

Dr. Julie Walsh  
Center for Pacific Islands Studies  
Moore Hall 211  
956-2668  
jwalsh@hawaii.edu  
Office hours: W 10am-12pm (or by appt.)

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to meet, get to know, and work with a Pacific Islander community in culturally sensitive ways. Through this interaction, students will not only gain an insider /islander perspective on issues such as health, education, and housing but students will practice the skills necessary to promote better understanding and cooperation between diverse cultures and communities in Honolulu.

We will focus our attention on learning about and from various Micronesian communities on O`ahu. There is much literature regarding the islands and societies of this often overlooked region, but there is very little literature about the relatively new migrant experience, particularly from an indigenous perspective. Students will be responsible for seeking resources (in the form of newspaper articles, web sites, state publications and reports, census data, etc.) and working with their classmates to examine these sources critically, and always seeking to locate and listen to islanders' voices.

This course will provide background readings, films, and lectures from multiple disciplines to help us better understand how culture, language, social organization, politics, health practices, educational histories, family histories, and US colonialism shape our encounters and interpretations. In class we will discuss our community involvements in light of these readings, films, etc. and will reflect and write about the many stages in the process of coming to better understand Pacific communities.

This course has both a Contemporary Ethical Issues (E) Focus and a Writing Intensive (WI) designation and is thus limited to 20 students. Contemporary ethical issues are fully integrated into the main course material and constitute the majority of the content. At least 8 hours of class time will be spent discussing ethical issues encountered during service learning and specific issues addressed through individual and small group assignments. Through the use of lectures, discussions, small group activities and writing assignments, students will develop basic competency in recognizing and analyzing ethical issues; responsibly deliberating on ethical issues; and making ethically determined judgments. They will also have significant feedback from the instructor on writing assignments, with opportunities for feedback in small groups, and may revise particular submissions. Students must adequately complete all writing assignments to pass the course with a D grade or better. Students who do not complete all writing assignments will get a D- or an F and will not earn W Focus credit.

## Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students are expected to be able to:

- Reach out to Pacific Islanders sensitively and appropriately
- Locate and critically analyze resources produced about Pacific Islander communities in Hawai'i
- Describe the process required to create resources that will help us better understand Pacific communities
- Reflect on the process of cross-cultural collaborations, explain using a personal example how one's biases and expectations can inform interpretations, and identify ethical issues inherent in cross-cultural encounters
- Explain where the Micronesian communities in Hawai'i come from, why, and how they come to Hawai'i
- Describe the barriers experienced by Pacific migrants in accessing services and resources
- Explain the concerns of Pacific community members regarding health care, education and housing and discuss how these perspectives differ from State program or agency concerns.
- Lead a discussion about your own service learning experiences and identify the ways service learning complements classroom learning

## Course Materials

The instructor will post all readings on Lulima or distribute them in class. **Changes may be made to this syllabus at instructor's discretion and in consultation with students.**

The UH Information and Technology Services (ITS) home page <http://www.hawaii.edu/itslab/index.htm> provides information regarding general use computer labs (locations, hours, policies).

**Maps** are available at <http://www.hawaii.edu/cpis/PacificMaps.htm> or on Lulima.

## Course Requirements

Participation (including classroom discussion and activities, reading quizzes, and reading summaries) 15%

Service Learning Hours 10%

Map Quizzes 5%

Writing Assignments 40%

Mid-Term Exam 15%

Final Exam 15%

### Participation: 15%

- Class attendance is mandatory. There will be a sign up sheet for each class for you to sign in order to receive credit for your attendance. Excessive tardiness, early departures, or absenteeism (more than 2 unexcused absences) will result in points being deducted from your participation grade.
- Each student will be responsible for discussing his/her service learning experience and identifying at least one relevant ethical issue.
- Students are expected to attend all classes, keep up with the readings, contribute to class discussions and participate in the extended service-learning activity.
- A doctor's note is required for missed exams, quizzes, or presentations.
- As a courtesy, please turn off and put away cell phones in class. Laptops may be used for note taking only with permission of the instructor. Checking email, texts, and Facebook during class time is considered rude and non-participatory.

Service Learning: 10% (a minimum of 15 contact hours with communities; signed log sheets are to be submitted with final presentation)

- Students must submit all Service learning forms, including liability waivers, and a registration form prior to beginning community service. Students will also maintain a log of hours at the service learning site to be signed by the site coordinator and submitted at the end of the semester.

- Training sessions are IMPERATIVE prior to beginning service learning at Palolo Valley or Kaka`ako, (or elsewhere, details discussed in class). Students are independently responsible for attending a training sessions and the subsequent hours of interaction outside of class time, typically possible between the hours of 2-6pm, Monday-Friday.

