SYLLABUS

I. Texts


D. The Emergence of Mailu: As a Central Place in Coastal Papuan Prehistory by Geoffrey Irwin, 1985. Canberra: Department of Prehistory, Research School of Pacific Studies, ANU, Terra Australis No. 10.


II. Aims:

The course provides a basic survey of Pacific prehistory, but its primary purpose is to use the cultures of the Pacific Islands (including Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia, and Australia) as a framework for examining problems of general interest to both prehistorians and ethnographers. These may include such issues as the origins of agriculture, the nature and development of social stratification, the interrelationships between people and the natural environment, trade and exchange, the nature of prestige-based economies, etc. These and other issues will be explored through lectures, class discussions, and readings.

III. Course Requirements:
Grading will be based on quizzes (1/3), midterm (1/3) and final exam (1/3).
IV. Prerequisites:
Core courses in archeology and cultural anthropology.

V. Tentative Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>Introduction to Pacific Prehistory</td>
<td>Film: The Navigators.</td>
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September 18
Austronesian culture, language and migrations


September 25
Human modification of the natural environment.
Kirch (1984). QUIZ


October 2
Non-Austronesian cultural trajectories.
Feil (1987). QUIZ

October 9  
Regional comparisons  


October 16  
MIDTERM EXAM

October 23  
Intercultural connections; trade, exchange, and the Lapita cultural complex.  


Young (1988). QUIZ

October 30  
Malinowski in the Massim.  
Irwin (1985). QUIZ

November 6  
The emergence of Mailu as a central place.  
Irwin (1985). QUIZ

November 13  
The contributions of prehistory and ethnography  
Saville (1926). QUIZ

November 20  
AAA Meetings, no class

NOVEMBER 27  
THANKSGIVING VACATION - NO CLASS
December 4
Comparative ethnology:
Representations of the past,
the invention of tradition,
and the politics of
"representation."

DECEMBER 11 FINAL EXAM