

UH - West O‘ahu  
Spring 2011

MW 2:00 – 3:15 p  
Room E-105

## **HUM 304/HPST 304 HAWAIIAN-PACIFIC TRADITIONS**

Instructor: Ross Cordy  
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Office Hours: Tues by appt., Wed 12:30-1:30 p, generally by appointment.  
Room D101-C

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### **Course Description:**

This class is one of the Humanities Basic Course requirement options at UH West O‘ahu under the pre-Fall 2009 requirements for Humanities students, and it is also one of Hawaiian-Pacific Studies’ new requirements as an advanced Oceania overview at the 300 course level. This class looks at the cultural traditions of the native peoples of the Pacific Islands and Hawai‘i. The aim is for you to come away with a basic understanding of the islands and the traditions of Pacific Islanders, particularly the place of Hawaiians and Hawaiian culture and history within the larger picture of Oceania.

Modern man has been in the Pacific islands as long as in Europe. Some Pacific Islanders’ ancestors entered the Pacific 60,000-40,000 years ago – the ancestors of today’s Australian aboriginal people and of the Papuan language speakers of New Guinea and the larger Melanesian islands. Other islanders’ ancestors arrived 4,000 years ago – those of the Micronesians, Polynesians, and many of the Melanesian people. These people spread across the Pacific, some sailing vast distances long before the Vikings of Europe. Millions of these original Pacific Islanders’ descendants have lived in these lands. They adapted to these lands, largely tropical but some temperate and some arid. They developed unique languages, religions, art forms, political structures, technology, forms of song and dance, and ways of life.

The Pacific Ocean is a vast area, covering over a third of the earth’s surface. It is largely an ocean world, with small islands and vast open waters. Many of its cultures are ocean-focused cultures – but they are farmers, as well as fishermen. The Pacific’s lands also include the immense island (continent) of Australia and the very large island of New Guinea. Land-focused adaptations and traditions developed in these areas. And some Pacific people traveled south and settled very cold lands (New Zealand, Tasmania). But the cultures of the Pacific are largely cultures adapted to the tropics or near tropics. In Polynesia and Micronesia, some societies chose a path in which kingdoms arose (Tonga, Hawai‘i, the Marshall Islands, Pohnpei, and Kosrae), with famed kings and nobles dominating the societies. In other lands, a path was followed in which the people were more equal, with less elaborate ranking.

Europeans arrived in the Pacific in the 1500s, the Portuguese entering Indonesia (the East Indies) from the west searching for riches and the Spanish sailing across the Pacific from the east and founding colonies in the Marianas and the Philippines. The Dutch replaced the Portuguese in the 1600s, but until the rise of Great Britain and France to power in the 1700s, the Pacific was under very limited Spanish influence. In the 1800s, these and other outside empires claimed different parts of the Pacific as their own, ending thousands of years of independent life of the islanders. Contact was at different times and had different impacts – sometimes fatal through diseases, sometimes harsh, always with misunderstandings.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century saw changes, but still within a colonial system. Japan entered the picture as a colonial power, and then was replaced by the United States as a result of World War II. Eventually, many islanders regained their independence in the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. But some islands still are part of larger nations, with their native people, often modern urbanites, having to share their ancestral lands with others (as in New Zealand, Australia, Guam and Hawai‘i, and French Polynesia). Often they have struggled at the bottom of the economic ladder. Often they have had their histories studied and told by outsiders. Yet Pacific Islanders have adapted to these changes, altering and blending new cultural elements with old ones. They have told their own histories in the past, often quietly, and now new islander voices are emerging – in history, in literature, in dance, in politics.

This class provides an introductory look at the Pacific and Hawai‘i’s place in the Pacific. This view is done by region – Australia, Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia – starting with Australia and moving east. It reviews the settlement history of each region. It then looks closely at the cultural traditions of a few cultures in each area for pre-European times. Next, for each region, the class briefly views the first century or so of European contact and its impacts. Last, for each area, modern times are considered. Within this chronological framework, religion, art forms, literature, political structures, and other aspects of Pacific life will be discussed. Different topical themes will also be introduced into this picture. Linkages to Hawaiian culture are pointed out throughout the class. But understand ... This class is only an introduction to Hawaiian and Pacific traditions!