Quizzes: 5% (2 map quizzes: Pacific Islands Political entities and Micronesia Political Entities)

Exam: 15% (Mid-Term: October 11)

Writing Assignments: 40%

All assignments will be described in detail in class and posted on Lulima.

- 1) 5 personal essays, 3 double-spaced pages each regarding various states of the service learning experience – anticipating, ‘first contact’, listening, sharing, and serving).
- 2) Film review, *Half-Life: A Parable for a Nuclear Age*; (or alternative, by request) 3 double-spaced pages. May be revised and resubmitted.
- 3) Critical analysis of media representation, 3 double-spaced pages. May be revised and resubmitted.

Final Exam 15% (December 13)

#### **Grading Scale**

A+	100–97	B+	89–86	C+	79–76	D+	69 – 66
A	96–93	B	85–83	C	75–73	D	65 – 63
A-	92–90	B-	82–80	C-	72–70	D-	62 – 60
						F	Below 60

#### **Kokua**

Students with disabilities that restrict their participation and performance in this class are invited to contact the KOKUA Program at (V/T) 956-7511 or (V/T) 956-7612 or at kokua@hawaii.edu. KOKUA is located in the ground floor of the Student Services Center in room 013. KOKUA is eager to work closely with disabled students and their faculty members in order to create equal opportunity for students. KOKUA services are confidential and disabled students are not charged for services.

#### **Late papers**

Students submit all assignments electronically *before the start of class on the dates identified in the syllabus*. Papers turned in after the start of class will be considered late and will lose five points per day (24 hours). Ex. If an assignment is due on Tuesday, and is submitted late, but before 3 pm on Wednesday, the 5 points will be deducted from the final assignment grade. If the assignment is submitted after 3 pm on Wednesday, 5 more points will be deducted (10 total). If submitted after 3 pm on Thursday (-15), after 3 pm Friday (-20).

Papers submitted more than 5 calendar days late will not be accepted without prior permission or a doctor’s note.

## Course Schedule\*

(\* Changes may be made to this syllabus at instructor's discretion and in consultation with students.)

### CONTEXTUALIZING: GEOGRAPHY/HISTORY/POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT/US RELATIONS

- Aug 21 Introductions, syllabus, service learning expectations
- Aug 23 Who are the Pacific Communities in Hawai'i? How are we connected? How *do* we connect? Why focus on Micronesia? What are the issues in Hawai'i? How do we make sound ethical judgments to address these issues?  
(August 27 last day to drop without 'W')
- Review maps
- Aug 28 What is Micronesia, Where is Micronesia? Who are Micronesians?  
Political/geographic/historical overview, Part I.
- Read: Kiste, Robert C. (1993.) "New Political Statuses in American Micronesia."  
In *Contemporary Pacific Societies: Studies in Development and Change*. Edited by Victoria S. Lockwood, Thomas G. Harding and Ben J. Wallace. New Jersey: Prentice Hall. Pp. 67-80.
- Review maps
- August 30 **Map quiz: Pacific Entities**
- What is Micronesia, Where is Micronesia? Who are Micronesians?  
Arts, culture, society overview, Part II.  
Readings: To be assigned.
- HALF LIFE: DISCUSSING ETHICS, USING THE UTILITY TEST, WRITING A FILM REVIEW**
- Sept 4 **Map Quiz: Micronesia**  
Watch Part 1 of *Half-Life* in class.
- Read: Selected book reviews published in *The Contemporary Pacific*.
- Sept 6 Second half of *Half-Life*.  
Discussion of ethics, options, and examination of issues using the utility test.  
HW: 1 page outline as a response/review of film hardcopy due next class.
- Sept 11 Characteristics of an effective and useful film review -- examples discussed in class, small groups identify components and organization. Students' outlines will be shared, critiqued by a classmate during group activity.

Sept 13 **Film Review due.**

Compact Impact: Ethics and Obligations of Neo-Colonialism

Read: GAO Report 2001 on FAS Migration, Pp. 1-34.  
GAO Report 2011

Sept 18 Compact Impact: Ethics and Obligations of Neo-Colonialism

Read: Hawaii Compact Task Force Interim Report 2008  
View: Heine, Hilda. "Micronesians' Challenges and Contributions in Hawai'i" PowerPoint (pdf)

### **HEALTH: HISTORICAL/COLONIAL/CONTAGIOUS/CURRENT**

Sept 20 **Essay #1 due.**

Reading: S. Yamada & A. Pobutsky. "Micronesian Migrant Health Issues in Hawaii: **Part 1:** Background, Home Island Data, and Clinical Evidence." Californian Journal of Health Promotion 2009, Volume 7, Issue 2, 16-31.

