reading

VI. GLOBAL PACIFIC

27. Nov 21: Migration and Diaspora

reading: Small, 3-49

28. Nov 23: NO CLASS (HOLIDAY, THANKSGIVING)

29. Nov 28: Travel Stories

reading: Small, 51-100

film: "Brown Sugar," *Tala Pasifika*

30. Nov 30: Roots & Routes

reading: Small, 101-158

31. Dec 5: (Re)Producing Tradition in the Transnational Pacific

reading: Small, 159-181

film: *Sacred Vessels*

32. Dec 7: [REVIEW SESSION]

reading: Small 183-205

48. Dec 12: 12 noon – 2 pm FINAL EXAM [NOTE start time]

Reading List

- Alcalay, Glenn. 1984. Maelstrom in the Marshall Islands: The Social Impacts of Nuclear Weapons Testing. In *Micronesia as Strategic Colony*. C. Lutz, Ed. Cambridge, MA: Cultural Survival, Inc. Pp. 25-36.
- Bellwood, Peter, M Spriggs, J Golson, P D'Arcy, K. Fortune. "Settlement" In *The Pacific Islands: An Encyclopedia*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Pp. 53-67.
- Finney, Ben. 1994. The Other One-Third of the Globe. *Journal of World History* 5(2): 273-297.
- Hau'ofa, Epeli. 1993 Our Sea of Islands. In *A New Oceania : Rediscovering our sea of islands*. E. Hau'ofa, E. Waddell, and V. Naidu, eds. Suva, Fiji: University of the South Pacific. Pp. 2-16.
- Helu-Thaman, Konai. 1993 Beyond Hula, Hotels and Handicrafts: A Pacific Islander's Perspective of Tourist Development. *The Contemporary Pacific* 5(1): 104-111.
- Jolly, Margaret. 1994 Kastom as Commodity: The Land Dive as Indigenous Rite and Tourist Spectacle. In *Culture, Custom, Tradition: Developing Cultural Policy in Melanesia*. G White & L Lindstrom, eds. Suva: USP. Pp. 131-144.
- Kaplan, Martha. 2004. "Fiji's Coups: The Politics of Representation and the Representation of Politics." In V. Lockwood, ed. *Globalization and Culture Change in the Pacific Islands*. Pp. 72-85.
- Lindstrom, Lamont and Geoffrey M. White. 1989. Introduction: War Stories. In *The Pacific Theater: Island Representations of World War II*. G. White and L. Lindstrom, eds. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Pp. 3-40.
- Macintyre, Martha and Simone Foale, "Global Imperatives and Local Desires: Competing Economic and Environmental Interests in Melanesian Communities." in Lockwood, ed. *Globalization and Culture Change in the Pacific Islands*. Pp. 149-164
- O'Rourke, Dennis. 1999. On the Making of Cannibal Tours. Manuscript. Pp. 1-9.
- Regan, Anthony. 2000. "The Bougainville Conflict and Peace Process, 1988-1998." In *The Pacific Islands: An Encyclopedia*. B. Lal & K. Fortune, editors. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Pp. 261-263.
- Roughan, John. 2001. Review of *Since the Company Came*. *The Contemporary Pacific* 13(2): 612-613

Spriggs, Ruth. 2000. "Chronology of a Crisis." In *The Pacific Islands: An Encyclopedia*. B. Lal & K. Fortune, editors. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Pp. 263-265.

Tengan, Ty Kawika. 2003 (En)Gendering Colonialism: Masculinities in Hawai'i and Aotearoa. *Cultural Values: Journal for Cultural Research* 6(2): 239-256.

Trask, Haunani-Kay. 1993 Lovely Hula Hands: Corporate Tourism and the Prostitution of Hawaiian Culture. In *From a Native Daughter: colonialism and sovereignty in Hawai'i*. Monroe, Me.: Common Courage Press. Pp. 179-197.

White, Geoffrey. 1991. "Crisis and Christianity" In *Identity Through History: Living History in a Solomon Islands Society*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press. Pp. 81-102.

White, Geoffrey. 2001. Natives and Nations: Identity Formation in Postcolonial Melanesia. In R. Prazniak & A. Dirlik, eds. *Places and Politics in an Age of Globalization*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. Pp. 139-166.

Filmography

Angels of War: the People of Papua New Guinea and World War II (1980) by Andrew Pike, Hank Nelson and Gavan Daws. Boroko, Papua New Guinea: Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies (54 minutes).

Cannibal Tours (1987) by Dennis O'Rourke. A film by Dennis O'Rourke. Los Angeles, California: Direct Cinema Ltd. (77 minutes).

Guns and Money (2002) producer, Janine Cohen ; reporter, Liz Jackson. Sydney: Australian Broadcasting Corporation [UHM AV/C VIDEOTAPE 20447] (45 min)

Radio Bikini (1987) by Robert Stone of the Crossroads Film Project. 1/2 inch VHS, Color. Produced by PBS video. [Lib-UHM AV/C 2130] (60 min.)

Sacred Vessels: navigating tradition and identity in Micronesia (1998) GMF, Guam : Moving Islands Production. (28 min.)

Since the Company Came (2000) filmed, directed & produced by Russell Hawkins [Canberra, Australia]: Ronin Films, c2000. [UHM AV/C 18175] (52 min.)

The Transformed Isle: Barbarism to Christianity (1920)
Silent with captions. [UHM AV/C VIDEOTAPE 1940] (30 min)

Wayfinders: A Pacific Odyssey (1999) Maiden Voyage Productions (60 minutes)