### **Readings:**

The class schedule assigns readings for each lecture. Readings should be done prior to the lecture under which they are listed. Two books are required:

D’Alleva, Anne 1998. **Arts of the Pacific Islands**. Harry N. Abrams Inc., New York.

Pilkington, Doris 1996. **Rabbit-Proof Fence**. University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia. (The author’s native name is Nugi Garimara.)

Additionally, four compiled readings are required texts – to be obtained at FedEx/Kinko’s as they are made available by the Instructor. These are copied sections of

books, articles, etc. One is on Australia, one on Melanesia, one on Micronesia, and one on Polynesia.

**Special Note:** Any student with a documented disability who would like to request special accommodation should contact privately Student Services (454-4700) and the instructor of this course.

### Grading:

Grading will consist of 4 exams and 12 small assignments to ensure the student gets broad exposure to Hawaiian-Pacific traditions. A total of 300 points can be acquired. Grading will be 90%-100% an A, 80%-89% a B, 70%-79% a C, etc. (+/- will also be used.)

<u>Exams</u>	<u>240 points</u>
Exam – Australia	60 points
Exam – Melanesia	60
Exam – Micronesia	60
Exam -- Polynesia	60

[Exams will be primarily multiple choice with some true/false and fill-in-the-blank questions. They will include maps for island identifications. Questions from the readings will be on these exams.]

Short Review Papers (1 page long each) –  
summarize subject & comment on it 60 total points

Honolulu Academy of Arts – Pacific Island gallery	5 points
Bishop Museum – Polynesian gallery	5 points
Listen to a CD of traditional Pacific music	5 points
Listen to a CD of contemporary Pacific music	5 points
Watch the Merry Monarch Festival on TV – watch three hālau perform kahiko or auwana	5 points
Read 2 mythology stories from one island group	5 points
Read 2 mythology stories (different island group)	5 points
Read 1 emerging voice selection from list (or with ok)	5 points
Read 1 emerging voice selection from list (or with ok)	5 points
Read 1 emerging voice selection from list (or with ok)	5 points
Visit Kūkaniloko Birthing Stones near Wahiawa, read background hand-out first.	5 points
Visit a large heiau (Kū‘ilioloa in Wai‘anae, Pu‘u o Mahuka at Pūpūkea, Ulupō in Kailua, etc.), read background hand-out first.	5 points

## CLASS SCHEDULE

MW 2:00-3:15 p

\* Indigenous author or includes indigenous accounts. ^View of indigenous culture.

1. Mon. Jan. 10      Introduction.

### AUSTRALIA

2. Wed. Jan. 12      Australia - Settlement and History of Pre-European Times  
 Mans' first entry into Oceania – the arrival of Australian/Papuan  
 ancestors 40,000 – 60,000 years ago.  
 Read: Australia Reader: Flood (Chap. 2-3).  
 Rabbit Proof Fence\* (read by Exam 1)

**Mon. Jan. 17      HOLIDAY – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

3. Wed. Jan. 19      Australia – Prior to European Contact: General Traditions  
& Southeast Australia as a Case Study  
 Read: Australia Reader: Massola^ (SE Australia).

4. Mon. Jan. 24      Australia – Prior to Contact: Case Study of Arnhem Land (Tropics)  
 Read: Australia Reader: Poignant\* & Isaacs\* (myths).  
 Video: In class. *Australia's Twilight of the Dreamtime.*

5. Wed. Jan. 26      Australia – Prior to Contact: Case Study of Western Desert Peoples  
 Read: Australia Reader: Gould^ (Western Desert)  
 Video: In class. *Desert People.*

6. Mon. Jan. 31      Australia – European Contact & Its Impacts.  
 Settlement as a Convict Colony & Loss of Indigenous Lands  
 The Tasmania Case  
 Read: Australia Reader: Colishaw^ (Pastoral life, Arnhem Land).