### **HEALTH: SOCIAL/CULTURAL FACTORS/RIGHTS**

Sept 25 Reading: Pobutsky A.M., Krupitsky, D., and Yamada, S. "Micronesian Migrant Health Issues in Hawaii: **Part 2:** An Assessment of Health, Language and Key Social Determinants of Health." Californian Journal of Health Promotion 2009, Volume 7, Issue 2, 32 – 55.

Sept 27 Film: "Collateral Damage" Segment of the PBS series, *Unnatural Causes...is inequality making us sick?* Produced by California Newsreel. (30 minutes) Shown in class.

Read: "Health as a Human Right: Who is Eligible?" Hawaii Medical Journal: A Journal of Asia Pacific Medicine. Special Issue: Pacific Islander Health. Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine. University of Hawai'i. June 2010, Volume 69, No. 6, Supplement 3, ISSN: 0017-8594.

October 2 Examination of "Basic Health Hawai'i" health care plan for COFA migrants  
View: Keola Diaz's film

**Essay #2 due.**

Oct 4 Is Health a Human Right? The Rights test  
In-Class Discussion and Debate  
Guest Speaker

- Oct 9 Mid-term review
- Oct 11 **MID-TERM EXAM**
- Oct 16 Return and Review Mid-Terms/Service-Learning Discussions/Updates

### **EDUCATION: HISTORICAL AND COLONIAL EXPERIENCES**

- Oct 18 Reading: Peacock, K. 1985. "The Maze of Schools: American Education in Micronesia." In *History of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands: Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Pacific Islands Conference*, edited by Karen Knudsen, 83-103. Working Paper Series [1985]. Honolulu, Hawai'i: Pacific Islands Studies Program, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Hawai'i at Manoa
- Analysis of educational ethics in the Trust Territory period: the virtue test. Round table discussion.

### **EDUCATION: CURRENT CONCERNS**

- Oct 23 **Essay #3 due.**
- Readings: Heine, H.. "Culturally Responsive Schools for Micronesian Immigrant Students." PREL Briefing Paper. October 2002.
- Marie Iding, Novia Cholymay and Sandra Kaneshiro. "Building Bridges, Not Barriers: Inviting Chuukese Family Involvement in Hawaii Schools." *Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology*. Volume 1, Issue 1 pp. 10–13.
- Oct 25 Marshallese Education Day guest speaker

### **HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

- Oct 30 Small Group exercise – analysis of data on homelessness in Hawai'i  
Reading: *Homeless Service Utilization Report, 2010*. Center on the Family at the University of Hawai'i and the Homeless Programs Branch of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA). Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- Nov 1 Guest speaker: Housing and Homelessness in Hawai'i
- Nov 6 HOLIDAY
- Nov 8 Reading: Media representations and Micronesian Responses in Star-Bulletin, Honolulu Advertiser, etc.  
"Micronesians Fill Hawai'i Shelters." Sunday, 8 July 2007. The Honolulu Advertiser. By Will Hoover and Dan Nakaso.
- Round table analysis and discussion: the ethics of representation.

Nov 13 Critical Analysis Activity– what are the elements of a critical analysis? Students outline a critical analysis of a media representation of Pacific migrants and provide feedback.

### **LANGUAGE ACCESS LAWS: Issues of Translation, Interpretation, and Rights in Hawai`i**

Nov 15 **Critical Analysis due.**  
Reading: Office of Language Access 2009 Annual Report to the Governor and State Legislature

### **PACIFIC IMMIGRANTS' VOICES: Why and how?**

Nov 20 **Essay #4 due.**  
Readings: Interviews selected from Volume 4 of Pacific Voices Talk Story, Vacaville, CA: Tui Communications, c. 2001. Reading: TBA

Nov 22 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Nov 27 Guest-speaker/in-class interview  
Service learning discussions

### **MICRONESIAN VOICES**

Nov 29 **Essay #5 due.**  
Listening: the Micronesian Voices in Hawai`i conference (2008).

Dec 4 Read: 2008 "Micronesian Voices in Hawaii" Conference recommendations  
Report to Hawaii State Legislature

### **COLLABORATIONS**

Dec 6 Proposing ethical solutions; working together  
Read: *Voyaging Together to a New Life: A Handbook for Newcomers to Hawaii.*

Dec 11 **Service Learning hours due.**  
Wrapping Up/Reviewing  
Service learning and classroom learning;  
Reflections on Ethics and Writing Intensive courses;  
Instructor evaluations.

Dec 13 **FINAL EXAM**