7. Wed. Feb. 2      Australia – Modern Times (1900s-Present)  
 Up to 1960s: Government paternalism, pastoral stations, mission  
 stations, & the “Stolen Generation”.  
 Post-1960s: Multi-cultural Australia, Communities/outstations on  
 tribal lands, return to tribal lands (diaspora), & modern issues.  
 Read: Finish Rabbit-Proof Fence\*  
 Australia Reader: Breeden^ (Arnhem Land)

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8. Mon. Feb. 7      **EXAM 1 [AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL TRADITIONS]**

**MELANESIA**

9. Wed. Feb. 9      The Papuans – Settlement & History of Pre-European Times.  
 Arrival of Papuan speaking people 40,000 – 60,000 years ago.  
 Development of settled villages & New Guinea as an agricultural  
 domestication center as old as the Near East.

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10. Mon. Feb. 14      The Papuans - Prior to Contact: Case Study from the New Guinea  
 Lowlands [Sepik].  
 Read: Melanesia Reader: Bates\* (Sepik – sorcery);  
 Zegwaard\* (Asmat – headhunting).  
 D’Alleva: Chap. 1.

11. Wed. Feb. 16      The Papuans - Prior to Contact: Case Study from the New Guinea  
 Highlands [Enga]  
 Read: Melanesia Reader: Heider\* (Dani) & Oliver\* (Siuai) on  
 Creation myths

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**Mon. Feb. 21      HOLIDAY – PRESIDENTS’ DAY**

12. Wed. Feb. 23      The Papuans - Prior to Contact: Case Study from the New Guinea  
 Highlands [The Dani of Western New Guinea Highlands]  
 Video: Dead Birds

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13. Mon. Feb. 28      The Austronesians – Their Entry and Spread through Melanesia.  
 The arrival of the ancestors of the Polynesians & Micronesians  
 into Oceania 4,000 years ago.  
 Inherited leadership. The basic Austronesian navigation system.

14. Wed. Mar. 2      The Austronesians – Prior to Contact: Case Study of Fiji  
 Fijian culture & the Rise of Bau and its leader Cakobau in 1800s.  
 Read: Melanesia Reader: Howe (Fiji) & Reed and Hanes\* (Fijian  
 Creation myths).  
 D’Alleva: Chap. 2.

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15. Mon. Mar. 7 New Guinea & Island Melanesia – European Contact & its Impacts  
Clashes, Traders, Plantation Labor Service & Manipulations by  
Local Leaders.  
Read: Melanesia Reader: Corris^ (Kwaisulia of Solomons)
16. Wed. Mar. 9 New Guinea & Island Melanesia – Colonial Times up through  
World War II  
Colonial powers divide up Melanesia.  
Colonial administration & impacts on the islanders.  
World War II -- in the midst of the war.  
Read: Melanesia Reader: Kitauai\* (Papua New Guinea)
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17. Mon. Mar. 14 New Guinea & Island Melanesia – Modern Times: Independence  
Papua-New Guinea: moving toward independence.  
Papua-New Guinea: independence & modern problems (diverse  
groups, economic problems, the Bougainville rebellion).  
Fiji: modern problems (a huge Indian population, the coups).  
Irian Jaya/Papua: Indonesian colonialism continues.  
Read: Melanesia Reader: Roscoe (Papua New Guinea crime),  
Mera Molisa\* (poem); Hereniko\* (cultural identities);  
Stella\* (Papua New Guinea literature), Kilage \* (novel  
excerpt), Winduo\* (poem), Enos\* (poem).
18. Wed. Mar. 16 **EXAM 2 - MELANESIA.**
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- Mon Mar. 21 **SPRING BREAK**
- Wed Mar. 23 **SPRING BREAK**
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- MICRONESIA**
19. Mon. Mar. 28 Micronesia – Settlement & History Before European Contact.  
Complex settlement by the Austronesians – Oceanic speakers from  
the East & Western Malayo-Polynesian speakers from the  
west (Palau & the Marianas)  
Read: D'Alleva: Chap. 4.
20. Wed. Mar. 30 Micronesia, Pre-European Times – Case Study of Atolls in the  
Caroline Islands  
Read: Micronesia Reader: Alkire^ on Woleai

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21. Mon. Apr. 4     Micronesia, Pre-European Times – Case Study of Kosrae  
 Ex: of highly stratified societies that developed in Micronesia.  
 Read: Micronesia Reader: Cordy^ on Kosrae
22. Wed. Apr. 6     Micronesia – European Contact & Its Impacts  
 The Spanish & the Marianas: Huge population crash & becoming  
 an outpost of Manila.  
 The whalers & missionaries. Kosrae as another example of a  
 catastrophic population crash; also as a Christian theocracy.  
 Foreign powers divide Micronesia into colonies in the late 1800s.  
 Read: Micronesia Reader: Hezel on whalers/missionaries
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23. Mon. Apr. 11    Micronesia – Modern Times.  
 Japan as the colonial power in Micronesia – immigrants, education  
 & economic impacts.  
 World War II – in the midst of the war. Repatriation of Japanese.  
 Post-War – the atomic bomb in the Marshalls.  
 Independence.  
 Read: Micronesia Reader: Hezel on Japanese colonial times.
24. Wed. Apr. 13    **EXAM 3 – MICRONESIA**
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- POLYNESIA**
25. Mon. Apr. 18    Polynesia – Settlement & History Before European Contact  
 The spread of Austronesian speakers out of Samoa throughout  
 East Polynesia (including Hawai‘i)  
 Read: D’Alleva: Chap. 3.
26. Wed. Apr. 20    Polynesia – Case Study of New Zealand at European Contact.  
 Small countries (hapu) in a temperate land, new food adaptations,  
 warfare and utu, the carvings in meeting houses.  
 Read: Polynesian Reader: Oliver (brief sum culture at Contact),  
 Creation stories\*, Grey\* (Maui stories).
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27. Mon. Apr. 25 Polynesia – Case Study of Hawai‘i at European Contact.  
Settlement & population growth. Rise of the kingdoms in 1400s.  
Read: Polynesian Reader: Cordy (brief sum culture at Contact),  
Kamakau\* (Kalani‘ōpu‘u’s reign, Kingdom of Hawai‘i),  
Emerson\* (myth of Wākea/Papa & birth of islands), Malo\*  
(story of Hāloa), selection of Maui stories\* (Thrum, Papa,  
Kamakau).
28. Wed. Apr. 27 Polynesia – European Contact in Hawai‘i & its Impacts  
Rise of Kamehameha & unification, Ka‘ahumanu vs Boki &  
Kamehameha III, privatization of land, sugar and merchants,  
immigration and becoming a minority in their own lands, the  
overthrow.
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29. Mon. May 2 Polynesia – Modern Times in Hawai‘i & Emerging Voices.  
20<sup>th</sup> Century changes, the Renaissance, challenges to entitlements,  
sovereignty.  
Read: Polynesian Reader: Contemporary Hawaiian Writers:  
Machado\*, Trask\*, Losch\*, Balaz\* (Poetry).
30. Wed. May 4 Polynesia – Modern Times in Polynesia & Emerging Voices.  
New Zealand – Treaty of Waitangi & Maori wars, 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
changes.  
Tonga & Samoa – diaspora out of the home islands.  
Read: Polynesian Reader: Macpherson (Samoan diaspora),  
Contemporary Maori Writers (Hulme\*, Walker\*, &  
Dewes\*) (Poetry/short stories)  
Contemporary Samoan Writers (N. Simi\*, Enari\*, Figiel\*,  
L. Simi\*) (Poetry & short stories)
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May 9-13 Finals Week

**EXAM 4 POLYNESIA &  
SHORT REVIEW PAPERS DUE.**

## **RELATIONSHIPS OF CLASS TO LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Hawaiian-Pacific Studies Concentration:** This class meets a basic learning outcome of this concentration – (HPST1) being able to demonstrate a basic overview knowledge of Pacific geography, history, and cultures of Pacific peoples, islands, and nations

**Humanities Division:** This class meets several learning outcomes of this division – (HUM1) becoming able to demonstrate a knowledge of the history, philosophy, arts, and or literature of different cultures from different global regions and indigenous traditions including Native Hawaiian (Polynesian history in traditional times), and (HUM3) becoming able to demonstrate an understanding of different Humanities disciplines' concepts, methods, primary sources, and knowledge (history, archaeology, historical anthropology, historical linguistics).

**UH West O'ahu:** This class addresses an important learning objective of UHWO – (UHWO4) Global and indigenous perspectives: becoming able to analyze issues from multiple cultural perspectives to articulate an understanding of the interconnectedness of local and global issues.